



SUPERCHARGED

THE INDEPENDENT MAGAZINE FOR TESLA OWNERS AND ENTHUSIASTS

AUGUST 2022 N°23



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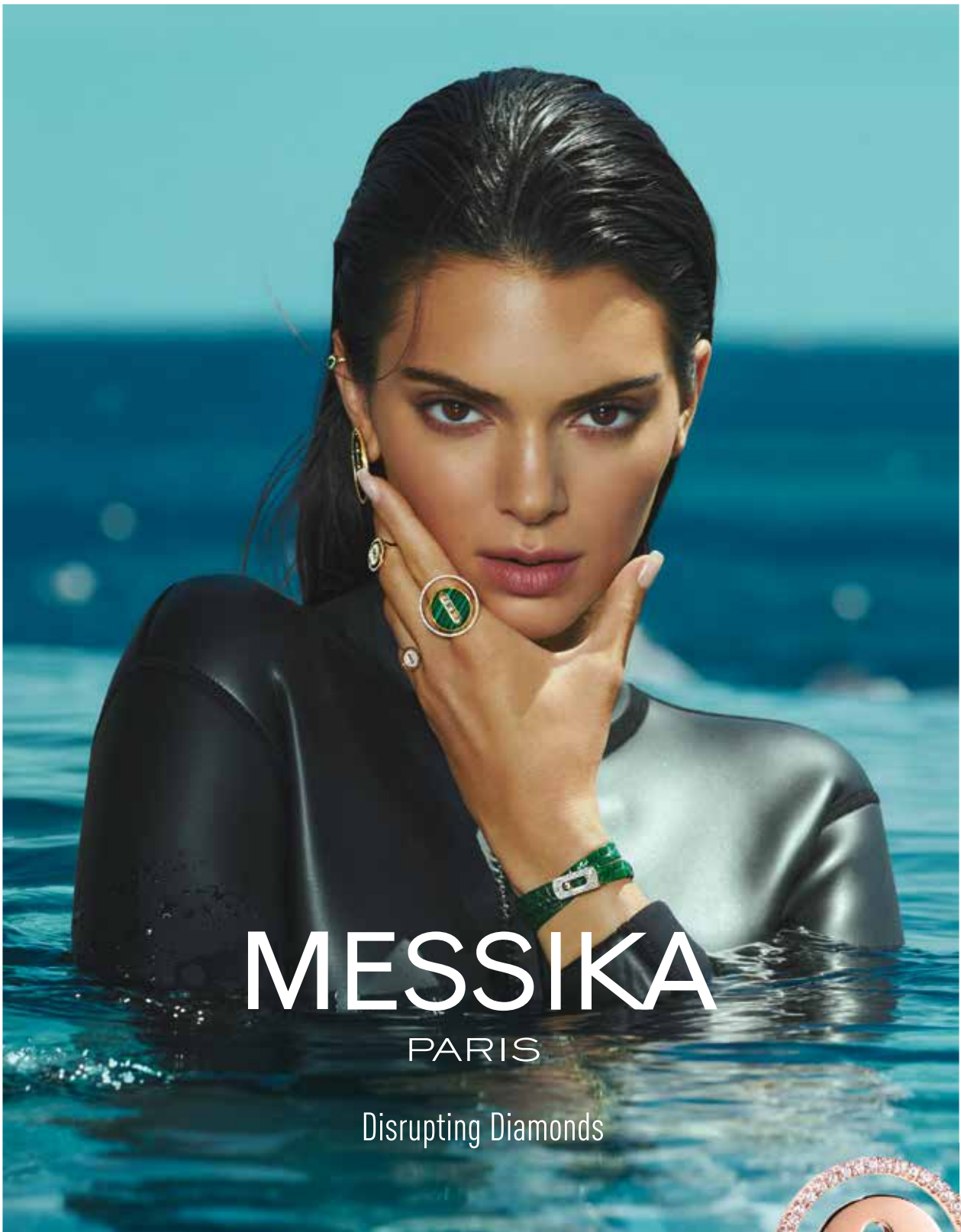
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DEAR RESERVATION HOLDERS,
DEAR SHAREHOLDERS,
DEAR EV ENTHUSIASTS,
DEAR SPACE TRAVELERS,

WE WISH YOU A GREAT AND AWESOME SUMMER !

Welcome to your twenty third edition of SuperCharged, your independent Magazine for Tesla Owners, Reservation holders, Club Members, Shareholders and EV enthusiasts. Time does fly, assembling this Magazine is always quite a challenge.

Thank you for your readership. Once again, we lined up interesting topics and stories that you will enjoy discovering.

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Welcome TO ALL new Owners ! The more the merrier, the 'Extended Family' is growing every day ! We are very pleased to cross roads with more and more Owners, waving at each other: We are delighted to have you onboard and we look forward to our exchanges ! Supercharged is a great way to break the ice and join the Community.

We wish you all an Amazing Summer with great encounters and quality times. Furthermore we look forward to welcoming you at our next events, plenty scheduled, book in due time as they are selling out fast.

For new readers or simply wanted to read past editions ?


