

#### Dear VOGUE100 Members,

This month, we celebrate **World Earth Day**. This special day is a reminder that we must continue to protect our environment and inspire others to do the same, in the hope that future generations will be able to enjoy the beauty of nature as we do. In honor of **World Earth Day**, we hear from designer Phillip Lim, who shares his thoughts on sustainability and social justice. **VOGUE** Fashion Editor Maddie Swanson has curated a sustainable-fashion story with fire, earth, and water tones. We also sat down with Peter Thomson, United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Ocean, to find out how we can better serve our planet.

Jordan Rhodes, founder and editor in chief of Glimpse Guides, shares her chosen postvaccination destinations, and we toast couture designer Didit Hediprasetyo for his work in supporting displaced women throughout the pandemic. Finally, as a follow up to our recent statement of solidarity, we encourage everyone to read **VOGUE100** member Coral Chung's <u>powerful and educative letter</u> on how best to stay informed and support the Asian American community.

> With love, The VOGUE<mark>100</mark> Team

# World Earth Day

### The Future of Sustainability and Social Justice With Phillip Lim



Creative Director and Cofounder, *3.1 Phillip Lim* 

B orn in Cambodia, Phillip Lim built his namesake label 3.1 Phillip Lim from the ground up. Now a native of New York, Lim continues to push boundaries on sustainability while simultaneously paving a purpose-driven path for future American fashion designers.

"I'll start with some lessons of the past year, as there have been many. The first and perhaps the most important is to address the present. There is so much talk about the future, but if we don't overcome the adversity right in front of us, how can we take our best self forward? The second is authenticity and not just in speaking your truth but also in admitting we don't always have the answer. In the future of fashion, sustainability, and also in social justice, we're chartering new waters, and it's okay not to have a plan and solution for everything. We forget to grant ourselves the grace to process, heal, and learn as we go. We have to do what is true to ourselves and always ask the question "Does this play a part in shaping what is important to me?" We have to create an environment for progress, understanding, and an environment that is ripe for evolution. From my perspective, this is the platform to create things that the consumer can really connect to, things that align with their value system. The third lesson is that we need to stop separating who we are from what we do. There are no lanes anymore; everything is interconnected. What is professional is personal. Our best work comes from being our authentic selves and prioritizing our values and point of view in the service we provide to the world. The more we do this, the greater our impact will be. Either redefine it or abandon it."

## **Sustainable Silhouettes**

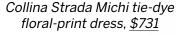


**P**erhaps it's the healing spring weather we've been having, or the fact that Earth Day is right around the corner (mark your calendars for April 22!), but I've been feeling particularly one with nature of late. No doubt we are all thinking about new beginnings in this moment, and because I am a market editor at **VOGUE**, learning to shop with awareness and purpose has recently been at the forefront of my mind. "Sustainable fashion" has been a buzzword for a while now, but we're just now seeing many designers hit their stride after careful consideration of method and approach. From Brother Vellies' stripy slides (made from local patterns by a marginalized community of female weavers in Burkina Faso) to lab-grown, "carbon-negative" Aether diamonds (the brand has a 10-year goal of pulling 100 million tons of CO<sup>2</sup> from the atmosphere), the options are certainly aplenty. So in honor of Mother Earth and the leaps and bounds our industry is making to preserve it, we've come up with three earth-water-fire-and-wind-inspired looks, composed of our favorite eco-conscious labels and upcycle-centric capsule collections—all carefully curated and ready to shop!



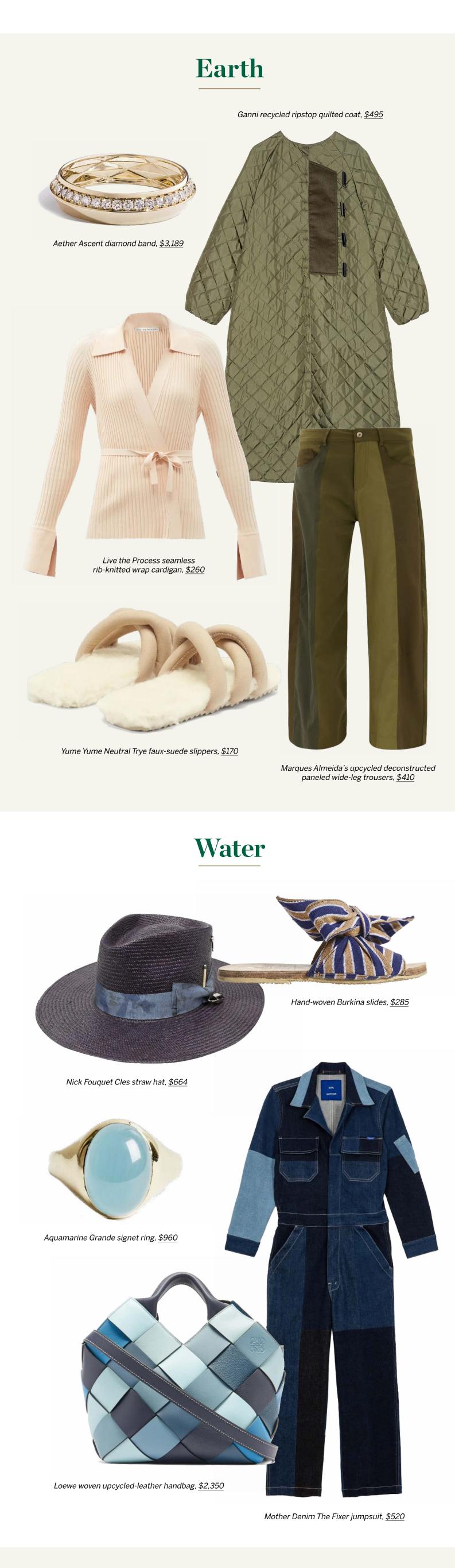
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Stella McCartney chunky ankle boot, <u>\$725</u>





