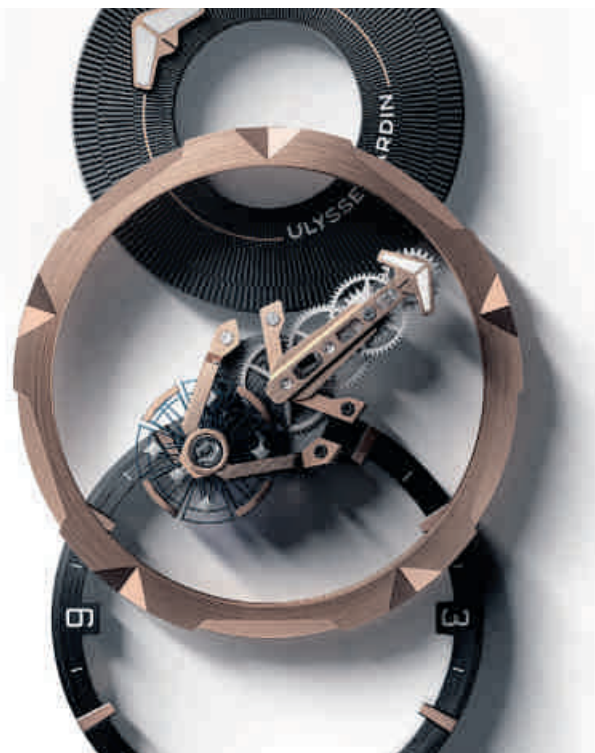


Life & Leisure

11-13 July 2024
The Australian Financial Review | www.afr.com **AFR**

THE TIES HAVE IT

A trad accessory steals the show on the menswear runways



ULYSSE  NARDIN

FREAK

NO CROWN. NO HANDS.
NO BOUNDARIES.



FREAK[ONE]



Cover Saint Laurent's spring-summer 2026 menswear show at the Bourse de Commerce in Paris. PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES



VISUAL FEAST

Are these the Birkin bag of sunglasses? Italian brand Akoni creates top-tier shades made from water-buffalo horn that's painstakingly hand-carved, sculpted and polished over a 30-hour artisanal process. The frames are available in three colours (black, black with white streaks and an earthy brown), and the lenses come in either deep emerald green or grey. Priced at \$4100, you won't want to be leaving these babies behind in the back of a cab. akoni.com



ILLUMINATING STUFF

Melbourne industrial designer Christopher Boot is renowned for his sculptural light fixtures, which are found in glamorous residences to designer yoga studios to Hermes and Cartier boutiques. His latest work of functional art is Theia, a grand domed pendant made of natural quartz crystals that are affixed to a translucent diffuser. Available in various sizes, POA. christopherboots.com



COMING UP ROSES

Courtney Zheng's painterly, golden-age floral artwork print elevates these relaxed jeans – crafted from a heavyweight cotton drill – and lends a dark, romantic feel. They're an edgier way to embrace florals this winter – but watch out for thorns. Anouk jeans, \$540. courtneyzheng.com



NAMES TO KNOW

Mark Naidoc Week with a visit to Melbourne's Mars Gallery, which is hosting a group exhibition spotlighting a new generation of Indigenous artists from July 3 to August 2. The show includes eight talents – Carly Tarkari Dodd, Damien Shen, Georgia Boseley, Jenna Lee, Josh Muir, Madi Mercer and Peta Mabo-Duncan, Dulcie Sharpe, whose work *Tjulpu 1* (pictured) speaks of her affinity for birds and colour. Ink on paper, \$2200. marsgallery.com.au



SOFT POWER

A gold watch is less a timekeeping device than a flex for the wrist. This year, the IWC Ingenieur has been recast in 18-carat gold, the honeyed sheen of the 40mm case and integrated bracelet contrasting with the black grid dial. Flip it over and an exhibition caseback exposes an automatic movement with a five-day power reserve. IWC Ingenieur Automatic 40, \$76,900. (02) 9061 4522 **LUKE BENEDICTUS**

SPEND

sacred scents



INCENSED

Even a discrete daub of this intense cardamom, pink pepper and frankincense scent is enough to make anyone think you've spent the afternoon holed up in a shrine burning candles. It has a dry, dustiness evocative of an old Italian chapel, and can be softened by layering it over anything with rose notes. Santa Maria Novella Incenso, \$299 (50ml). libertineparfumerie.com.au

NAKED GLORY

Skin-toned shoes are a godsend when it comes to elongating the legs, an idea that has become something of a signature for Christian Louboutin, with the brand's "nude" collections. The shoe brand is extending its line-up of five, best-selling flesh tones to the Cassia lace-up design: a crepe-satin style with a square toe (reminiscent of a ballet pointe) and a 10cm stiletto heel. Save for when the driver is on standby. \$1735. christianlouboutin.com



GREEN DREAM

B&B Italia has just opened a new Surry Hills showroom dedicated to its outdoor collections, so you can start gathering inspiration for the spring entertaining season. Weave your way through the store's jungle of tropical plants and shop pieces by Patricia Urquiola, Antonio Citterio, Piero Lissoni, Crinoline, Mirto and Borea. (02) 8339 7508



Enjoy the best of Life & Leisure delivered straight to your inbox weekly.

Sign up for the free newsletter by scanning the QR code or visiting join.afr.com/lifeleisure

Life&Leisure **Editor** Charis Perkins cperkins@afr.com | **Associate editor** Jessica Beresford jessica.beresford@afr.com | **Production editor** Maxim Boon maxim.boon@afr.com | **Travel editor** Anna McCooe anna.mccooe@afr.com | **Fashion editor** Lauren Sams lauren.sams@afr.com | **Spend** Eugenie Kelly eugenie@eugeniekelly.com | **Photo editor** Nicky Catley | **Design director** Tim Beor | **Art director** Adela Kacerova | **Production** Stephanie Pegler
Advertising Group business director, Luxury Amanda Upton auputon@nine.com.au | **Brand manager, Luxury** Kristy Botfield kbotfield@nine.com.au