

James Lane

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FRANCISCO COSTA

Photo by Weston Wells

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Francisco Costa

From Calvin Klein To Costa Brazil, A Talk With The Illustrious Designer

By Jessica Mackin-Cipro

Francisco Costa knew he would become a designer from an early age. He grew up in a small Brazilian town where his parents operated an apparel business. He moved to New York City in the 1990s to study design and went on to work with Oscar de la Renta and Tom Ford at Gucci before joining Calvin Klein as Creative Director in 2002. He later created his own namesake line and the sustainable beauty concept, Costa Brazil, which is available at Onda Spa at Canoe Place Inn in Hampton Bays.

We spoke with Costa to find out more.

Tell us a little about your background. Your parents had an apparel business and you would put on fashion shows for charities in your hometown? How old were you when you knew you wanted to become a designer?

Growing up in the small Brazilian town of Guarani near Rio, my family had deep roots in fashion. Both my parents owned and operated an apparel business. My mother recycled leftover fabrics into quilts or would stage fashion shows with sustainable fabrics, and my sister also pursued fashion design. I knew I wanted to become a designer when I was 13 — it just felt so natural, there really was no decision to be made, it was intrinsic to me. The first fashion show I held was when I was 16. My mother and uncle were building a home for elderly people so I decided to do a show. People bought tickets and ordered designs, which were ultimately made by a woman in town, Marta. All the money went to the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, which has an arm in Bellport.

You moved to New York City in the early '90s. What inspired this move?

I moved to New York in the early 1990s with aspirations to design for a large fashion house. I didn't know English yet and enrolled in FIT, where I earned an Idea Como/Young Designers of America award and led to further studies at FIT and in Italy. Once I graduated and mastered English, I designed at Susan Bennett Studio, Bill Blass, Oscar de la Renta, Tom Ford, and lastly Calvin Klein's studio in early 2002.

Tell us more about your background as a designer, how you got your start in New York, your time at Oscar de la Renta, and working for Tom Ford at Gucci as senior designer.

My first industry job was designing dresses for Bill Blass under Herbert Rounick's He-Ro Group. They licensed brands like Krizia and Bill Blass. Eight months after I started, they signed a contract with Oscar de la Renta and offered me a position. De la Renta ultimately brought me to his studio where I worked on his signature collection as well as Pierre Balmain haute couture, prêt-à-porter luxe, and the launch of Oscar de la Renta Pink Label. He gave me the ultimate design education. He taught me the most and not just the craft, but life. Oscar was so full of life and had a genuine interest in what was good.

In 1998, I joined Tom Ford in his Gucci design studio, where I was a senior designer concentrating on eveningwear, including custom designs for select clients and celebrities.

I then joined Calvin Klein's studio in early 2002. I was the Women's Creative Director of Calvin Klein Collection for 13 years.

Tell us about your time at Calvin Klein and some of the collections and/or designs that are most memorable to you.

I succeeded Calvin as the creative director. I was so frightened by the brand itself because I thought everything it had done before was so perfect. Calvin was so seminal to fashion, to what American fashion represents. It was minimalist, the home of purity and cleanliness, and I had to lean into that. The greatest difference between what Calvin did and what I did is that I felt more like a reductionist than a minimalist.

What I did was rarefied minimalist clothes — they became more special, in the manufacturing, the materials. In my time there, we also really started focusing on celebrity, which propelled the business tremendously. We dressed them all — it was a lot of fun.

My first collection was one of my favorites, it was the sweetest, the least pretentious. And it landed on the front page of the New York Times. Fall 2011 was also just beautiful and artful — crafted with all these recycled yarns.

You've been the recipient of the CFDA Womenswear Designer of the Year in 2006 and 2008. Talk a little about this honor.

I always thought that most of the design awards were political so I was a bit skeptical when I received the first CFDA Award. Nervous and excited, but I couldn't quite believe it was happening. When I received the second, the Mortimer C. Ritter Award in 2008, it made me believe that people really cared for the clothes. One award that really means a lot to me is the Smithsonian Cooper Hewitt Design Award, celebrating Calvin's 40th anniversary of the house. It celebrated angular shapes, expressed the reality of how to simplify and store things. I'm very proud that it wasn't a fashion industry award.

Can you tell us about your sustainable beauty concept Costa Brazil and how it's inspired by your native Brazil?

Costa Brazil was born with Conservation International, a non-profit dedicated to spotlighting and securing the rights of the forest, by our side. They have helped us make good business decisions that help the environment, from ingredient sourcing to packaging. We collaborate often with them. There is such an opportunity to learn from each other, and make better choices for us all.

The people and their deep-rooted knowledge on the forest continues to be the main source of inspiration for Costa Brazil. The community I first met were



Photo by Weston Wells

the Yawanawás in the northern part of the Brazilian Amazon. They introduced me to their traditional rituals and invited me into their celebrations and opened their minds to me and in turn my mind to them. They have a connection to the earth that is breathtaking to witness. Every day is about purification, re-energizing, healing, love — for each other and the forest.

Costa Brazil, captures this rich, natural essence of my homeland Brazil. Products are made from pure, potent, enriching ingredients, sustainably sourced from the Amazon rainforest, and activated using the latest laboratory technologies. Dedicated to helping preserve the beauty of the natural world, we have partnered with Conservation International, as well as other non-profits, to follow the best practices for sourcing activities, while also working to restore the rainforest. It's essential to work in partnership with local cooperatives and scientists to ensure the protection of both body and Earth.

How did your collaboration with Onda Beauty and Canoe Place come about?

I am quite close with the Onda Team — Naomi Watts and her president, Jane Hong Fernandez. Jane brought the collaboration to me and it was a natural fit. It's a beautiful historic property and I love that the location is so close to my place in Bellport. It's become quite a destination since the opening late last summer, which is great for Costa Brazil.

Can you tell us a little about your signature scent and the ingredients you use in your products?

The signature scent of Costa Brazil was found in the depths of the Amazon.

During my first journey, I learned that Breu was an astoundingly versatile remedy for everything from anxiety and headaches to colic, respiratory issues, and aggravated skin. When burned, breu releases a relaxing, woody aroma of rich earth and crushed leaves. Enchanted by the burning of Breu resin used by the indigenous

peoples in ceremonial rituals, I knew I had to bottle the scent in some way. Thus came the birth of AROMA, our eau de parfum, peppered with wonderful memories and heart-warming smells: burning wood, orange blossoms, dirt, smoke, mint.

