FINANCIAL TIMES

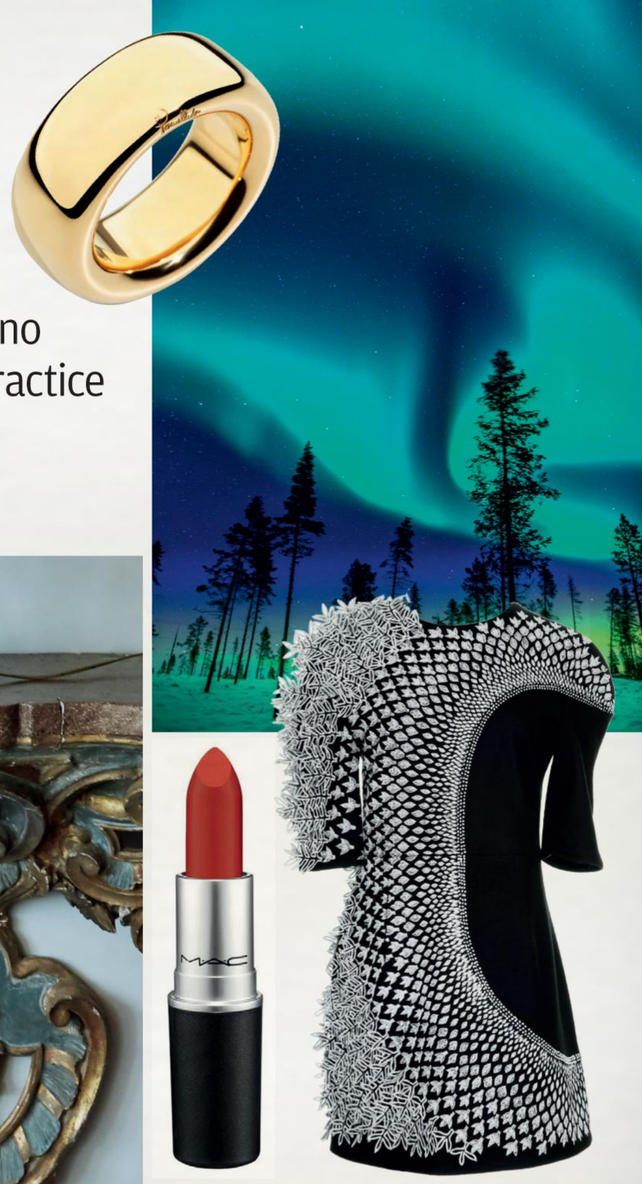
how to spend it

JULY 2 2016



the aesthete

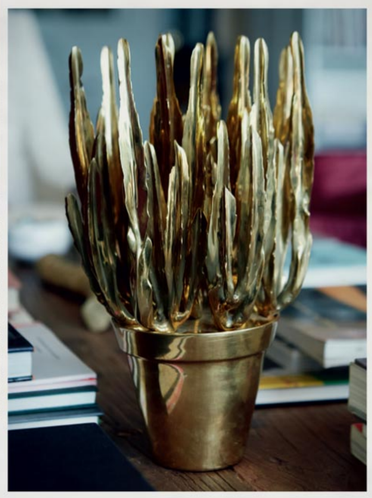
Marie-Louise Sciò, creative director of the Pellicano hotel group, also runs MLScio Consulting design practice







From top: **Pomellato gold ring similar to Sciò's, £2,180. The Aurora Borealis in Lapland. MAC Ruby Woo lipstick, £15.50. Sciò's Rahul Mishra dress. Giò Ponti chest of drawers by Molteni&C, £10,266. A bronze cactus sculpture by Luna Paiva**



My personal style signifiers are a ponytail, a black blazer – Céline and vintage YSL, mostly – and two Pomellato gold rings [similar pictured], which I've worn daily for 15 years. The rings are so heavy I feel naked without them, and they are of major sentimental value. *www.celine.com. www.pomellato.com. www.ysl.com.*

The last thing I bought and loved was a dress [pictured] by Rahul Mishra, from Colette in Paris. He is a brilliant Indian designer who uses traditional embroidery in a very contemporary manner. I love his dedication to craftsmanship. *From £700; www.colette.fr. www.rahulmishra.in.*

And the thing I'm eyeing next is a Giò Ponti chest of drawers [pictured] by Molteni&C. I love what Ponti produced, from his furniture to his interiors; it's timeless, smart and unexpected. At our hotel, Il Pellicano, I designed the tiles in homage to him. *£10,266; www.molteni.it.*

An unforgettable place I've travelled to in the past year is Lapland. It's the most extreme trip I've done, after the Patagonian coast. Everything about Lapland is extreme: the cold – around -30°C; the 20 hours a day of darkness, though when there is light the colours are breathtaking, all pinks and purples; the absolute silence; and the Aurora Borealis [pictured], the most moving moment I have ever had.

And the best souvenir I've brought home is a sculpture by the wonderful Luna Paiva in Buenos Aires, after a trip to Argentina. Paiva is a multitalented artist who works in various media, from paper to bronze. Her bronze cactus plants [pictured] are incredible – so simple, elegant and evocative. *www.lunapaiva.com.*

A recent "find" is San Francisco, once the heart of America's counterculture. I'm fascinated by its history of revolutions, and how what has happened there has shaped the world: the summer of love, gay pride, City Lights Bookstore, the Beat Generation. It's such a forward-thinking city – not to mention everything that comes out of Silicon Valley and how it has revolutionised our lives. *www.citylights.com.*

"A gift of white truffle meant a bit with dinner every night"

The beauty staples I'm never without are mascara and red lipstick. I use Diorshow mascara and MAC's Ruby Woo lipstick [pictured], which never comes off. It's great – a 1950s red that works with everything. *Mascara, £25; www.dior.com. Lipstick, £15.50; www.maccosmetics.com.*

The best gift I've given recently was a DVD compilation called *Essential Art House: 50 Years of Janus Films* by the seminal film distribution company. It's a beautiful box set with 50 of the most memorable independent films, by directors from Polanski to Fellini, Truffaut, Kurosawa and Bergman. *$550; www.janusfilms.com.*

And the best one I've received recently is a huge white truffle – such a treat. For a month or so I had a bit with dinner nearly every night – on pasta, fried eggs and veal cutlets. The smell was fabulous.

The site that inspires me is James Turrell's *Meeting* at MoMA's PS1 in Long Island City. Visiting feels like a holy experience; time loses its form. People sit across from each other and look at one another – actually look each other in the eye with calm and serenity, which is so unusual for strangers. The ceiling opening and white walls let you enjoy the sunset without seeing the sun – it's mystical. *www.momaps1.org.*

The last item of clothing I added to my wardrobe was a Loewe Puzzle bag – it's suede and leather, with gold clasps. I use big bags, as I put my computer and notebook in them, and I had such a hard time this year finding the right one, something casual and smart without being too boring or too seasonal. This one is the perfect size and has a great shape. *From £1,525; www.loewe.com.*

My favourite websites are BrainPickings.org, a blog with interesting articles and writings that cover art, poetry, history and philosophy – stimulating short pieces that always leave me with something to think about; the Ted Talks site, Ted.com; and RoughTrade.com, where I find music. I'm also hooked on Flipboard.com, a self-curated online magazine.

AS TOLD TO MARIA SHOLLENBARGER

READ PART TWO OF THIS INTERVIEW ON **WWW.HOWTOSPENDIT.COM**

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