SuperCharged is available online, with past editions : <https://www.teslaclub.be/supercharged>

Well, it's a small world, after Jean-Claude Gillet as himself in the interview from the Fire Department (Supercharged 22), we have reached out to Fabian Gillet, who is testing and sharing his insights through his channel 'La Pause Garage'. He drives a Model 3 and can peacefully report on other EV testing. Let's find out about his reports.

It's still a hot topic, moving perhaps quite slowly but certainly close to Steven Peeters' points of interest. Steven will update us on New UNECE DCAS regulations that could allow for FSD in Europe.

The Community grows everyday. We were very pleased to see our friend in Romania organizing their biggest event up to today. We reached out to Vlad Coste for his take on the Event. Nice acquaintance in the Community.

As we can finally live a normal life again, concerts and festivals are popping up all over the place. We have a great onboard system which features a lot of great composers as we are driving along. What is your favorite band or singer ? Recently, Hans Zimmer and Therapy? Came into town, a short picture debriefing on their amazing performance. Make sure to check out their discography and respective playlist in your spotify.



II GEMINI

Dit prachtige horloge is een streling voor het oog door zijn hoekige en ronde vormen. De stalen kast werd geborsteld en dit geeft een luxueuze uitstraling.

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Model Y is still a hot topic as recently introduced in Europe. Now that we all have put a couple of thousand kilometers on these stunning machines, we reached out to the Model Y owners, respectively Youri Van Custem (Belgium) and Jelani Anderson (US) to find out about their experience.

More lifestyle topics and content are also featured in this edition.

Once again, Big Thank you so much once more for your readership, we truly appreciate it.

We look forward to hearing from you, contact us through our Club website.

Thank you for your ongoing support and trust.

On behalf of Tesla Owners Club of Belgium vzw/asbl,

Martin Gillet

Vice President Global Communications and Marketing Tesla Owners Club Belgium asbl/vzw.

ON BEHALF OF TESLA OWNERS CLUB BELGIUM VZW/ASBL



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CLUB EVENTS

Club is always looking for great venues and ideas to organize cheerful events and memories. Feel free to submit ideas and locations, Community at work, the more ideas, the more creative, the merrier. Team Work !

All our events are listed online, join us and plan ahead as places might be limited due to popular demand :

https://www.teslaclub.be/en/events_

NEXT EVENTS & CLUB EVENTS

All future Club events can be found under <https://www.teslaclub.be/events> - Join us ! The more the merrier ! Electrifying and cheerful moments as always !

Diner with Butlers

"Diner with Butlers" - We had a blast; thank you all for coming. On wednesday 15th of June we were able to experience a unique Moment at the "School for butlers and hospitality". We enjoyed -that's an understatement- a 3 course menu with accompanying wines served by student butlers. Here are a few pictures if you missed out.

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Tesla Golf Cup 2022

[Sun. 31 July 2022] During the Tesla Club Belgium Golf Cup 2022 you'll have the opportunity to experience Golf for the first time, compete on the 9 or 18-holes, and/or enjoy an amazing barbecue afterward. Read more and register at <https://www.teslaclub.be/en/events/tesla-golf-cup-2022>

Champagne Tour 2022

Tesla Owners Club Belgium Champagne Tour 2022 in Reims, France from Friday 26 August until Sunday 28 August 2022. Read more and register at <https://www.teslaclub.be/en/events/champagne-tour-2022>

Tuscany Tour 2022

[From 29th of October - 1st of November 2022] Together with a select group of Tesla Owners, we'll spend the long weekend at Il Paluffo, Tuscany, Italy. A limited number (Only 13) of Tesla cars will run in the Chianti hills enjoying Italian wine, food, and Tuscan tradition. Read more and register at <https://www.teslaclub.be/en/events/tuscany-tour-2022>

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NEWS IN A NUTSHELL

Supercharger network

Quite a busy month of June for Tesla. Thanks to the work permit or unveiling by Community, we were able to confirm the following locations :

- NEW Supercharger Brussels at the Docks Shopping in Brussels, 8 new stalls ready to go, opened at the end of June. Access (entrance/exit) is secured with code that can be found inside your Tesla navigation system.

- Extension at the Wavre Supercharger has taken place with the addition of 8 stalls. Still ideally located on the N25/E411.
- NEW Supercharger Jumet (Charleroi), ideally located at the Shopping mail near the Quick in Jumet, close to Charleroi Airport, A54 en E19, permit has been granted and 12 stalls will be installed soon.

- NEW Supercharger Liège, ideally located near E25, E40 and E40 at the Rocourt Cora Shopping mall near the Quick, permit has been granted and 16 stalls will be installed soon.

Also Tesla has announced extension to Non-Tesla Supercharger pilot to Luxembourg

Excerpt from media release : *"Launched in November 2021, our Non-Tesla Supercharger pilot is expanding to new sites and countries in support of our mission to accelerate the world's transition to sustainable energy. Today, selected stations in Luxemburg, Finland, Germany, Denmark and Switzerland are being opened to non-Tesla owners.*

The Supercharger station in Luxemburg is now part of the pilot. This expansion reinforces the Supercharger network's top spot as the biggest fast charging network (> 150 kW) in Europe.

Access to an extensive, convenient and reliable fast-charging network is critical for large-scale EV adoption. That's why, since opening our first Superchargers in 2012, we have been committed to rapid expansion of the network. Today, we have more than 35,000 Superchargers worldwide.

