

PAPER CITY

DALLAS
MAY
2023

Fashion
Hotel
Chelsea
+ Gucci
A World
Unto Itself

The
Magic
&
Louis
Vuitton

Radical
Design & Art
in a
Preston
Bolton
Townhouse



If These Walls Could

TALK

Once described as a decadent palace of peculiarity, the renovated Hotel Chelsea in New York City holds its ghosts close and weaves a world unto itself.



PHOTOGRAPHY IVAN AGUIRRE. CREATIVE DIRECTION MICHELLE AVIÑA. STYLIST DOUG VOISIN FOR IAA. MODELS ABBY BUSH WITH IMG MODELS, NEW YORK; CHRIS GOLUB; WITH NEW ICON, NEW YORK CITY, ZYARE GRIFFIN; WITH MARILYN AGENCY. HAIR JENNI IVA WIMMRTSTEDT. MAKEUP MOISES RAMIREZ. ASSISTANT STYLIST AND EDITORIAL ASSISTANT HANNAH MATTHEWS.

LOCATION CHELSEA HOTEL NEW YORK CITY. ALL FASHION FROM GUCCI SPRING/SUMMER 2023 COLLECTION, AVAILABLE AT SELECT GUCCI STORES NATIONWIDE, [GUCCI.COM](https://www.gucci.com)

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Warhol and friends, El Quijote restaurant, Hotel Chelsea, mid-1960s

DAVID MCCABE



ERIC MEDSKER

Caviar with potato chips and beer cream



Hotel Chelsea



Mercury Pool cocktail

ERIC MEDSKER



Hotel Chelsea lobby bar

Checking In and Checking Out the Iconic

Hotel Chelsea

By Steven Hempel. Photography Annie Schlechter.

It was the best of times . . . The Hotel Chelsea, newly refurbished, sitting at the heart of Chelsea in NYC, has more than just a story to tell. It has a history — from ghosts to actors, artists to playwrights. Its website describes the vibe as “a decadent palace of peculiarity.” Indeed. Once a world unto itself, The Hotel Chelsea now manifests genteel society, with The High Line to its west and retail du jour to the east. Such is the price of gentrification.

Famed playwright Arthur Miller, having recently divorced Marilyn Monroe and in need of privacy, moved to the hotel in 1960. He described it thus for *Granta* magazine last year: “I began to like the hotel, or at least some of the residents, or denizens as some liked to call themselves. You could get high in the elevators on the residue of marijuana smoke. ‘What smoke?’ Mr. Bard (hotel owner and manager) would ask indignantly. Allen Ginsberg was hawking his new *Fuck You* magazine in the lobby, Warhol was shooting a film in one of the suites, and a young woman with eyes so crazy that one remembered them as being above one another, would show up in the lobby now and then...”

Nearly a century earlier, writers Samuel Clemens and O. Henry were known to stroll the halls. They were followed through the years by poets Dylan Thomas and Allen Ginsberg and novelist Jack Kerouac. Musicians Keith Richards and Jimi Hendrix were frequent visitors, and Sid Vicious (allegedly) killed his girlfriend Nancy Spungen in Room 100 on the first floor. It truly was — and is — a world unto itself. Stories from the past have cemented the legacy and lend credence to the idea that The Hotel Chelsea was a place for any man and everyman. Just so long as said guest was open-minded, the gateway to another world awaited.

The hotel was recently renovated by owners Sean MacPherson, Ira Drukier and Richard Born (The Jane, The Bowery, The Maritime), with the Lobby Bar, El Quijote restaurant, and The Bard Room event space completed; Café Chelsea, the first new restaurant since El Quijote opened in 1930, arrives this year. Artworks collected over the past century hang throughout the hotel, by artists Donald Baechler, Maryan S. Maryan, Ching Ho Cheng, Sandro Chia, Ultra Violet, Robert Lambert, Stan Brakhage, Alain Jacquet, Philip Taaffe, and Hiroya.

The Hotel Chelsea, in its new splendor, is the backdrop for this month’s fashion shoot. We hope you enjoy your visit.