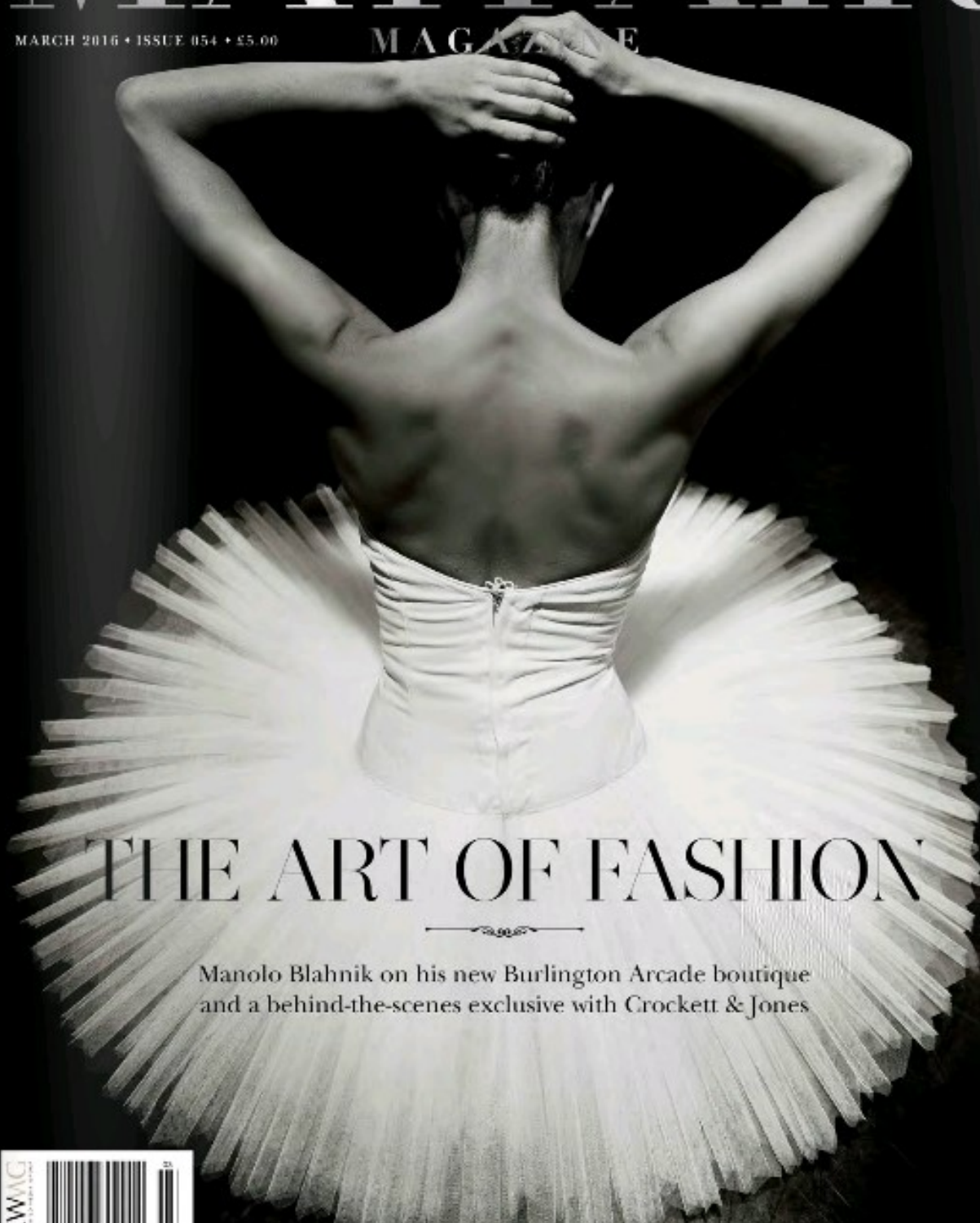


THE MAYFAIR

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MAGAZINE



THE ART OF FASHION

Manolo Blahnik on his new Burlington Arcade boutique
and a behind-the-scenes exclusive with Crockett & Jones

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07 The MAYFAIR Magazine

Art news

A new gallery lands in Mayfair this month, alongside an exhibition displaying the most iconic faces in modern music

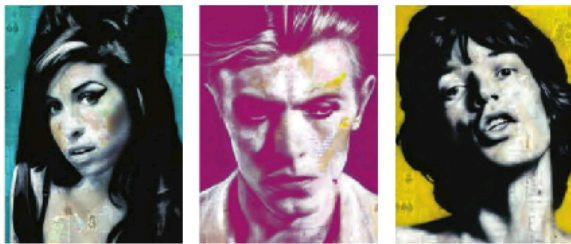
WORDS: CAROL CORDREY

East meets West

Mayfair is world-famous for the quality and diversity of its art, and that reputation looks set to be enhanced further by the opening of the Sophia Contemporary Gallery on Grosvenor Street, which will showcase both Middle-Eastern and Western contemporary art across painting, drawing, sculpture, video and photography.

The inaugural show presents new works by celebrated Iranian artist Reza Derakshani. His vividly coloured, textured oils on canvas are modern in every way, exploring themes of migration and displacement using a fusion of abstraction and figurative art.

Reza Derakshani, 9 March – 23 April
(sophiacontemporary.com)



Star power

LUMAS Gallery has undertaken a new project showcasing

the most iconic faces of music – including the likes of David Bowie, Amy Winehouse, John Lennon, Rihanna and Mick Jagger.

Images of this group of legendary stars have been recreated by Canada's André Monet and Germany's Ralph Ueltzhoeffer using printed material sourced from newspapers, magazines and the internet, which have then been blended with great artistic skill. They provide a new, 21st-century meaning to Pop Art as well as a fascinating interpretation of the power of the printed word.

Don't Stop the Music, 18 March – 15 April (lumas.com)

Q&A with...

Cheryl Culver, president of The Pastel Society, about the forthcoming major show at Mall Galleries



Q: *Founded in 1898, The Pastel Society can boast Degas and Whistler as early exhibitors. Do you have contemporary luminaries in the show?*

A: We have a number of luminaries and Matthew Draper really fits the bill here because he is an award-winning artist whose dramatic landscapes feature in notable collections around the globe. Equally significant is Victor Ambrus, best known for his acclaimed illustrations of books, folk tales and historical settlements for television's *Time Team* on Channel 4.

Q: *Will there be a good range of genre, scale and price for visitors to look forward to?*

A: Yes, a huge range of works with prices ranging from £300 to £10,000, but most are around the £900 to £2,500. The Pastel Society show is not just composed of works in pastel but any dry medium, including oil pastel, giving the exhibition diversity. There will be works of pure abstraction, photorealism and everything in-between, with a variety of subject matter to match.

Q: *Are exhibition prizes awarded to celebrate exceptional talent in both aspiring and established artists?*

A: There are awards specifically for young artists and for established artists and they show a real endorsement of our support for both. In all cases, an emphasis on excellence is the key to the awards.

*Now @ The Pastel Society,
23 February – 5 March* (mallgalleries.org.uk)

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: LEFT REZA DERAKSHANI, HUNTING THE ECSTASY, 2015, OIL ON CANVAS, 180 X 250 CM, COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND SOPHIA CONTEMPORARY; FELICITY HOUSE PS, STUFFED PAPPERS, MICK JAGGER © ANDRÉ MONET; DAVID BOWIE © ANDRÉ MONET; AMY WINEHOUSE © ANDRÉ MONET. ALL CAN BE SEEN AT WWW.LUMAS.COM