It's always been our ambition to open the Supercharger network to Non-Tesla EVs, and by doing so, encourage more drivers to go electric. More customers using the Supercharger network enables faster expansion. Our goal is to learn and iterate quickly, while continuing to aggressively expand the network, so we can eventually welcome both Tesla and Non-Tesla drivers at every Supercharger worldwide.

With this pilot, some stations are now accessible to Non-Tesla EV drivers in selected countries via the Tesla app. The pilot also introduces a charging membership model. Customers can elect to pay a monthly membership fee (12,99€ in Luxemburg) in the app to access lower kWh pricing, same as Tesla owners (0,43 € in Luxemburg). Non-members will have access but at a higher kWh price (an average of 0,57 € in Luxemburg). Rates vary by site, and you can view charging prices in the Tesla app.

Tesla drivers can continue to use these stations as they always have, and we will be closely monitoring each site for congestion and listening to customers about their experiences."

More information : <https://www.tesla.com/support/non-tesla-supercharging>

Join the daily only conversations and news on twitter with the Community and over 16800+ peers, join us <https://twitter.com/teslaclubbe> Hashtag #TeslaClubBE and Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/TeslaClubBE/> - Share your stories and report news. Sharing is caring !

Already own a Tesla, join the extended Family and join our Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/TeslaOwnersBelgium>



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LA PAUSE GARAGE

THE YOUTUBE CHANNEL THAT TESTS AND REVIEWS THE LATEST EVS

Fabian Gilet is the co-creator of La Pause Garage, the YouTube channel dedicated to testing and reviewing new cars for over 25,000 (and growing) viewers in Belgium, France, and Luxembourg. Fabian takes care of reviewing most of the EVs on La Pause Garage channel. Tell us more Fabian!

"With La Pause Garage video channel, our goal is to review cars through objective journalism" says Fabian. "We want to inform our viewers by giving them facts, not conclusions. When car distributors or manufacturers lend us a car to review, we want full freedom of speech, otherwise we won't accept to review it. From our view, the traditional press has taken an unpleasant turn, often preferring to

jump on the "bad buzz" wave rather than do a real job as journalists. On our side, it is against this vision that we fight by filming and publishing tests that are free of all influences. We also try to always put the car in its context, looking at how it was designed and what its purpose is. Taking, for example, a Tesla Model X to see if it can beat a smart car into a city parking lot is completely absurd!"

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WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A 'CAR TESTER'

Cars are a lifelong passion for both co-founders of La Pause Garage. "The video channel is a hobby that we do in parallel with our professional activities – which in my case is working in IT" says Fabian. "I have also done quite a bit of theatre, so that helps me to be more relaxed on screen. To be a 'car tester' you need to have a curious nature, do a lot of background reading and be as objective and open-minded as possible. These are the characteristics needed to test any type of car without exception, whether it is gasoline, diesel, electric or even hydrogen."

TESTING AND COMPARING EVS

Fabian's personal preference is for electric cars. In February 2021 he purchased his first Tesla, a Model 3 Performance. Prior to that he drove a BMWi3 hybrid for five years. "The Tesla Model 3 Long Range was my first real crush in 2020 and it was this crush that led me to buy a Model 3 a year later. Before I moved to 'pure electric' I had been lucky enough to test a lot of electric cars and that has given me a good overview of the European electric car market. I chose the Tesla because I felt it gave me the most complete electric experience, including easy charging, great driving and the high-tech experience inside the car. I didn't find that combination anywhere else. My colleague Marc fell in love with the electric cars from the MG brand. The Marvel R is literally his favorite."



**COMPETITION IS FIGHTING TO
CATCH UP WITH TESLA**

“When we are testing EVs, we always start by carrying out a standard test, as we would with a combustion car. Then we study the technology chosen by the brand and try to understand the technical choices. Finally, we compare the car with its competitors, in order to have a benchmark. This allows us to compare things such as the car’s range, even if we are more interested in its consumption.”

“We should not forget that for several years, whether we like it or not, Tesla has always been on top of the podium, but we must also recognize that the competition, both Asian and European, is fighting to catch up.”



If some manufacturers have more difficulties than others, some have impressed us. Like the BMW iX which with its more than 2.4 tons, which goes down to 14.2 kWh/100km off highway on a journey of more than 100km, or the electric MGs which are certainly a little less efficient but at a more affordable price. And let's not forget Fiat with its 500e, perfectly designed for an urban city center. We have to say that it's nice to see the competition coming up to Tesla's level and finally reopening the race for the top step of the podium."

"As for driving electric cars in general, I would simply say that over the last five years, four of which were spent in a BMW i3, I never felt any limitation in my travels due to electric mobility. Some people will surely cry scandal and praise their famous diesel cars that can go 1500 km without stopping, but this is a misunderstanding of the subject. To prove it, we carried out a 1000km race between an electric car and a petrol car, which enabled us to highlight the limitations of each technology."





EV CHARGING

La Pause Garage also considers a point often ignored by many test drivers: the charging curve. "This curve strongly influences the charging speed of an electric car, which has a great impact on the user's mobility" explains Fabian. "On this aspect, we must applaud Tesla's positioning, which puts charging right at the center of its strategy - without forgetting the impressive efficiency of their cars' consumption."

