

ELLE DECOR

OCTOBER 2023

THE CHANGE ISSUE

INSIDE DESIGN'S
BOLD NEW MODE:
ARE YOU READY?



In Miami Beach,
Charlap Hyman &
Herrero Upend
Expectations



THE AGENDA

What's shaping our tastes and topping our to-do lists this month.



AP House in West Hollywood, California, with interiors by Brigitte Romanek. BELOW: The new Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Self-Winding watch with turquoise dial.

SHOP: WEST HOLLYWOOD

Founded in 1875, Audemars Piguet has long been a luxury watch brand synonymous with craft, precision, and heritage. The new **AP House** in West Hollywood, California, is its latest hybrid retail concept—a 6,500-square-foot penthouse that combines a sales floor with a watchmaking studio, rooftop terrace, and a dedicated reception desk and DJ booth—that stylishly translates those values for La-La Land. ELLE DECOR A-List designer Brigitte Romanek came on board to execute, taking the “vibe and energy” of California as her directive, she tells us, using materials like brass, oak, and limestone. “We really wanted to make sure it had a sense of place that was distinctive to the locale,” says Ginny Wright, CEO of Audemars Piguet Americas. “Elegant, but cool and comfortable at the same time.” —Sean Santiago audemarspiguet.com ▶



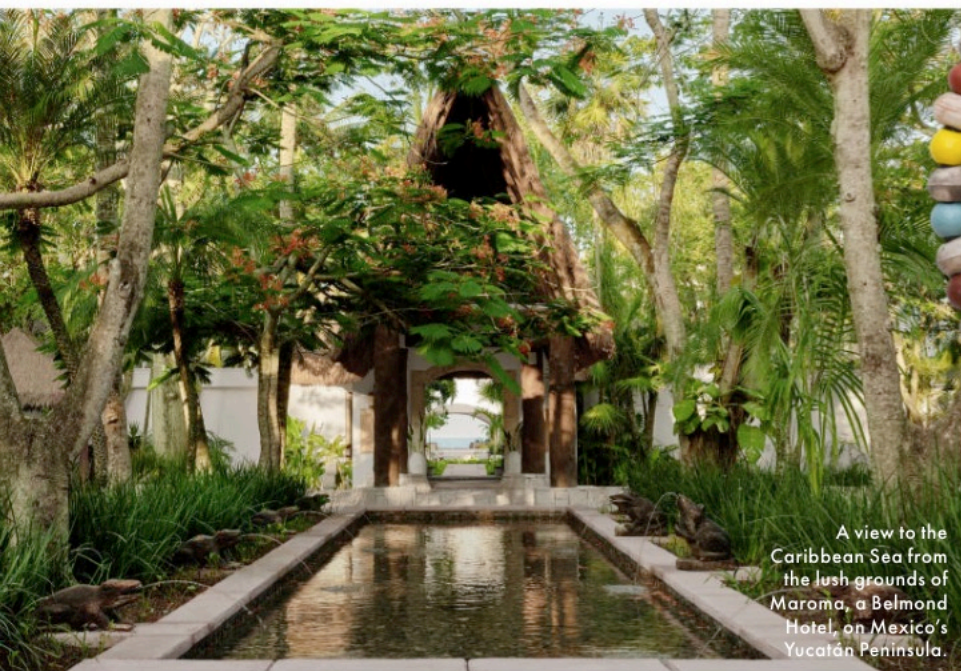
AP HOUSE: MICHAEL P.H. CLIFFORD

VISIT: NEW YORK CITY

At the Jewish Museum, **Mood of the Moment: Gaby Aghion and the House of Chloé** (October 13, 2023, through February 18, 2024) is the first exhibition dedicated to the French fashion house and its founder. With spaces created by ELLE DECOR A-List designer Elliott Barnes, the show explores Aghion's craft while also highlighting the iconic designs of her successors, including Karl Lagerfeld, Martine Sitbon, and Phoebe Philo. Barnes's displays, with rooms draped in paper used for fabric conservation, are a fitting tribute to Aghion's free-flowing vision for a less restrictive postwar femininity. —Camille Okhio thejewishmuseum.org



Gaby Aghion.
LEFT: A Chloé dress designed by Martine Sitbon.



A view to the Caribbean Sea from the lush grounds of Maroma, a Belmond Hotel, on Mexico's Yucatán Peninsula.

STAY: RIVIERA MAYA, MEXICO

From its debut in 1995, **Maroma**, a resort on 200 acres of white-sand beachfront abutting the jungle in Mexico's Yucatán Peninsula, was ahead of its time. The founder, architect Jose Luis Moreno, lived on the property and modeled it on his own home, hiring a family of local masons to build the hotel's low-slung buildings in palm, bamboo, and Mérida stone. "It was like stepping into a private villa by the sea," says Tara Bernerd, the London-based designer of the idyllic getaway. "And that is the feeling I tried to preserve." Tapped by the hotel's new owner, LVMH's Belmond, Bernerd oversaw a sensitive renovation, rehiring masons for additions like a bar and a Guerlain spa. More than 80 percent of the refreshed decor was sourced in Mexico, including some 700,000 hand-painted clay tiles by José Noé Suro in Guadalajara for the guest rooms and chandeliers by Max Kublailan inspired by Mayan jade jewelry. —Ingrid Abramovitch belmond.com



Louie Bones (2020) by Sharif Bey at "Sightlines," the Bard Graduate Center exhibition.

LEARN: NYC

For a deeply researched look at the history of African metalsmithing, don't miss **Sightlines on Peace, Power, and Prestige: Metal Arts in Africa** at the Bard Graduate Center Gallery (September 29 through December 31). Curated by Drew Thompson, the exhibition considers the relationship between historic and contemporary African metal design within a rich context supported by photography, weavings, and multimedia works. Pieces on display include 18th-century Benin Nigerian bracelets, 19th-century Ethiopian shields, and 20th-century Ghanaian Asante pendants. —C.O. bgc.bard.edu

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: JULIEN HAMON; RAYMOND AGHION; BRYAN CONLEY; WILLIAM JESS LAIRD