Alighieri the Jaja pearl-and-24K-gold-plated necklace, <u>\$295</u>



**Conserving Our Oceans With Peter Thomson** *United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Ocean* 



Jasmine Contomichalos Experiences Editor, *Vogue* 

#### JC: Why did ocean conservation become your mission?

**PT:** I come from Fiji, in the South Pacific. The first of my family to settle in Fiji was my great-great grandfather, who was from Scotland and was the master of a sailing vessel. Like all islanders, I've been linked to the ocean since the day I was born. But it wasn't until I was a teenager that I first witnessed coral bleaching and began observing plastic pollution along the tide lines. As an adult, I became aware that the health of the ocean was under threat from over-fishing and harmful fishing practices, and then I began learning about the effects of man-made greenhouse-gas emissions on the ocean: deoxygenation, acidification, and warming. And so when in 2010 I became Fiji's permanent representative at the United Nations, I turned my energies to countering the threats to the ocean's well-being.

THOMSON ADDRESSING THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION IN LONDON, 2020

#### JC: How serious are the ocean's problems for us?

**PT:** There cannot be a healthy planet without a healthy ocean, to which I should add the ocean's health is currently in decline. The chief cause of that decline is the burgeoning levels of anthropogenic greenhouse gases we're pumping into the atmosphere, which are then absorbed into the ocean, causing the aforementioned acidification, deoxygenation, and warming. Continue on our current track and all coral reefs will be dead by the end of this century, which is within the lifetime of my granddaughters and is obviously an unacceptable prospect. Coral reefs are the ocean's bunkers of biodiversity, so we need them for a healthy ocean and a healthy planet. Therefore, getting the world to a net zero economy by 2050 is absolutely fundamental to ending the cycle of decline in which the ocean's health has been caught.

### JC: Are there fish we should be avoiding eating, and what fish do you like eating most?

**PT:** Kippers are my favorite! Because I'm coming from an island country, fish is my staple food, and I like most kinds of seafood. But times are changing, and we must change with them. Global fish stocks are under threat as a result of overfishing and illegal fishing. As a consumer, whether purchasing fish in a shop or ordering in a restaurant, I always insist on knowing whether the fish has been legally caught and whether it's from sustainable stock. Every fish vendor or chef should be able to answer those two questions, because most of their customers do not wish to be receivers of stolen goods.

#### JC: What is your hope for the future of the ocean?

**PT:** The ocean will endure with or without *Homo sapiens*. It is the ocean's ability to sustain life as we know it that principally concerns me. Thus my hope for the ocean's future is that its pH levels, temperatures, and oxygen levels remain much like what they've been for the majority of the Holocene, so that phytoplankton can thrive, coral reefs survive, and so that marine biodiversity remains bounteous.

### JC: What are the three main things we should all be doing to have an immediate impact on saving the ocean?

**PT:** Well, I've just mentioned one: Consume only legally caught fish from sustainable fish stocks. Second, I would urge you to address your relationship with plastic. Alternatives to plastic are many, and our use of these alternatives helps bring them to scale. Where you must use plastic, make sure it is truly recyclable. But third, and most important, whether you are an individual or a company, you owe it to the security of our children and grandchildren to help your country get to net zero carbon by 2050.