"In general, with EVs, the point I would improve is related to charging. I think that manufacturers, or European policymakers, should impose areas for charging ports. In Europe, I think the right side of the sidewalk would not be a bad idea at all. Ionity charging stations bring an alternative to Tesla's superchargers, but their implementation and their number are far too low. Where Tesla deploys 30 charging stations, Ionity only installs between four and eight of them. For Tesla users this is not a problem, but for others it's a different story."

SUBSCRIBE TO LA PAUSE GARAGE

La Pause Garage is a 100% independent YouTube channel that seeks, above all, to entertain and inform. The founders have already filmed and published well over 100 car tests over the last two years since they began the channel. "If you're looking for a neutral media that doesn't try to dictate your choices but rather explain things to you, I can only say: Subscribe!" says Fabian.

For more information visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/lapausegarage>

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WHAT THE UNECE DCAS REGULATIONS MEAN FOR AUTONOMOUS DRIVING - **INTERVIEW STEVEN PEETERS**

Steven Peeters has been closely monitoring updates in the UNECE regulations on autonomous driving for the last three years and regularly publishes explanations and reports on his YouTube channel. Steven is a freelance management consultant and currently the Head of Quality Assurance at Powerdale, an innovative company that specialises in both hardware and software developments for EV charging technologies. He brought us up to date on the status of level 2 and level 3 regulations....





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RESTRICTIONS INTRODUCED IN 2019

Three years ago, the Tesla autopilot was working fine, then in June 2019 they pushed an update which disabled some important autopilot functionalities for European drivers. We used to have the same autonomous driving capabilities as the US, but all of that changed when the regulations came into effect. These European regulations impose several theoretical and mathematical restrictions causing autopilot to be more dangerous now in some situations than it would have been if it were not held back. That's why I started digging into it to find out why this was happening and explain it on my YouTube channel. These regulations were initiated by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (the UNECE)

THE UNECE AND THE WP29 WORKING GROUP

The UNECE has a wide-reaching responsibility for regulating imports and exports. Within the UNECE is the WP 29 working group which works on regulations concerning autonomous driving.

It's important to understand that the UNECE is not a European organisation, but a UN one. When a regulation is adopted by the UNECE, it is a general framework, which means that national governments can adjust to it. Europe has signed up to these rules on autopilot functionalities, but the US and Canada did not, so drivers in those countries still have the full feature set.

Although I don't agree with them, I believe the purpose of these regulations is well intentioned, as they just want to keep people safe on the road. Everything is regulated to the finest detail before it is allowed, as this committee is personally responsible if they approve something that later leads to an accident. The WP 29 Group is a very secretive consortium, so it is difficult to get in contact with them directly for information. I have tried, but I haven't been able to get any replies.

SAE AUTONOMY LEVELS

There are several levels of autonomous driving that have been agreed upon internationally. It is important to understand that these levels only talk about responsibility and not about technical capabilities.

Of course, these two are intertwined as a manufacturer will not take responsibility if it is not technical capable of certain driving aspects. On the other hand, a car could, for example, be perfectly capable of full autonomous driving and be able to take you anywhere you want to go. But if the manufacturer does not take responsibility for the driving behaviour of the car, it will still be a level 2 system where you, the driver, are fully responsible for the car on the road.

LEVEL 2 - ADVANCED DRIVER ASSISTANCE SYSTEM (ADAS)

The WP 29 group's R79 regulation is the well-known regulation on autopilot functionalities that was introduced in 2019. When it came into effect, it basically banned several of the autopilot functions that were already in existence. R79 is a level 2 regulation, which means that the driver is always responsible when the car is in motion, so there can be no "hands off" driving.

In the US, where R79 was not adopted, with your autopilot you can drive from home to work and let your car do all the work. It's still a level 2 system, so you still need to be attentive and be able to take over the wheel at any moment when the car is in self-drive mode.

LEVEL 3 - AUTOMATED DRIVING SYSTEM (ADAS)

The UNECE's R157 regulation concerns level 3 driving, which means that the car literally takes full responsibility for driving under certain conditions. The only country where R157 has been adopted now is in Germany. Even when level 3 regulations are in place, you still need to be in the driving seat and ready to take over from the autopilot when the car is in motion. Germany has adjusted their local laws and allowed level 3 driving on highways only, to help ease traffic jams. Until just recently, level 3 driving was only permitted for speeds of up to 60km/h. The big news that came in at the end of June is that Germany has increased the speed allowed for autonomous driving to up to 130km/h. The new regulations come into effect in January 2023. Right now, it looks like Germany is the only country that might implement these, but we could be pleasantly surprised to find that several countries adopt these new regulations. For the time being, it is only Mercedes cars that are certified to do this in Germany. Tesla needs to apply for the level 3 certification by the end of the year, otherwise Mercedes will have the advantage over Tesla on this point.

There are still a few limitations on this hands-free driving. It can't be activated at night-time, or when it's raining. If there is a police car coming, or road works up ahead, you need to take back control and the car is not permitted to change lanes automatically. But now this has changed as well.