The ingredients, however, found us — three of them specifically which make up our Jungle Complex. When we discovered breu we understood it was already potent in its raw form and we also developed it as an extract to use in our skincare as it has incredibly anti-inflammatory properties. Kaya, our second ingredient is rich and fatty and extremely protetic, it is at its purest when it's cold pressed into an oil, as is Cacay, our third ingredient, which is known as the Gold of the Amazon due to its contents of retinol and vitamin E properties.

We have a unique partnership with Conservation International. CI helps us with all of our sourcing and strategy on site in the Amazon to ensure we are extracting ingredients in a sustainable and regenerative way, working closely with the communities on the ground.

Talk a little about the philanthropic work you do and the organizations you support.

Throughout my career, I have engaged in numerous social causes in Brazil and around the world. Namely AIDS Project Los Angeles, American Foundation for AIDS Research, Amnesty International, Charlize Theron Africa Outreach Project, Children's Health Fund, City of Hope, Global Fund, GLSEN, GRAMMY Foundation, Lopez Family Foundation, and (RED).

Through Costa Brazil, we've helped protect hundreds of thousands of acres in both the Amazon and other endangered forests world wide through commercial co-ventures (percentage of sales initiatives) from specific creative collaborations including. Since 2018, a partnership with Conservation International has planted over 60,000 trees. October 2020, a limited edition collaboration

between Costa Brazil and Pangaia, with 100 percent of proceeds going to Conservation International. June 2021, the Fred Leighton Collaboration, with 100 percent of proceeds going to Conservation International. June 2022 a limited edition collaboration between Costa Brazil and Bottletop Foundation, with 100 percent of proceeds going to the Bottletop Foundation. June 2022, a limited edition collaboration between Costa Brazil and Curtis Kulig, with 100 percent of proceeds going to Conservation International. December 2022, swim and skin collaboration between Costa Brazil and Tropic of C, with 10 percent of proceeds going to Conservation International.

In addition to commercial support, Costa Brazil has created awareness for the preservation of the Amazon through a series of events. In October 2019, an intimate salon hosted by Tashka Yawanawa, the leader of the Yawanawa Tribe during the UN Climate Action Summit in New York City. In February 2020, we launched the Creative Coalition, which is an open door program where creatives are invited to donate a project in exchange for credits towards protecting acres in the Amazon.

In September 2021, we partnered with Creative Time to support "An Opera for Trees," a public art installation in Prospect Park to create awareness around the lifecycle of trees. In November 2022, alongside Conservation International, we hosted an intimate event with hosts Candice Swanepoel and Claire Stern to honor Conservation International's Global Impact.

It's summer on the East End. How do you like to enjoy your time?

Simply, in nature. I like to garden and I'm so thrilled to arrive from the city on a Friday night and be out in the garden first thing Saturday. It's a great pleasure to connect this way. Long Island is this axis of country and sea, the water, the light — it's very special. That lightness is what attracted me to Long Island in the first place, you just don't find it inland.



Photo by Julien Capmeil

Vicente Wolf

Creative Interior Solutions With Interior Design Virtuoso

By Ty Wenzel

One can count on one hand the current most influential interior designers and Vicente Wolf is one of them. He has been awarded Ad100, Elle Décor A-List, and Interior Design Magazine Hall of Fame designer, to name a few. Based in New York City, he is a prolific traveler who weaves his global perspectives into his work. His interiors are meaningful interpretations of the client vision while tinging the spaces with the Wolf aesthetic. And Marianne Williamson wrote the forward for his latest book, “Vicente Wolf: Creative Interior Solutions.”

Your latest book, ‘Vicente Wolf: Creative Interior Solutions,’ is simply stunning. What does it mean for you to need creative solutions for spaces? Can you give us an example of a problem that needs solving that you illustrate in the book?

There are solutions that I had to develop for problems that I faced in designing a space, that I felt would be interesting to

the reader, who may not have thought of these particular issues and how to address them. For example, how to deal with the direction of laying wooden floorboards when installing a new floor based on what objective you are trying to accomplish.

The intro by Marianne Williamson is so surprising and refreshing. It was so joyfully heartfelt, and authentic. How she loves your work is deeply felt in her words in a way that only she can tell it. What was it like working with her and what did it mean to you for her to write the intro to your book?

What I admire about Marianne Williamson is her viewpoint on things. It is not just about what’s on the surface, but she goes deeper into an emotion and spiritual consciousness about everything, including her surroundings. I was touched that with all the things Marianne was dealing with then and now, that she took the time to consider my book, and write her lovely and personal message for my readers.

The story about your coming from Cuba and the whole start of your journey as an interior designer is so inspiring and beautiful. How does your heritage play in your design work?

I think that the foundation of my background that created the basis for who I am was built of my memories and experiences as a Cuban. My sense of light, my sense of humor can be traced to my childhood environment. My heritage has given me a clear vision of mixing the past with the present. An emotion that is tied to the earth has always grounded my work.

Travel is so important to you and your work. Where have your travels taken you lately and how has it been integrated into your work?

I was recently in Egypt and will be returning there again in a few months. Interestingly, I’m currently designing a house in Arizona where the conditions, colorations, and elements are very similar. This is a clear case of how going to a different place can affect ones work because if I had not gone to Egypt, Namibia, or Sudan, I wouldn’t have had the visual connection that I have in creating this interior.

We love to see your work historically from the ’70s and how the work looks very current. Can you just look at a piece of furniture, wallpaper, or lighting and know that it will stand the test of time?

You have to trust your instincts. It is your understanding of how to mix things that gives spaces a timeless quality. It’s not

about the individual pieces, it’s about the blending.

Do you take into consideration trends of the moment?

I think we do not live in an isolated way. The trends of the moment are in the ether, the universe that is floating all around us, giving us the direction that we all as a society are looking for.

Trends I follow are not what I see in the magazine, but in the mind frame of society. It’s not hard to understand how, for example, the Covid pandemic changed our collective mindset on what we want in our home environments.

What are some trends that you think might stand the test of time, for example maximalism, brutalism, boho, regency, etc.?

Out of these elements, a blending of all of them in a subtle way will be what lasts. Not creating thematic spaces.

