

CONFIDENTIAL

Mykonos

L U X U R Y M A G A Z I N E

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SWISS STYLE MINE

They bring their own sophisticated style proposal, with Swiss accuracy, Italian passion and Mykonian atmosphere.

Roland Rabal & Michael Jan Muntinga

What should entrepreneurs do to find their place on Mykonos?

«Add some patience, a dash of greek friendliness, lots of mykonian sun and mix it with your heart» is what we believe entrepreneurs need on the island. Mykonos is a cultural mixing pot, a place with lots of opportunities especially in the fashion world.

What is your business' comparative advantage over competition on the island?

Mourjjan is all about effortless style through a visual world of the unexpected, where old meets new. Nature meets Man, the ordinary becomes extraordinary. We are 100% made in Europe. Our designs are printed on the highest quality of raw silk, by the shores of lake Como. Also it is the first Swiss fashionbrand on the island.

Are there limits to tourism development on Mykonos?

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The clear sky, the turquoise water, the fabulous food, and the transcendental music give this island a creative edge.



Effortless Style

"TASTE" MOURJJAN'S MAGIC WITH SILKY VIBRANCY THAT FLATTERS EVERY FIGURE AT ITS NEW FLAGSHIP STORE IN MYKONOS.

A confident, contemporary woman likes in just one move to grab an entire day's stylish outfit from the wardrobe" says Michael Jan Muntinga presenting the whole philosophy behind Mourjjan's style, the exclusive Swiss silk and fashion label which has just arrived in the Greek hotspot island of Mykonos. Mourjjan's designers, namely Michael Jan Muntinga and Roland Rahal have a clear vision and it is perfectly reflected in their first well-rounded Ready-to-Wear-Collection with the name "Universal Poetry"- in recognition of the beauty and order of every organic structure. The world is too hectic, too fast moving



to spend too much time thinking about what to wear for the day. And they are absolutely right. What women want is a certain reduction without any loss of sex appeal. And that's exactly what these masters of simplification deliver with their designs and items that can be altered or extended with simple moves. The Spring/Summer Mourjjan collection consisting of three prints is defined by an impressive simplicity, timelessness and a touch of avant-garde. "In this outfit, our imaginary role model moves just as elegantly through a Paris grocers' market in the early morning as they would through a New York club in the evenings" says Roland Rahal. And he means you!

Info: 6 Zanni Pitaraki Str., mourjjan.com

our new mayor have the will and energy to offer new ideas, apply new strategies, and follow a different approach to the development of Mykonos.

How and to what extent has Mykonos changed in the past 10 years?

Mykonos changes in a yearly basis and this is what makes it all the more interesting. Walking around Mykonos Town every spring is like exploring new territory. New shops, boutiques, and restaurants make their appearance every day and refresh the scenery. The main difference of the last decade is that more internationally notorious brands choose the island to expand their activities. For example, this year we welcome the opening of Hakkasan restaurant, the Buddha Bar in Santa Marina hotel, and the Mourjjan of Switzerland boutique.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of Mykonos Confidential. Share your wishes with us!

May you continue to sparkle and shine for many more years to come!

If you had to leave the island, what would you take with you as a memento?

I believe that what is memorable and special about Mykonos is its energy and sadly no object could capture this energy effectively. However, I believe a piece of this energy already exists in me and I would be able to carry it with love until the end of the world.

Tassos Kapetanias

What is the biggest challenge the festival has encountered?

When the festival was first created in 2009, the only summer destinations in Europe for the international gay community were Barcelona and Ibiza. The Spanish government with its friendly policies towards the gay community, as well as the municipalities of these destinations, realized the importance of a strong gay community presence and offered much support, both financial and bureaucratic. Thus, the struggle to change the international gay tourism scene through a private initiative was the greatest challenge that XLSIOR faced. But following seven years of extremely hard work, this year the XLSIOR FESTIVAL was named the top International Gay Festival in the world.

What is the greatest satisfaction for you?

When I started this venture almost nobody believed in me. Even a large part of the Greek gay community snubbed me and preferred to travel abroad instead of supporting our domestic efforts. For the first 2-3 years things were tough and a lot of money was lost. But I do not take kindly to losing, and however adverse the circumstances continued to be, that only made me try harder and trust that I would make it.

There is no greater satisfaction than watching Mykonos reach 100% capacity over the last two years, nor reading the countless messages from XLSIOR fans saying that they have never had a better holiday, anywhere in the world. Perhaps none of this would have happened had two prominent businessmen, who are now my genuine friends, not stood by and supported me from day one: Nikos Daktilides, owner of the world famous CAVO PARADISO, and Vasilis Houliaras, owner of the unique Elysium Hotel.

Has the festival changed over the years?

We experimented a lot and made many mistakes until we found the perfect recipe for success. In the end we realised that the ideal time for hosting the festival is when people take 15-20 days off in the summer, time they want to spend by combining a holiday in Mykonos with a trip abroad. We also noted that hosting a 12-day festival as we did the second year was impractical and not substantive.