UNCONFIRMED LANE CHANE

When you buy the Enhanced AutoPilot (EAP) or Full Self Driving (FSD) option on your Tesla, you get a feature called Navigate on AutoPilot (NoA). On highways, the car will then suggest lane changes to overtake slower cars. Up until now, the driver always had to initiate that lane change. These functions are now heavily regulated. Once you initiate a lane change, there is a defined time when the car can actually make the manoeuvre, between three and five seconds after. There have been suggestions to extend this from five seconds to 15 seconds, but they have all been rejected by the UNECE.

The Unconfirmed Lane Change function, which was also just approved by the UNECE at the end of June, means that the car can initiate these types of moves itself. However, this functionality has only been approved as a part of the level 3 autonomous driving and not as a level 2 function. This means that unless Tesla certifies their cars for level 3 driving, we will not be allowed to have this feature implemented in our cars.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

The UNECE is currently working on a new set of regulations, the DCAS, which stands for Dynamic Control Assistance System, so I am monitoring closely what is happening there.

When we look at the FSD beta functionality in North America, we can see that it has more capabilities than we get in the rest of the world. Of course, what we get to see on social media, is mostly the best-case scenarios, so we must take those videos

with a grain of salt. However, looking at what it can do, we see that from a technical point of view, Tesla is approaching level 4 autonomous driving, where the car can basically take you from your home to anywhere you want to go. We still have a long way to go with all the corner cases that need to be handled before they can actually reach that level. But they are on the right track to achieve this on a global scale, which no other manufacturer can do at the moment.

Right now, I get the impression that Tesla's sole focus is on getting FSD working in the US and the rest of us are currently being left stranded with hardly any improvements to autopilot in over 2 years. I would love to be able to use the level 3 functionality. I mean, who wouldn't want to be able to start working on some emails while on route to your work? It would make your day so much more productive and less stressful because you wouldn't have to pay attention to traffic during your commute. Hopefully, other European countries will adopt the R157 regulations for hands-free driving soon. If more countries allow for this functionality, the pressure on Tesla will become higher to certify for it. And then we would finally have a firmware update to look forward to.

To keep up to date with the latest news on the DCAS regulations, follow Steven's YouTube and blog channels:

www.silver-lining.be
www.youtube.com/c/StevenPeeters



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THE NEW NODE.



Bluesound blijft voorop lopen in de HiFi streaming revolutie, en de nieuwste generatie NODE legt met zijn verbeterde technologie en geluidskwaliteit de lat hoger dan ooit tevoren. Wat de vorige generatie spelers deed, doet de nieuwe NODE nog beter. Op basis van ons next-gen processorplatform hebben we verschillende verbeteringen aangebracht die de moderne muziek-liefhebber zeker zal waarderen: een nieuw en verbeterd DAC-ontwerp, een HDMI eARC-ingang, een vernieuwd en intuïtief

aanraakgevoelig bedieningspaneel met nabijheidsdetectie, USB audio-uitvoer naar een externe DAC, en een hoogwaardige afwerking met matglanzende lak, waardoor de NODE naadloos in elke luisteropstelling past. De missie van Bluesound is om hoge resolutie hifi-weergave voor iedereen toegankelijk te maken. De NODE is de meest recente maatstaf van dit prijzens- waardige streven; de perfecte mix van geluidskwaliteit, moderne vormgeving en toegevoegde waarde voor de muzikieliefhebber.

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VLAD COSTE AND THE TESLA OWNERS CLUB ROMANIA



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For Vlad Coste in Romania, owning a Tesla was a dream for over a decade. A self-made man, he has now achieved this ambition and much more. As President of the recently formed Tesla Owners Club Romania, Vlad and his Club colleagues are busy organising Tesla events and proud to be part of the Tesla mission. Vlad's personal story is inspiring – a journey of 'rags to riches' achieved by great determination and hard work. Even at a very young age, sustainability has been important to Vlad and he has always loved cars. Here is the journey so far...

Photo credit Vlad Coste



PASSION FOR SUSTAINABILITY

"I was born in Romania, into a very poor farmer family – and even if you did have money at that time, there was nothing you could buy in Romania!" says Vlad. "That gave us the mindset not to waste things, but rather to recycle and to be sustainable."

"My father went to find work in another country, and with the money he earned abroad we started a farm. I was very passionate about farming, working with our dairy herd and sustainability. I started borrowing books from the library about sustainable farming practices and using biodegradable materials. I then started to compete in national competitions about ecological practices. This also gave me the chance to visit larger cities in Romania. I began to investigate ways of producing electricity and my passion for nature and animals led me to decide to become a vegan. I have always tried to live a very sustainable life and I have always grown food in my own garden."



INSPIRED BY TESLA

“Sustainability, engineering, entrepreneurship and cars are among my greatest passions, so I have been following news about Elon Musk and the Tesla company right from the beginning” says Vlad. “My neighbours remember me saying 11 years ago that one day, I would buy a Tesla. None of them understood why I had this dream!”

Vlad’s journey to achieve his dream was challenging. “Romania was a very poor communist country at the time. My parents had land, but they couldn’t make it profitable. To make money to support my education I started buying and reselling things on eBay. I then decided to create my own business and use my love of sports to promote sports and make money, as I used to compete as an athlete. I created a business in the sports and health industry, mainly based on sports supplements. After a few years I sold the business. Now I am only 31 but I am already partially retired. Even so, I still own a sports centre in the city and I am a lifetime entrepreneur – I have never worked for anyone. That’s one of reasons why I am such a fan of Elon Musk, as well as his brother Kimbal who has a sustainable food business.