There is a beautiful chapter called “Space To Breathe.” What gives a space the opportunity to breathe?

There is a subliminal message when things are floating, when things reflect light, i.e., white colored walls, where clutter is replaced by cohesive collections, where artwork is presented in an easily digestible way.

We enjoyed the “Design Lessons.” What are some design lessons that are important for our readers to consider?

Less is more. Understand your space and its scale before buying furniture. Go with your gut.

Who or what are some of your influences?

The interior designer, David Hicks’s work has always inspired me. Degas’s artwork, for coloration, innovative fashion designers like Thom Brown, explorers who broke rules to courageously get to a new place.

Where do you go or what do you read for inspiration?

I go to museums and travel to unexpected places in remote parts of the world. I read biographies to see how other people dealt with their success in their lives and how they came to connect with their gifts.

What are ways that you’ve grown as a designer? Did the pandemic change the way you work?

The motivation has always been the same. Trying to make each job better than the last one, trying to inject things I have never done before. And always, always, always loving what I do. I think the pandemic was a slice of the pie that was taken out of all of our lives. I can’t even really recall it — it was just a vacuum for all of us for two and a half years that should not have occurred.

What are you working on right now? Will there be another book in the future?

Currently I’m working on a house in Arizona, a townhouse in New York City, a house in the Hamptons, and two small renovations for former clients. And yes, I want to do another book. Perhaps one on my travels.

Where can we purchase your book, “Vicente Wolf: Creative Interior Solutions”?

Rizzoli, Barnes & Noble and Amazon.



Sam Busiello

Sag Harbor Fashion Designer To Watch

By Lisa Frohlich of Hamptons NY Style



Sam Busiello. Photo by Zeev Starr

Sam Busiello, a talented fashion designer and artist, hails from Sag Harbor and draws inspiration from the natural beauty of the Hamptons. She holds a BFA in Fine Art from Pratt Institute, which provided her with a strong foundation in artistic expression. Sam's love for yoga and dance played a significant role in the genesis of her brand.

She began by designing leggings and selling them at Satori in Sag Harbor. However, when the pandemic hit and many stores were forced to close, Sam adapted to the circumstances and joined forces with her best friend Greta. They created a line of handmade accessories, including face masks, bucket hats, and hair scrunchies. As the summer of 2021 rolled around and pandemic restrictions began to ease, Sam's designs gained significant popularity and sold out completely. The collection expanded into dresses, swimsuits, and shirts. This success marks the beginning of an exciting journey for Sam, as her creativity and dedication are paving the way for her future as an artist and designer. Hope you enjoy our interview!

Tell us about being raised on the East End.

I grew up in Sag Harbor. The community here brings people together from all over the world, which lends to its uniqueness and excitement.

How does living in the Hamptons inspire your designs and collection?

During the changing of the seasons, the atmosphere here carries a potent connection to all of its wildlife. I try to incorporate nature into my work.

How did you get started in fashion and did you go to school for it?

I have worked in local retail shops since I was young. Over time I became familiar with the business and developed friendships with clients who enjoy and support my work. I graduated with a BFA in Fine Art from Pratt Institute where I refined my painting skills. It was during my years as a student that I began using my paintings as textiles for clothing designs.

How can we purchase your designs?

All of my latest pieces and collections are available online at sambusiello.com.

Tell us about your upcoming collections.

My new paintings are all mixed media collage, which incorporates hand drawing, oil, and acrylic paint, to a final print. Limited editions and new styles are being released online and on my social media. @sambusiello



Photo by Zeev Starr

What are your best-selling designs?

The Zodiac Sarong Collection always sells out. The pieces are versatile and our customers have fun tying them up in all different ways: as a scarf, a bathing suit cover up, a dress, etc. The sarong is definitely a must-have and great travel accessory. They retail for \$140 on my website.

How do you handle your production?

Our clothing is made-to-order from global manufacturers. We use the best materials available and are very conscious of minimizing our carbon footprint wherever possible.

Which artists influence your designs?

I am influenced by painters Wassily Kandinsky, Hilma af Klint, and Picasso. I am drawn to artists who combine abstract, expressionist patterns with maximalist symbolism and colorful pop-art. I study biology and science to incorporate ideas from nature into my work.

What is your favorite part about being a designer?

I love experimenting with my paintings and working with fashion. There's nothing quite like seeing people connect with my designs and wearing them. This makes me so happy.



Lisa Frohlich in Sam Busiello slip dress

Modatrova & Lisa Frohlich Held Summer Shopping Soirée



Online fashion retailer Modatrova and fashion stylist Lisa Frohlich held a one-day, exclusive summer shopping experience in East Hampton on Tuesday, June 27.

Founded by Caroline Barton, Modatrova is a platform to discover and shop the latest from some of the best female-founded emerging designers. Guests were able to sip drinks from Ev&Em Vineyards and Gorgie, and shop a variety of summer dresses and separates, resort wear, handbags, and jewelry, in a poolside setting. Complimentary personal styling from Lisa Frohlich was also available at the event.

The curation of emerging brands included Apaya, Campbell & Charlotte, Christy Lynn, Eddy, Fanm Mon, Mestiza, Mignonette Gavigan, Ophelia & Indigo, Sara Joy, and Willard Road.

Lisa Frohlich, Christy Doramus, Brianne Manz, Erin Donabue Tice. Photo by Mark Sagliocco / Getty Images



Lucy Ayles

Unveiling The Vibrant & Community-Driven World Of The Founder Behind 'Never Fully Dressed'

By Ty Wenzel

Welcome to the mesmerizing world of Never Fully Dressed, the vibrant London-based fashion brand now charming New York City with its U.S. flagship boutique and a limited-time pop-up at Joey Wölffer's store from August 6 to 9. Celebrating sustainability and diversity, their clothing spans sizes 2 to 24, offering a blend of lively prints, patterns, and timeless staples. Each piece exudes versatility, inspiring wearers to embrace their feminine individuality. Counting Kendall Jenner, Florence Pugh, Beyoncé, and more among their celebrity fans, Never Fully Dressed emerges as a symbol of audacious elegance.

In an insightful discussion, we spoke with Lucy Ayles, the founder and designer behind Never Fully Dressed. We explored the genesis of her fashion journey, her strategic choice of the Hamptons for her upcoming pop-up, and the exciting prospects lying ahead for her outstanding brand.