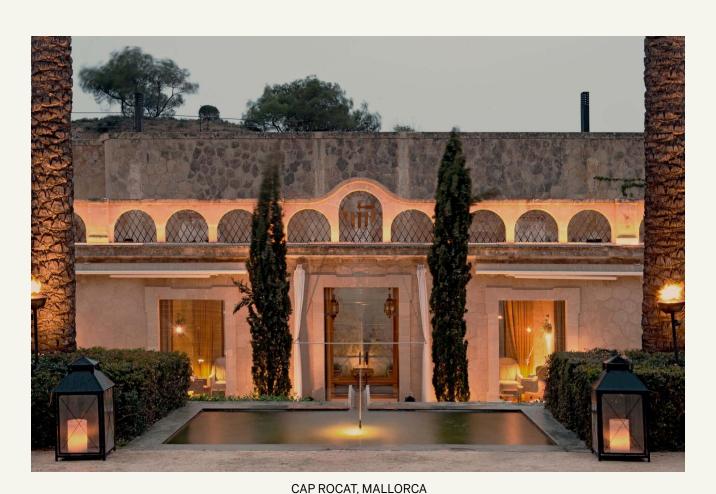
THOMSON IN NEW ZEALAND WITH THREE OF HIS FOUR GRANDDAUGHTERS, GRACE, MIRABELLE, AND POPPY

# High-Fashion Philanthropy

### **Vaccination Destination**



**Jordan Rhodes** Founder and Editor in Chief, *Glimpse Guides* 



O nce the pandemic is truly over, I cannot wait to rebook the trips we had to cancel in 2020...Villa Feltrinelli in Italy, Cap Rocat in Mallorca, Cheval Blanc in St. Barts. Oh, to be wearing Johanna Ortiz next to a cypress tree again, or lounging near the Mediterranean wearing my favorite Jonathan Cohen cover-up, which he designed in collaboration with Mexican artisans. But the places I am most dreaming of visiting are the ones that will not recover as quickly as more frequented destinations. Many smaller hotels and impoverished areas that rely on tourism to survive have really struggled the past year.

Africa is high on my list, especially Togo, where some of our Glimpse artisans live and create our travel blankets. We were able to revive this craft in one of the villages, and I am really proud to know that we play a small part in their economic development.

India is also on my list, and besides an exciting potential trip led by fellow



**VOGUE100** member Mona Patel, I would love to visit another group of our female artisans, who create our silk coin purses. This group of Indian women are all former victims of sex trafficking and now create gorgeous products for brands like mine. I am eager to launch our travel goods in June so we can continue to provide these women with jobs, but I'm also excited to visit each of them so we can support local



JONATHAN COHEN CAFTAN, SPRING 2019



Johanna Ortiz embroidered cotton dress, <u>\$1,750</u>

tourism. I encourage all of you to consider the places with the most need, like Africa and India, when vacation planning resumes.

With the thrill of travel, we sometimes forget that a dollar goes a lot further in the less developed places in the world. One taxi ride, one purchase from a local market, or one small tip for luggage assistance provides much-needed resources for people in these areas. Tourism is a lifeline for many around the world and is also one of our strongest connections to one another. I am so grateful it is starting to come back.



VILLA FELTRINELLI, LAKE GARDA

Discover more of Jordan's dreamy destinations and learn how you can support her charity Give a Glimpse, which gives underserved students the educational gift of travel, <u>here</u>.

## **Couture Causes**

by Jasmine Contomichalos Experiences Editor, *Vogue* 



**Didit Hediprasetyo** Founder and Creative Director, *Didit Hediprasetyo* 



W hen everyday life came to a halt, there was a strong desire from people all over the world to implement change and better serve both humanity and our planet. Indonesian fashion designer and **VOGUE100** member Didit Hediprasetyo shifted his focus from couture gowns to masks, wanting to donate the elegant yet practical face coverings to those in need at two New York women's shelters, the Third Street Women's Residence and the Lenox Hill Women's Mental Health Shelter. Didit's intention was to both provide joy and encourage residents to take extra precautions and stop the spread of COVID-19.

Both institutions have been prominent safe havens in their respective communities for more than 100 years. Lillian Wald, who founded the Third Street Women's Residence in 1893, was a pioneer of the equal-and-fair health care movement, and believed that every New Yorker was entitled to receive health care services regardless of social status, socioeconomic status, race, gender, or age. Henry Street provides transitional shelter and support to 79 homeless women suffering from mental illness.



Inspired by the natural fluid drapier of silk-jersey scarves, Didit's breathable moss-green masks gave the staff at Lenox Hill Women's Mental Health Center, which houses women from 45 to 57 suffering from mental and physical health challenges, the idea to host a celebratory fashion show. The women strutted down the runway to supportive cheers from both fellow shelter clients and staff before posing for the end-of-runway money shot. After the show, the women toasted each other, and to Didit, with hot cocoa and cookies.

To find out more on how you can help, please contact the Third Street Women's Residence <u>here</u> and the Lenox Hill Women's Mental Health Shelter <u>here</u>.

Mr. Peter Thomson