“Another of my great loves is racing cars, but cars with big engines in Romania are heavily taxed,” said Vlad. “When I was university, my car was a Dacia that I paid about 300 euros for. It was so bad that my class colleagues wouldn’t even accept a lift anywhere in it, so when I was 20 years old, I had the idea to build my own electric car. That ticked all the boxes for me – sustainable, fast; cheap to run and no taxes to pay. Finally, when I bought a brand-new Model S Performance in 2019, that was a point in my life when a dream came true for me.”

RAISING AWARENESS AND TESLA OWNERS CLUB ROMANIA

As an athlete and businessman, Vlad is quite well known in Romania. He has been able to use his popularity to raise awareness about driving electric. He regularly posts subjects on YouTube about things such as his Tesla travels, servicing and how fast the Tesla can go!



Until 2019, there was no official Tesla Club in Romania. “In 2019, I got together with another Romanian guy that lives in Italy, and we discussed creating a club” explains Vlad. “In January 2020, we contacted around 70 Tesla owners in Romania and organised an election to put someone in charge of the new club. Romania was the first official owners club in Eastern Europe. I was elected as the club president and Raffaele de Mestre, who is also well known in Romania, is on the club’s board as Deputy Vice-President. We built the club as a legal entity and as a not-for-profit organisation. With the club formally created, that gave us the opportunity to be in contact with William Masterson, the worldwide Tesla programme manager. When the first Tesla distributor opened in Romania, as a pop-up shop in a mall, we helped as a partner with the opening. That gave us the chance to start the interview process to become an official Tesla Owners Club.”

“Right now, the club has 343 members who own, or have reservations for a Tesla. We are transitioning from free membership to paid membership. Membership will be cheap, and the benefits will outweigh the costs with negotiated insurance and different discounted services such as wrapping and detailing your car. Most of our members are businesspeople and we encourage them to offer benefits to the club. Not only are members getting benefits – but we are supporting each other’s businesses. For example, one of our members has a hotel, so our members get discounts on staying there.”

“In addition to that, we are helping people who want to buy EVs but have a low budget. That can be used Teslas or even cheaper EVs. We believe that sustainability will come, if we support those with lower budgets.”

EVENTS STRATEGY

“Our club achieved official status just before the opening of the Gigafactory in Berlin. Because of our new connections with Tesla, we were able to obtain 10 invitations. We were very excited to get the chance to visit the factory and connect with other Tesla Owners Clubs. That was an amazing experience.”

“As a club we organise free test rides every Saturday in different towns in Romania. At these events, people can come and try a Tesla for themselves. They also get to meet with enthusiastic Tesla owners and get answers to all their questions. Our club members are dedicated volunteers, and we generate a lot of sales for Tesla.”

“Our events strategy is to partner with bigger events, such as classic car events. This means we can reach greater audiences with less resources and bring Tesla to more and more people. The biggest event so far was the Poli Auto Fest, which drew 45,000 people over three days, organised by the biggest university in Romania. The goal of this event was to bring automotive technologies to students, by bringing the most advanced cars for them to see. There were many well-known car manufacturers present, but we were the only non-profit organisation. Our booth was staffed by volunteers, and we did it with our own money. We were the most popular attrac-



tion at the event, even though there were others like Porsche and Lamborghini. Poli Auto Fest was really a very big success for our club. We covered our stand space with solar panels to show how we can charge our cars. This is a booth that we built ourselves in just one day! Visitors to the stand could see how practical it is to own an electric car and the freedom it gives them."

THE TRANSFAGARASAN HIGHWAY RALLY

"Our next big event here will be in August. This will be a regularity rally on the Transfagarasan Highway, which is the famous road where Top Gear came to film. The event will be split in two. One section will be for EVs only, called the Tesla Owners Club Romanian Cup. The second section of the rally will be for really old classic cars. That way we can bring the past and future of motor rallies together.



A lot of people will be attracted by the classic cars, so that will give us a bigger audience."

VISITORS FROM OTHER CLUBS ARE WELCOME!

Vlad and Rafaele (who is also VP of Tesla Owners Club Germany), actively encourage members from other clubs abroad to come and visit. "Romania is a very beautiful country. It has some amazing roads, and the people are very friendly" says Vlad. "We also plan to have different trips around Europe to visit the other clubs. If any of Supercharged readers would like to visit Transfagarasan rally, or just come and visit us, they can contact us on the details below. We will be happy to give visitors a tour of Romania and help them with anything they need. All the Tesla owners from abroad that have come to see us here have had an amazing experience."

BEING A TESLA OWNER

"I used to have a well-known sports car, but when I moved from combustion to electric, I found I was stupid not to have made the move before. It's like owning a typewriter instead of a computer. I don't know anyone who has purchased a Tesla who wants to go back to a combustion engine car. This experience is changing the sports car industry and the family car industry. Powerful combustion cars break down more often and you always have concerns about putting too many miles on them. Since I purchased my Model S, I have doubled the amount I drive, as I find driving the Tesla much more satisfying. I also have another Tesla on order – a Model 3."