Lucy, congratulations on your summer collection and pop up in the Hamptons. As the founder and designer of this gorgeous line, tell us about the history of Never Fully Dressed. How did this journey commence for you?

I'm a failed actress and my mom said, "you've got to go and get a proper job." My parents were market traders in London, so I think I've always had that in my blood

and I've always been creative. I could sew and I could draw but I never really set out with a business intention. I started doing the Portobello Road markets — if you know London, Portobello Road is for vintage and handmade products. It took off from there. There was no social when I first started. So no Instagram and we kind of grew with that platform. That's where I think that our community focus started for us and we've taken that community online. It was a real focus during Covid and it came into its own.

I am a bit of a traveler, and wherever I went, I was selling bits here and there. We started in my mom's loft with people coming through the house all hours of the day. We opened a small store where we fulfilled from there — and then it grew steadily from then. That was probably about eight years ago. Covid was quite a turning point for us where community became the focus. Prints got vibrant, people were looking for escapism. We were really focused on our consumer.

Explain what the community focus is for the brand. Your social media presence is impressive. What was growth like during the pandemic?

That focus on community is how we serve and help, how our products make people feel and how we can use our voice. We've been doing this for thirteen years. I was never on our Instagram once pre-Covid

and then obviously in that time I had to shoot product or had to speak to the customer. I think people liked that, as it's rare that you've got the founder talking to you. It's a little bit more common in the US and maybe you've got the likes of Mara Hoffman who is still very present in that creative way.

I think a lot of people that were B2B just closed their doors. We're mainly direct-to-consumer. And we've got such a vocal and loyal customer that we could absorb any orders that were cancelled from bigger partners. We just took that time, we're probably three times the size of team now than what we were in 2020. We're really agile. I remember the first shoot we did in my garden and we kind of turned that into a set where we could social distance with makeup stations. We were just creative in how we dealt with everything at that time. I think the community focus for us resonated and our customers came out of that obviously more loyal.

What does the brand's name, Never Fully Dressed, mean or come from?

It's basically you're not fully dressed without a smile. To see someone with that confidence is the most important thing.

Have you ever been to the Hamptons?

No, this summer will be my first time. My mom was recently at the New York store and said we should pop out to the Hamptons. She probably watches all the shows about the Hamptons. I'm really excited.

Tell us about the pop-up in the Hamptons and the inclusivity of your customer is wonderful.

We've seen a lot of organic growth in the US over the years. Pop-ups were always a part of our business model and we did four in New York before we opened our store there. We're in the exact space where we did the last pop up — things just aligned. We're just deepening our roots in the U.S. and building our community there.

Our size offering in the US is size 2 to 24. For Spring/Summer we're going to extend both ends from 0 to 26. That really resonates in New York that women of all sizes come here. I've had people in tears in the store. I think it's so hard to find a place to shop. It's been groundbreaking for that community and word of mouth is

really spreading. It's really exciting to be a part of that.

It was there were twenty or so people said to me, "You need to be in the Hamptons, you need to be in the Hamptons." We'll be deepening our roots in the US with our base in the city. It will be nice to see the community in the Hamptons experience that and maybe there is something bigger that we build on.

What was it about the Joey Wölffer boutique that attracted you to pop up there?

We saw the alignment there, with her vibe. I think in the Hamptons it feels like a good alignment for us. We're looking forward to that and we're quite long term people.

Let's talk about your incredible price-point, which is very approachable.

It's an interesting point of conversation at the moment because I think our price for now feels so inexpensive. We've got a press preview next week for our Autumn/Winter line in London and the quality of the fabrics are just absolutely amazing. Our knits are sustainable. No one does our quality for our price point.

How are you able to keep prices so affordable?

We just price very honestly. As we grow, we look at how that architecture looks like for pricing. Especially working in the US, they want that quality piece and we've got a really good conversation going with our

customer and our voice is also really honest. We can get better at telling that story which is the conversation we're having in every meeting at the moment to convey that integrity of design, the process behind the product — that brings even more value behind every piece. If you're making 300 of a piece in the world, there's also an exclusivity behind it as well. As the US is becoming more and more important for us, traceability, transparency, process and where things are made is a focus. If there is an increase, we're talking like twenty dollars, but we price honestly is how we do it.

How would you describe your vibrant summer collection?

I think as far as my natural self, I would call it quite eclectic. Even if it's something dressy, I would then quite like a natural fiber to ground the piece. I think that's a more interesting story when you mix conflicting details or how it's styled depending on the consumer. The personality behind that customer is a wide variety.

Eclectic is a great way to describe your collection.

When you see someone come out of a changing room their shoulders go back a bit, that smile we were talking about . . . that's the thing. It radiates and it's so infectious. We make clothing for people to look and feel as amazing as they already are.

Never Fully Dressed will be at the Joey Wölffer boutique at 11 Madison Street in Sag Harbor from August 6 to 8. To learn more about Never Fully Dressed, visit neverfullydressed.com or visit their store in New York City at 243 Elizabeth Street.





Heritage Brazil

On Wednesday, June 28, James Lane Post & Heritage Brazil hosted an evening featuring artwork by Sylvia Hommert and jewelry by Susan Nieland. Guests joined to celebrate the July issue of James Lane Post while discovering the beauty of Heritage

Brazil at the PLAIN-T & Heritage Brazil showroom in Southampton Village. There was rosé from Château de Berne in Provence and each guest left with a gift from Yolaine Paris.



Love Shack Fancy

Hamptons Dinner To Celebrate 10th Anniversary Collection



Rebecca Hessel Cohen



Jennie Garth, Luca Bella Facinelli



Rachel Zoe, Pamela Tich, Tracy Anderson



Whitney Port

On Tuesday, July 18, LoveShackFancy fête their 10th anniversary and Anniversary Collection launch with an intimate 40-person dinner at founder and creative director Rebecca Hessel Cohen's Hamptons home.

Guests — including Jennie Garth, Candace Bushnell, Rachel Zoe, Tracy Anderson, Estee Stanley, Alexa Swinton, and Whitney Port — were greeted by LoveShackFancy's signature palette of pink, seen across floral arrangements by Sag Harbor Florists, custom-made table linens in a brand-favorite Ikat print, and refreshing blush-hued 21 Seeds tequila cocktails.