In your opinion, are there limits to the development of tourism in Mykonos?

Mykonos is not a destination for mass tourism, and that is why the success of our festival hinges on appealing to the elite of the international gay community.

What do you think makes a man successful?

"Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful". Albert Schweitzer.

How much and how has Mykonos changed over the past 10 years?

Mykonos has managed to keep an eye on society while also evolving, filtering out the negative elements of this transformation and preserving basic traditions alive.

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May you continue to have high quality work as your reference point, because that makes you truly different.

Irene Aggeletakis

What impressed you as the most important event that took place or will take place this year on the island?

I was surprised to hear about Caprice, the historic bar, closing down.

How much and how has Mykonos changed over the past 10 years?

It has changed a little with the times.

What do you like about Mykonos Confidential?

Its comprehensive content.

What else would you like to see in the magazine?

Nothing else; it is complete.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of Mykonos

Confidential. Share your wishes with us!

Many happy returns!

Kitty Laios

Which famous person, from the past or present, would you invite to the island?

Sir Paul McCartney!

What would you change on Mykonos?

The road network. Also, the roads themselves should be better and the rubbish problem should have been resolved by now. Such things harm the island's image.

What makes you proud on the island?

The love for the island and the constantly upward course of real estate on Mykonos. There will be plenty of interest in the purchase of land and properties on the island for many years to come, among prospective buyers from all over the world.

What was or will be the most important event on the island this year?

It's still early, but one event that stands out will be a show at NAMMOS featuring Antonis Remos and Dany Brillant on 31 July.

How has Mykonos changed in the past 10 years?

The services provided are of a higher quality. One example is Ormos, which is attracting an increasingly higher standard of tourism. On the other hand, of course, the island is somewhat overdeveloped.

Roland Rabal & Michael Jan Muntinga

The only limit we feel is that Mykonos doesn't lose its Greek roots in all the development that is happening. Ultimately there are no limits here. The clear sky, the turquoise water, the fabulous food, and the transcendental music give this island a creative edge.

What makes a successful person?

Staying on track by being truthful to yourself, owning your creativity, believing in your abilities and sharing your passion with the world.

Which famous person – from the arts, business or the past – would you invite to the island?

If he was alive we would have invited Yves Saint Laurent, a timeless legend in the fashion world.

What would you change, if you could, on Mykonos?

Nothing. Mykonos is what it is and that's why we love it!

Why did you choose Mykonos for your business venture?

We could observe the island becoming smarter in recent years. The atmosphere is buzzing, people

come here from all over the world and they're open to explore new things.

What do you like about Mykonos Confidential?

A very professional magazine with plenty of visually appealing content, stylish and cool.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of Mykonos Confidential. Share your wishes with us!

We wish you many more successful years full of creativity and visual beauty.

Despina Gavala

A successful person is someone who has succeeded in their efforts, but it can also be someone who has tried even without succeeding.

In my opinion, it is definitely not someone who has not made any effort, no matter how successful they may appear.

What would you change, if you could, on Mykonos?

I would make every effort to safeguard the island's attractive image, by concentrating on parts that are ugly. For example, I cannot comprehend why – on such an island – there are areas full of rubbish.

What has made you most proud during your time here on the island?

The recognition of the efforts I have made all these years, in a place that I am not from, but I have come to see as home.

How and to what extent has Mykonos changed in the past 10 years?

It has certainly changed but it has managed to do so while remaining beautiful and interesting and adapting to the particular circumstances of each period.

If you had to leave the island, what would you take with you as a memento?

My suitcase with my first tools of the trade and my whole life.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of Mykonos Confidential. Share your wishes with us!

Just as you began so beautifully 10 years ago, I hope that you continue – just as beautifully – to creatively inspire all your readers.

Dimi. el

The world is beautiful. In most cases I believe that traveling makes you a better person, you just need to respect and accept the magic of different cultures and people.

Which famous person – from the past, the arts or business – would you invite to the island?

Ibrahim Ferrer, if he was alive; an afternoon live session by the sea with him would be perfect.

If you could, what would you change on Mykonos?

Not only on Mykonos – let's say in Greece in general. A bit more professionalism in the entertainment industry would be perfect. We need more creative people with fresh ideas and knowledge in this field because it seems that we are stuck in the 1990s.

Who are you in the real life?

I am a very calm and easy going person, who likes to laugh a lot. I love spending time alone and I am passionate about cooking, books and film.

What memories or experiences will you keep from the island?

I think is going to be an unforgettable and interesting summer. I will keep the overall experience as a new lesson to move forward.

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SAFETY

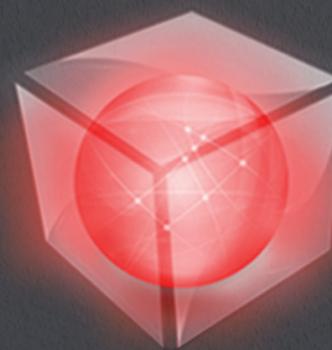
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