"It was a dream for me to own a Tesla so now I'm not only owning one, but I am also leading the Tesla Owners Club in Romania. I am more than happy to represent the owners and be part of the Tesla mission. Elon Musk is a lifetime inspiration for me and when I had difficult times in my business, I was motivated by knowing how hard it was for him to manage his business. So, I am more than proud to be part of this amazing story and helping to grow the community."



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CELINE ROELENS

BRINGS COLOUR TO GHENT'S JEWELLERY SCENE

Jewellery designer and expert in gemstones Celine Roelens opts resolutely for colour in her creations. In her exclusive jewellery design studio in the heart of Ghent, unique colour stones, creativity and perception are key. You could say that her 'red thread' is a rainbow thread. But originality and creativity also play a very important role for her. A jewel says something about the person who wears it. Women who wear Celine's creations are strong and independent, but always with a playful edge.



CELINE ROELENS

The designer is a creative centipede. As a child, Celine Roelens won numerous drawing and elocution competitions and was on stage for theatre and musical performances. Her parents were jewellers in heart and soul and in the family business in Oudenaarde, Roelens soon developed a great fondness for everything that glitters and shines. After a first year of Graphic Design at St-Lucas, the passion for making jewellery prevailed. She really wanted to learn a trade and switched to the goldsmith-jewelry design course in Antwerp. After completing her training, she did internships in various workshops abroad, got a job with the Diamond Club and obtained the diplomas “Certified Diamond Grader” and “Certified Gemologist” at the Diamond High Council in Antwerp. Her first steps in the family business of her parents, who have been crafting jewellery with their own personal stamp, soon followed. After ten years, she finally took over the business completely. “I liked working with my parents, but they had been doing everything the same way for over 35 years and I wanted to bring a new ‘swing’ to it,” explains Celine Roelens. However, she kept itching to start her own design studio. She had been designing her own collections for a while, but was still working

in the spirit of her parents’ business. Because of this, Roelens often bumped into a certain ceiling, which made it difficult for her to grow. In the end, she decided to set up her own studio.

UNIQUE, COLOURFUL GEMSTONES

Celine Roelens specialises in extremely rare and intense colour stones. “All my jewellery designs revolve around colour,” she says passionately. According to her, people still think too often that coloured gemstones are inferior, while that is not true at all. She also explains that the most beautiful stones are much rarer and more expensive than diamonds and that you sometimes have to search a bit longer for the best quality. This search takes her to the farthest corners of the world. Her most beautiful tourmalines come from Madagascar, her rarest sapphires from Sri Lanka. “Sometimes I can spend months looking for the right stone for a piece of jewellery. My suppliers know that I am very demanding. I only want to provide my customers with the most beautiful and rare specimens,” Roelens says convincingly.





BELGIAN LUCKY CHARM: THE GOLDBEETLE

Celine is also proud to present her first international, luxury jewellery project called 'The Goldbeetle'. This collection reflects the tangible manifestation of a moment of happiness. The Belgian jewellery designer was inspired by the rare, golden dung beetle. The beetle is an ancient good luck charm that brings wisdom, respect and protection. Each piece - or Lucky Beetle - is uniquely designed.

These wearable pieces of art are set with carefully selected and precious gemstones. They are handmade in the jewellery studios of Valenza, Italy where Roelens was an apprentice goldsmith-jewelry designer 20 years ago. "I see it as an inheritance that is passed on from generation to generation and will therefore be immortalised," she tells us. We spoke to Roelens about her love of colour, unique, statement pieces and her plans for the future.

HOW DID YOU GET STARTED AS A JEWELLER?

“My jewellery designs grew into a household name in Oudenaarde and far beyond. Yet it kept itching to set up my own design studio. After a (long) search for the perfect building, I opened my own design pearl in the Henegouwenstraat in Ghent on May 25, 2020 (right, during the corona year!). The location of my new home is ideal. I was lucky to find a building in the trendy East District, between big names such as Essentiel, Sevens and Natan. The Henegouwenstraat stands for class and pure synergy of several beautiful things. The design studio has been transformed into a cosy meeting place where you will be inspired by the many jewels, enchanting colour stones, luxurious jewellery books, original interior objects, minerals and fossils.”

WHAT ARE THE KEY FACTORS THAT MAKE YOUR COLLECTIONS SO SUCCESSFUL?

“I love sourcing and selecting gemstones. I am meticulous in my approach and set the bar higher every time. I strive to create irresistible and unique masterpieces for my customers. Jewellery that combines the best stones with pure craftsmanship and an attractive design.”





HOW DO YOU DISTINGUISH YOURSELF FROM OTHER JEWELLERS?

"My jewellery collections consist of pièces uniques because I work with rare colour stones of exceptional quality such as indigolite, mandarin garnet, morganite... Very timeless and fashionable. I sit down with my clients and listen to their wishes, my pencil does the rest (laughs). I immediately sketch out a first design by hand and discuss the budget in order to arrive at the perfect effect. I love it when my clients entrust me with their wildest ideas. Why do they do that? I think they really appreciate my customisation and my expertise."

DO YOU ONLY PRODUCE WHEN THERE IS DEMAND FOR A PARTICULAR MODEL?