The night began with a cocktail hour at the front of the house, followed by a seated dinner in Cohen's lush and whimsical back garden. The layered table setting included mix and match china from Cohen's collection, handmade bows, printed napkins, vintage glassware, and custom lace seat covers. Guests enjoyed a dinner of seasonal fare, with IKRAA caviar and Santa Margherita wine before taking part in a decadent dessert display of flower-adorned cakes, cupcakes, and tarts, all served on vintage floral plates and cake stands.

Cohen and guests all wore pieces from the Anniversary Collection in anticipation of its launch. Each guest also got a sneak preview of the full collection, set up amongst the flora and fauna of the garden.

"I couldn't be more excited to launch our Anniversary collection of truly timeless and beautiful pieces to love forever and always have in your wardrobe," said Cohen. "This collection is so close to my heart for many reasons, but especially because we're bringing back the original Love Dress that I created for my wedding — a day that represents the heart and soul of the brand — along with the dreamiest, most loved silhouettes and prints from the past 10 years that our customers and fans have been asking for. They're finally here to relive all the magic."

The LoveShackFancy Anniversary Collection launched on loveshackfancy.com on July 20.

Photos by Carl Timpono / BFA

Stylest

A Talk With The Founders Of The Innovative Sculpting Swimwear Brand



Alia Yubia-Bosworth, Joyann King Michael, Chrissy McCurdy, Joey Wölffer

On Thursday, July 6, Stylest founders Joyann King Michael, Alia Bosworth, Chrissy McCurdy, and Joey Wölffer hosted a Summer Celebration Lunch at the Wölffer Wine Stand. Stylest introduced its brand and collection to attendees. Food was served by Hamptons Aristocrat. Guests were gifted Poolside totes and Stylest terry cloth robes monogrammed on-site with their initials.

Stylest is an innovative sculpting swimwear system created by fashion experts Joyann King Michael, Alia Bosworth, and Chrissy McCurdy. They collectively

answered a few questions.

Tell us a little about your background and how you began working together.

It all started at a pool party in Millbrook, NY in 2020, when Chrissy shared she was wearing a bra under her J. Crew swimsuit for added lift and support. As former fashion editors, stylists, and buyers, we were inspired by this styling hack for moms and came together to create Stylest, a sculpting swimwear line featuring the first ever collection of Aqualingerie™, bras engineered for the water and designed to be worn under your swimsuit.



Photos by Sabrina Steck / BFA

Tell us about your brand and the inspiration behind it?

As moms loving mid-life, our lifestyles and bodies were evolving, but our wardrobe options weren't keeping up — especially when it came to finding a decent swimsuit. We created the swimwear pieces that were missing from your swim wardrobe: waterproof lingerie to give you that sculpted, held-in feeling, plus ultra-flattering swimsuits and innovative cover-ups that work their magic from the kiddie pool to the beach. Our mission is to empower women by giving them an outfit plan for a day by the water.

It's summer on the East End. What are your favorite things to do?

We all share a passion for rosé and music



and love visiting the Wölffer Estate Wine Stand on Fridays for a fun weekend kick off with family and friends! A class at

Yoga Shanti in Sag Harbor and a trip to Montauk for a day on Ditch Plains beach, would really round out a perfect Saturday.

Bilal Rehman

Fearless Interior Designer Redefining Spaces & Captivating Social Media

By Ty Wenzel

Bilal Rehman, the 23-year-old interior designer, is making a splash on social media with an impressive following of 484.9K on TikTok with 4.6M likes and 133K on Instagram. Fearlessly unapologetic, he candidly shares his insights, while sprinkling profanities in his approach. Hailing from Houston, Texas, Rehman spearheads Bilal Rehman Design Studio & Gallery, where he crafts luxurious interiors for a diverse range of commercial and residential projects. With a rich blend of Pakistani and Lebanese heritage, he fearlessly pursued his passion, and in 2022, he took the bold step of launching his own namesake studio, captivating audiences and designing spaces with his authentic and original voice.

We've been following your work on social media and it looks like you did some major renovations to your own showroom, gallery, and office. We love the arched doorway and the light airiness of it.

When I first walked into our showroom, it was brown and had rubber flooring because it was used as a production facility before. It was a very commercial space in terms of production and it did not focus on the beautification of anything.

How would you describe your design style?

I think my style is the perfect combination of traditional and contemporary — as if you were to take them and merge them together. I have such an appreciation for some of the more traditional things. I love moldings on walls or really detailed doors — things like that. But then I will take that element and I'll modernize it by painting it magenta or doing something arresting to it.

I feel like the only word that encompasses my design aesthetic is dramatic. There are a lot of conversational items in the spaces,

like a giant hand on a table, or something that sparks a conversation compared to just doing basic vases.

We read on your website that your designs are to give you a total body sensory experience. How does a person live in a space that is always putting one in that kind of all-encompassing experience?

After the project is done, they often say, "I have no idea how I was functioning in this house before you came in." When you focus on the total body experience, you're focusing on not just the way things look, but also the way the room smells, the way that the room is lit, the way that you look in that lighting. The way the speakers are placed in the room so that the sound is balanced. There are a lot of other elements that go into that sensory experience. When it's perfectly done and well curated, it's hard to go back to a space where the speakers don't sound as good or you look tired in this lighting.

Our favorite series is, This Not That. There's a value that you're giving to your audience which is nice, but in a funny way.

Honestly, it's my sister. She is my marketing director. She'll see us working on a project or I'll show her something that I saw on Instagram or in a magazine, for example. She'll say, "oh my God, that's a really good piece of information, we need to share that!" We take that little spark of inspiration and build an entire concept for a video around it.

Do you have other series in the works or is this a very organic process for you?

It started out in the very beginning as a more organic flow, where we did whatever we were feeling that day. Now I put a lot more thought into what I'm producing



because I really want to create content that feels authentic. That is my number one thing. I don't want anybody to come across the video and say this feels fake — that's the number one thing. The second is that I want to provide useful information to my audience that has not already been done 100,000 times by other people on the platform. Now we really look at the content that we're creating and if I've seen a similar video on this topic 10 times by other creators, we say let's not do that.

We saw that you are inspired by certain designers like Kelly Wearstler.

