

Harper's BAZAAR

MALAYSIAN
JANUARY
W. MALAYSIA
E. MALAYSIA
PP13726/02/2009

White New Things

FRESH
SPRING
LOOKS
PRETTY
SHARP
EXTRAS
POP ART
MAKE-UP

**GREEN GOES
GLAMOROUS**
Eco-beauty gets
better and brighter

ME
MALAYSIAN
(OTHER)
ROYAL FAMILIES

20
cool fashion
& hot trends
for a chic year

DI
REVOLUTION
Chinese art hijack
haute couture





Yap Su Lin, Tania Khan and Ida Nerina

Khoon Hooi, Teh Wee Tee, Monica Lee and Loh Li kim

Dennis Lau and friend



The Wink Chair by Toshiyuki Kita

Ng Peng Peng

Designer Looks

Crème de la crème In great style, La Mer and Space Furniture hosted a dinner party for the design-savvy and the beautiful at the Space showroom in Bangsar recently. The occasion? To celebrate Crème de la Mer's iconic status with the city's most stylish trendsetters.

Luxe lounging In true La Mer form, glamorous guests savoured bottles of baby G.H. Mumm champagne while enjoying canapés and conversation reclining on designer furniture and chilling to the sweet groove of upcoming singer and DJ Arafah Edruce.

Scene stealers Included Camelia and Magie Abang Saufi; TV host, Xandria Ooi; celebrity socialites Tania Khan and Melissa Indot; and fashion designer, Khoon Hooi.



Camelia

Xandria Ooi



Wai Choong and Shirley Tan

Ann Phua

Ida Suzaini, Soo Shua Pin and Madia Abdullah



Gloria Ting, Aileen Chan and Emmeline Ng

Jessica Low



Felicia Lau and Sereen Eng



Datin Suraya Shamsul

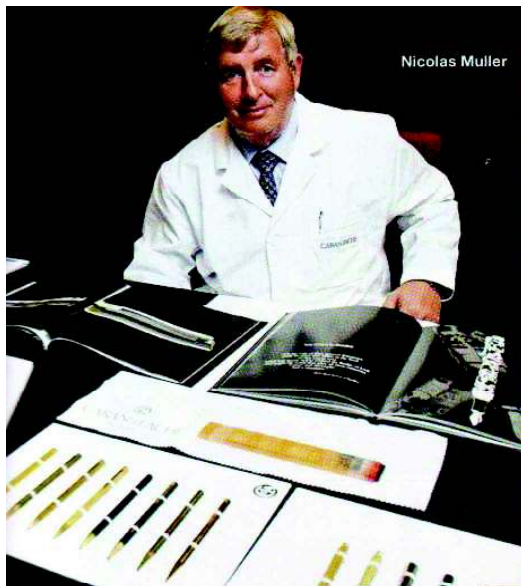
The Write Heritage

What To celebrate its official launch in Malaysia, Caran d'Ache, the Swiss luxury writing instrument manufacturer, threw a fabulous cocktail party at Lafite, Shangri-La Kuala Lumpur. Emceed by Elaine Daly, it saw a brilliant mix of guests from celebrities to dignitaries and pen enthusiasts.

Who's who Officiating the event was none other than Dato' Sri Azalina Othman Said, Minister of Tourism Malaysia. Also in attendance were His Excellency Dr Urs Stemmler, the ambassador of Switzerland to Malaysia; Philippe de Korodi, chief executive officer of Caran d'Ache Switzerland; Olivier Walthert, managing director of Dianomiq; and Angelo Ponzetta, president Asia Pacific of Caran d'Ache.

Class in session Bringing an educational aspect to the evening was Nicolas Muller, master craftsman at Caran d'Ache, who gave an insightful presentation on the processes of pen designing and manufacturing.

Charmaine Poo



Nicolas Muller



Alber Elbaz with Linda Evangelista and Chloe Sevigny

SWISS HERITAGE

The veteran master craftsman for Swiss luxury writing instrument company, Caran d'Ache, Nicolas Muller, has been with the company for 44 years. Having retired in 2005 has not stopped this passionate designer from travelling the world as a spokesperson for the Geneva-based brand which was established in 1924, and today counts designer Alber Elbaz of Lanvin as one of its celebrity fans. In Kuala Lumpur for the launch of the Caran d'Ache boutique, Muller chats with *BAZAAR* about what it means to put pen – and pencil – to paper, Caran d'Ache-style.

What sets Caran d'Ache apart from other writing instrument brands?

There are two major things – first, everybody can make cheaper pens but the craftsmanship that we possess can only be acquired from experience, from our 84-year history. From the very start, everything we do and the way we do them – the designs and the technical expertise – are all transmitted from generation to generation. The second is, we're the sole pen manufacturer that produces metal pens only. Our pens are pens to use for life. We do not use plastic because plastic is breakable, our pens are not.

Who is the Caran d'Ache collector?

She is affluent and someone who desires the special and unique. We have a very specific shape which other brands do not have and it is our precision, quality, and the precious materials we use that appeal to an exclusive set of individuals with higher expectations.

Tell us about this unique shape.

In 1929, we created the first metal clutch pencil, or the mechanical pencil, which had the same shape as the real pencil – the hexagon shape. Today, the hexagonal pen is our identity. If you give a Swiss a hexagonal pen, he'd immediately recognise it as a Caran d'Ache. It can't be anything else, it's very distinct. Today we also offer round-shaped pens because we want to give the customers a choice.

What makes a great pen?

If you want to get a pen that's worth the money you pay, it's important to consider the design, the quality, and the function of the pen, because a pen is made to be used. It is not just to be shown but also to write with. And when you have a beautiful piece on hand which is also easy to write with, you'll enjoy writing.

Why pay so much for a pen?

You go to Caran d'Ache to buy something which you use today, and then someday pass on to the next generation. There are emotional connotations, like a piece of jewellery which goes from mother to daughter. We design precious objects; we have today many pens that come to our factory for refurbishing and cleaning – pens which young people inherited as a family heirloom and which they now use. Caran d'Ache is a pen you want to keep for generations, they come with a lifetime guarantee. That's also the reason why we use precious and natural materials like alligator leather, rosewood, Chinese lacquer, rubber, and carbon fibre – the same materials used on F1 car tyres and body.

A high point of your career with Caran d'Ache?

Easy, my design of the Caran d'Ache lighter that was first released in 1978. Ours are the only lighters in the world equipped with a reserve gas tank, a Caran d'Ache patent.

What inspires you?

For one good pen in the market, you come up with about 100 different designs. Ideas come in the strangest of ways. Beethoven was a dreamer, Mozart too; but not everybody dreams so there are different ways to get inspiration, such as through my travels or conversations with people. ■

Caran d'Ache, 2.04, Level 2, Pavilion KL. Tel: 03-2141 6421. www.carandache.ch

The Perles de Caran d'Ache, the house's very first limited-edition pen devoted entirely to women in 18-carat white gold with diamonds and Akoya pearls retails at RM288,000



Limited-edition Gotica fountain pen in sterling silver with rhodium-coated 18-carat gold nib, Caran d'Ache

The La Modernista Diamonds fountain pen in rhodium-coated solid silver and pavé-set with diamonds and rubies with a rhodium-coated 18-carat gold nib that was certified by the Guinness World Records as the most expensive pen in the world