Definitely, Kelly Wearstler. I had the privilege of meeting her at Art Basel last year and it was a life-altering moment for me because I had grown up idolizing her and her work. Watching her expand her career and company then getting to meet her was incredible and it really sparked so much inspiration for me that I decided to leave the company that I was working with to start my own studio. Yes, it was a pivotal moment for me.

Who or what else inspires you?

I'm inspired heavily by fashion. Fashion has always played a role in my life. Versace, I love, especially the archival pieces. You know that in the very first video that I ever went viral I was wearing a vintage Versace leather jacket and people were ripping me to shreds because it looked so beat up. It's my favorite piece.

That's an interesting point, that interiors can obviously incorporate art, but fashion is a very interesting aspect. Do you follow interior trends?

Not really in our work. They come and go so fast, by the time you hop onto the

bandwagon, first of all, it's already been done a thousand times over and it's not original anymore. And number two, by the time everybody hops onto it, a new trend has already replaced it.

Do you work a lot with homeowners, the architect, or both? What's the process for you?

All of the above and it depends really on the scope of the project. We take a list of all their wants, their needs, their wishes. I even ask them the most personal questions — I have to ask. How do you like to live in your house? Do you want a room to make you feel sexier? Do you want a room where you can have a little date night with your husband, or your wife, or whatever the case might be? We're going to produce the best thing for your lifestyle because it's not only about the house being pretty. It needs to be something that you can actually live in. So that's where I really like to go with residential clients to find out more about their lives and how they live to make better educated decisions when it comes to making selections.

There is a synchronicity happening between creators and followers where they are building your brand up. Have you found clients through it?

Totally. If anything, I think social media has been so vital in filtering out clients who may not have been a good fit from the beginning. Now I get clients who love the way that I talk, the raw and open way that I am when and if it comes to telling them that their house is ugly as sh*t. It's like we've met me before we've actually met. So, if they don't like the way that I talk, or the way that I handle situations, or my aesthetic, they already know that in advance. But now with people who are reaching out, they almost sign up instan-

aneously. Our salesperson will get on the phone with them and within 20 minutes the contracts are signed.

Social media has been pivotal. It was in January when my sister took over and it pivoted — then started exploding.

She successfully built your interior design brand on social media in seven months?

She grew up heavily on social media. I wasn't strategically planning anything. I really, really put an emphasis on putting on this persona of what the world thinks a designer is. You know, very prim and proper, we don't cuss, acting a certain way — and it just wasn't working. People were seeing right through it. It was like that for years until I brought her on and she had the brilliant idea of saying, why don't we just make a video of you talking the way you talk to me or to your client, or in real life? You know, which is me, telling them that their house is ugly.

What's interesting is that you're leveraging your social media presence into something so much bigger.

Absolutely. We've built such a strong community. The people who follow me, they're not just followers, they talk to me as if I'm like their friend, which I love. They'll randomly send me pictures of their house — I wake up every morning with a DM box full of photos, such as a sofa that they just bought or that they're thinking about buying. They'll ask what I think of it. You don't know me and I don't know you, but I love that. You feel comfortable enough to send it to me. These people are so much more now.

To read the full interview, visit jameslane-post.com. To learn more about Bilal Rehman, visit bilalrehmanstudio.com.

Courtesy photos





Photo by David Sack

Stephanie Sack

The North Fork Apothecary & A Paradigm Shift In The Luxury Boutique Experience

By Ty Wenzel

Nestled amid the pastoral landscapes of the North Fork, a vibrant spin is underway in the realm of luxury boutiques and experiences. From Greenport to Aquebogue, the region is blossoming with a growing array of rousing establishments and world-renowned dining spots. At the forefront of this evolution stands the North Fork Apothecary, a retail haven envisioned by its trailblazing founder, Stephanie Sack.

Formerly the co-owner of Popsicle & Finn in Greenport, Sack embarked on a transformative journey when she brought her creative prowess to Cutchogue, re-branding her venture after the closure of her previous establishment. This pivotal moment granted her the opportunity to forge her own path, curating an ideal lifestyle brand that seamlessly blends fashion, beauty, wellness, home and garden, and unforgettable experiential encounters.

Sack's visionary spirit breathes new life into the tranquil vistas that surround her. Drawing inspiration from rock and roll's iconography, she seamlessly intertwines elements like Ramones t-shirts and Bowie memorabilia with the high-end options from local and global designers like Zadig & Voltaire and Citizens of Humanity. She crafts extraordinary perfumes and lotions, blending exotic, organic fragrances with deep earthy scents.

Every facet of Sack's work is imbued with authenticity. This is not an act. The North Fork Apothecary is who she is — an elevated realm of beauty, artistry, and exquisite indulgence.

Congratulations on North Fork Apothecary! We love your selection of men's and women's ready to wear, accessories, beauty, furnishings, and more.

Can you tell us more about what you are offering at the boutique?

I think of the Apothecary as a modern general store. I carry a little bit of everything and it's constantly changing. You'll find quality clothing for women and men, accessories, clean skin care, makeup and sunscreen, CADDIS reading glasses, swimwear, locally handwoven textiles, gifts and practical goods for the home, beautiful jewelry, and art. You'll even find coffee beans from Intelligentsia, and some cool vintage finds. I recently spoke with several visitors who happily recalled riding their bicycles here as kids (when it was the general store) to buy candy. So, now I carry some fun candies, because I cherish the nostalgia of this building being such a joyful childhood memory.

Tell us why you chose Cutchogue as your destination for NFA?

I love and live in Cutchogue, but it was this building that convinced me that this was the right place. This farmhouse has a wonderful 200-year history. It was a general store and post office for a long time. Albert Einstein used to walk to this shop in the late 1930s during his summer stays on Nassau Point. He'd pick up his mail (we have the old post office boxes on display), discuss the news of the day, and gossip with the locals. I created the Apothecary with the hope that it would be a central place for locals and visitors to gather, connect with this incredible community, have a cup of coffee, and find beautiful, useful, and lasting things to make their North Fork lives happier.

What are your favorite collections this summer season?

I am in love with the brands I've brought

into the shop. I hand-select each one, meet with the makers, understand their ethos, and try on and test every item I carry. While it seems hard to imagine, it wasn't that long ago that we knew the people who made our clothing and home goods personally — that is, if we didn't make them ourselves. When I was a kid, my mom made a lot of my clothing and costumes, my grandmother knitted my sweaters, and my dad made toys and art with me all the time. Sadly, much of that has been lost to fast fashion and easy consumption. I'm trying to restore a bit of that connection and pride in the collections I carry. Relwen for men, Banjanan's dresses, Bembien's woven bags and totes, and Shed Textile's local hand-woven textiles are great examples of thoughtful design and exquisite craftsmanship. I've even created my own line of hand-made, small-batch perfumes, candles, lotions, and soaps, based on my North Fork memories.

What are some of your favorite trends of late?

I don't think people gravitate to the North Fork with trends in mind. In my opinion, the ultimate North Fork lifestyle is all about quiet and practical luxury. My philosophy is "buy less; buy better." I focus on clothing and décor that prioritizes longevity alongside beauty. People are looking for pieces that not only look beautiful, but also fit easily into multiple facets of their lives — today, tomorrow, and next year. My clients have come to know that every item I carry has a story behind it. They love learning the who and how it was made, and from where the makers draws their inspiration. I love the romance of curating an ever-evolving assortment for the Apothecary, from finding the best quality jeans, to women's shirts that have the perfect button spacing, to scouring markets for fun vintage finds. My latest obsessions are vintage festival ball caps, silver lighters, and old money clips. My dad always carried a money clip, so it makes me think of him every time I find one.

You have had events at the shop. What were they and is there anything else coming up?

We've had two pop-ups with Jenni Kayne — the ultimate luxury California lifestyle brand. We'll be doing another one this fall because everyone loves Jenni's cashmere fishermen's sweaters! I've also done fundraising events for ELIH, and my own charity named Cat Space. You can learn more at @nofocatspace.

I have lots of fun events starting in August and going straight through Autumn. There is the Shop for Peconic Community School on Tuesday, August 8, from 2 to 6 PM. Twenty percent of all sales go to

building their new school in Cutchogue. I went to Provence last year and met a truffle farmer, whose family has owned a small plot of land for over 100 years. He sent me some beautiful black Summer truffles that his adorable dog sniffed out. I've collaborated with Master Beekeeper Chris Kelly to spin some golden magic with hyper local honey.

We're launching North Fork Apothecary's French Truffle Honey at the beginning of August. Be on the look out for craft cocktail classes that will combine our Nassau Point Honey with the fruits of the North Fork's Autumn harvest for the yummiest seasonal drinks.

On Friday, August 25, I'm curating a special Night Market at Meadowlark Vineyard in Cutchogue. It will be my own little curiosity shop for one evening only! The greatest gift of being a shopkeeper are the people I meet. One of my favorites is Deborah Feingold, the legendary music photographer. Together, we have conjured a few events for September and October. "Deborah Feingold, Life Behind the Lens, An Intimate Evening of Storytelling" is the event. From her most iconic images to photos that have never been published, Deborah is a beautiful blend of humor, humility, and raw instinctual talent honed over a 50-year career. Her stories absolutely charm and captivate. Deborah will also host a series of photography classes focusing on everything from the North Fork's natural beauty, to editorial shoots, and portraits. I'm optimistic I'll be able to create something as profound as her images of Barack Obama or Madonna.

Through Deborah, I have become friends with world-renowned hairstylist Yves Durif, who has a salon in the famous Carlyle Hotel in New York City. Yves is a true artist and master of his craft. His favorite cut is one that looks great, even when you first fall out of bed... complete effortless

style. Yves takes his inspiration from the movie stars of the '60s such as Jean Seberg in "Breathless," Brigitte Bardot in "And God Created Woman," and young French actresses such as Juliette Binoche, Audrey Tautou, and Léa Seydoux.

I'm thrilled to announce that Yves Durif will be kicking off a North Fork residency at The Apothecary on Saturday and Sunday, September 9 to 10. I'm also working to bring my favorite novelists, poets, artists, tarot card readers, musicians, skin care gurus, and even Victorian magic out to the Apothecary for special events.

You've been a retailer on the North Fork for a long time. Are you local?

I grew up on Long Island and lived in the West Village before moving to Cutchogue. My family bought a home just down the road from the Apothecary in the mid-1980s. Like many people, we started out as weekenders. I met and fell in love with my husband David out here 15 years ago. He's a television editor. Once he was able to set up an editing studio in a spare bedroom, we made the move to full-time residents. That was 10 years ago! I continued my work as a marketing and experiential event consultant until the pandemic. Opening a shop was an idea born from my selfish desire to find quality stuff without having to go to the Hamptons or the city. I craved the connection that comes from meeting kindred spirits in a relaxed and bespoke space. I knew other people felt the same way. I started in Greenport and was there for two years. I closed that shop and opened in this historic spot in Cutchogue last October. The shop is a light-filled space brimming with positive energy — a whole new concept with more and better quality brands. People (especially me) are so happy to visit.

There are a lot of stores that go on hiatus after summer, yet you're open year-round. How is business during the off-season?

I'm open year-round because I live here year round, and the one thing I know for sure is that we all need stuff regardless of what month it says on the calendar. The Apothecary borders a residential neighborhood, so its super easy for people to visit in between school pick-up runs, soccer games, or on their way to the grocers. Sometimes it's a new lipstick to brighten up a dreary winter day, sometimes it's a birthday gift for yourself or someone you love. Some days you just want to connect with another human and talk about your morning walk on the beach, or what to pack for a Spring holiday. I've always been very hospitality focused, so my daily life at the Apothecary is full of personal touches and (hopefully) meaningful interactions. I will happily curate a capsule of clothing for any occasion. I offer local delivery to a home or hotel. I offer personal styling and home decorating. I'll open after hours or on off-days if that's what works best for a client. I'm very active in community events. And, as an added bonus, I tell my clients that I have opinions and recommendations regarding everything North Fork — whether it pertains to the shop or not. I say this in a cheeky way, but in all earnestness, it's a heartfelt homage to this building, I'm hoping to continue the tradition and art of gathering, connecting and being the North Fork's purveyor of quality and luxury.

To learn more about North Fork Apothecary, visit northforkapothecary.com.



Beauty & The Beach

The Hamptons Spa Experience

By Heather Buchanan



Photo courtesy Gurney's Montauk



The Baker House 1650. Photo by Mix Media Plus



Photo courtesy Airem

Know that there are the lucky ones who get to stay in some of the beautiful resorts out here in the Hamptons, but even if you don't have the room key that doesn't mean you aren't welcome to experience some of their spas. Go ahead and walk in like you own the place and get ready for some serious wellness "me" time.

Topping Rose House — Bridgehampton

The Topping Rose House in Bridgehampton pays homage to its 1842 Greek Revival roots while embracing modern

luxury. Guests have the option of staying in the main inn with beautiful rooms featuring historic details or opting for the new modern wing in the back of the property. Named after the original owner Judge Abraham Topping Rose, the resort reimagined by architect Roger Ferris has a Jean-Georges restaurant, pool, fitness area, event spaces, outdoor lounge areas and new spa services from Airem.

The spa features the Airem product line, timeless Korean beauty rituals meet clinically effective formulas for results-driven skin care. Dr. Eunice Park who has a full-service practice in Syosset offers mini-

mally invasive, non-surgical, and surgical techniques to her patients brings her and her staff's facial skills to this central Hamptons location.

They have a special AI Skin Analysis to determine the overall health of your skin with a 14-point evaluation and an Airem Medical Esthetician can provide a customized skincare regimen. The facials are the secret weapon for your summer glow and the best hour you can spend off line. They include everything from cleansing to exfoliating to hydrating and firming. There is even a supercharge microinfusion facial that uses a 24-karat gold plated stamping device.

A signature facial is the Hamptons HydraDome Facial. Combining oxygen and LED therapy to help nourish the skin, this hydrating facial helps to restore moisture and skin's pH balance and instantly firms and plumps skin, delivering long lasting deep hydration. Add on dermaplaning for a faultless smooth finish. Hint, a great pre-game for any event.

Be Sure To: Stop in after your spa appointment for the weekday happy hour Monday to Thursday from 5 to 6:30 PM or the special Rosé Garden Fridays with live music, cocktails, and oysters from 4 to 6 PM.

The Baker House 1650 — East Hampton

Secluded behind a vine covered Cotswold-inspired cottage wall on Main Street in East Hampton Village is the luxurious boutique bed and breakfast inn, which is the choice of discerning guests for the most pampered experience. The Baker House 1650 has won Conde Nast Johanssen's Most Excellent Inn of the Americas award. Owner Antonella Bertello and her staff ensure the premium treatment for their guests in the beautiful private property which includes the main house, carriage house, two outdoor pools set in English Gardens, a pergola covered patio and lounge. Each of the spacious rooms has a different flavor with historic appeal as well as modern amenities. They also offer poolside yoga classes.

Hidden away is the private Baker Spa with indoor pool and relaxation area that features a counter-current pool, sauna, steam shower, and soaking jacuzzi tub. They have partnered with Luzern products from Switzerland and have a signature Oxygen Facial.

Be Sure To: Make a reservation post treatment for Sunday afternoon tea which is held from 1:30 to 4 PM and includes sweet bites, champagne, and a tiered sandwich and pastry tray as well as teas by Plain-T. It is elegance personified to be transported to the English countryside in the middle of the Hamptons.

Gurney's Montauk Resort & Seawater Spa

With its rare oceanfront location in Montauk, the revamped Gurney's Resort has a front row seat to seaside beauty and relaxation. Their luxury accommodations range from rooms to suites to cottages to entire residences and the resort has numerous dining and drinking areas including, of course, one of the prettiest beaches in the world. The Seawater Spa recently underwent a \$20 million dollar renovation to focus on holistic wellness, innovation, and sustainability. Now at 30,000 square feet it offers an ocean-fed seawater pool, bathhouse with sauna, aromatherapy steam and salt rooms, and indoor/outdoor treatment rooms so you can hear the sound of the waves. There is also a new fitness room and studio. Note if you are a spa aficionado, there are also memberships available.

Treatments range from skincare to massages to body treatments and they also have NutriDrip IV drips and booster shots. A signature is the Bespoke Soothe Massage which combines prescriptive bodywork and therapeutic touches that are equally attuned to individual attention. Sounds like something you would like to program in every day after your Teams Meeting call.

Be Sure To: Stop after your treatment on weekends at the oceanfront Patrón El Cielo Lounge on the resort's East Deck to celebrate the launch of Patrón Tequila's newest innovation.



A Day In The Life Of Summer Shoshanna



The writer and visionary namesake behind the venerated womenswear collection, Shoshanna Gruss, graciously divulges her curated collection of refined essentials that make up a day in the life of Summer Shoshanna.

Amber Rib Shimmer Rings Bikini

The classic triangle string bikini top and bottom offers a beautiful textured rib fabric with tonal chain details on the ties, with natural wood beads on string ends. Plus it has removable cups and is fully lined. The matching sarong is the perfect cover-up that adds a layer to the ensemble.

Canfora Marina Sandals

For oceanside clambake to a night on the town — or anything in between, by Via Coquina in Sag Harbor.

Sunflow X Shoshanna Beach Chair

The best beach chair just got even cuter (in my humble opinion) with a few special touches by me.

Finca Rosé

From Wölffer Estate Vineyard — as summer as the sunsets on my back porch.

Saie Beauty Glow Super Skin

The Glow Super Skin Lightweight Hydrobounce™ Serum Foundation is sold at Sephora and created by year-round Hamptons resident, Laney Crowell, for the best natural glow. It's truly amazing.

1000 X By Sienna Gruss

Blasting my favorite song of the sum-



mer, 1000 X. It's the first single off of my daughter, Sienna Gruss's new album, "Sienna." Available to stream on Spotify, Apple Music, and wherever else you listen to music.

bcmfestival

Bridgehampton Chamber Music

Marya Martin, Artistic Director

40th Season

July 16 – August 13, 2023

Only 5 concerts remain!

Thursday, August 3, 6pm

Beethoven Septet

Bridgehampton Presbyterian Church

Sunday, August 6, 6pm

Inspirations:

Dvořák / Brown / Schumann

Bridgehampton Presbyterian Church

Monday, August 7, 6pm

BCMF@The Parrish:

Landscapes and Pastorales

Parrish Art Museum

Sunday, August 13, 6pm

Bon Voyage:

A Seaworthy Finale

Bridgehampton Presbyterian Church

Friday, August 11

6pm Wine and Hors d'Ouevres

7pm Concert

**Wm. Brian Little Concert:
American Adventure**

Channing Sculpture Garden



For Tickets

631 537 6368

www.bcmf.org



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