"The colour stones I work with are always one-of-a-kind pieces. You can never source exactly the same ones, so every piece in my collection is unique. My first international jewellery collection The Goldbeetle also consists of pieces that are unique and handmade. I sell this collection on online luxury sites in the UK and US as well as

to 2 concept stores in both Wyoming and Colorado. Creating these extraordinary pieces continues to be quite a challenge."

HOW DO YOU OPERATE AS A JEWELLERY DESIGNER?

"The thing is, for the most beautiful pieces, you often have to look a little longer for the best quality. I can sometimes spend months looking for the right stone for a piece of jewellery. I only want to provide my customers with the most beautiful and rare specimens."

HOW MANY COLLECTIONS DO YOU RELEASE?

"I always work on a new collection that is launched with a photo shoot and a new catalogue in November, just before the end of the year. That is when the best pieces are sold. Towards spring, several capsule collections appear."

DO YOU PLAN TO OPEN OTHER SHOPS IN THE FUTURE?

"My jewellery collection The Goldbeetle is currently in 2 concept stores in America and I also sell online to American and British cus-

tomers. I am not thinking of opening a second shop for the time being. The customers who visit my design studio are always helped by me. And that very personal service is really appreciated."

FOR WHOM ARE YOUR JEWELS SUITABLE?

"I take inspiration for my designs from the image of the strong woman. With these jewels, I want to give women that extra touch and strength in their busy, challenging and exciting lives. It is very nice when a customer can find just that one colour that emphasises her personality even more."

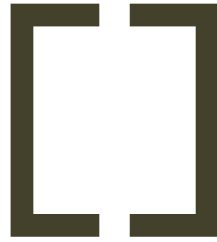
"I take inspiration for my designs from the image of the strong woman."

DO YOU HAVE ANY CLOSING WORDS FOR US?

"Enjoy your jewellery, wear it, don't leave it in the closet. Jewels say so much more about a person's personality than clothing. Every piece of jewellery has a story to tell, an emotional event in your life..."

So are you looking for a beautiful and quality jewel from Belgian soil? Then drop by the Ghent design studio, take a look at her website (www.celineroelens.be) or get inspired on Instagram (@celine_roelens).





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AFRICA'S MOST EPIC MOUNTAIN CLIMBS **KILIMANJARO, RWENZORI, MT KENYA AND MORE**

It might be better known for its wildlife safaris and superb coastline, but Africa also offers its fair share of magical, high-altitude mountains like Mount Kilimanjaro, Mount Kenya or the Rwenzori Mountains. Challenging peaks and beautiful mountains can be found from Morocco's Atlas all the way down south to South Africa's Drakensberg.

AFRICA'S MOST EPIC MOUNTAIN CLIMBS

Each of these mountains in Africa are rewarding and awe-inspiring, with wildlife and landscapes unique to this extraordinary continent.

Whether it's a personal challenge, an adventure to share with family or a group of friends, tackling one of these peaks should be on the wish list of anyone who loves hiking and mountains in general. The various hiking routes can be tough, torturous and knee-trembling. You can expect mud-drenched trails in hot and humid rainforests, experience snow right on the Equator and air so thin you can barely breathe ... a guaranteed real lifetime experience!

MOUNT KILIMANJARO, THE HIGHEST IN AFRICA

Elevation: 5895m

Trek duration: five to ten days

With Uhuru Peak (5895m) – meaning freedom or independence in Swahili - Africa's highest, Kilimanjaro is the king of the mountains on the African continent. Capped with glaciers – even though these are slowly melting away - and often covered with a layer of fresh snow, it's a magnet for thousands of hikers every year. Anyone relatively fit and healthy can climb Kili, but beware altitude sickness as if ignored, it can kill.





The world's highest free-standing mountain offers a variety of trails to the top, from the grueling, lung-busting five-day Marangu route to the longer, more scenic and usually more successful ascents via Shira or Lemosho. Other routes include the Machame, Mweka and Rongai.

While most of the climbing routes involve sleeping in tents at designated campsites, only the Marangu one, also often nicknamed as the "Coca Cola" route, offers the comfort of staying in mountain huts ... while they remain rustic, they provide a slightly better comfort.

Whatever hiking trail gets you to the top, as the final ascent starts around midnight, walking up towards Uhuru peak under a sky almost exploding with stars and watching dawn break over Africa is simply unforgettable.

At Inspiration Africa, we will gladly share our experience of the Kilimanjaro and assist you in choosing the route which is right for you. Our service covers the careful planning of your trekking as well as the provision of what equipment to select together with proper training advice. We also regularly plan escorted Kilimanjaro trekkings which you are welcome to join. The next ones coming up being the Lemosho route in January 2023 and a Marangu route in September 2023.

MOUNT KENYA, THE TOUGHEST IN AFRICA

Elevation: 5199m

Trek duration: five days to Point Lenana, much more for Nelion or Batian

Straddling the Equator, only one of Mount Kenya's three summits, Lenana (4895m), is accessible to inexperienced trekkers. The dramatic peaks of Batian (5199m) and Nelion (5188m), which make this the second highest of the mountains in Africa, remain the exclusive domain of experienced technical climbers.

Of Point Lenana's four routes, the Sirimon Chogoria is the most beautiful, passing through rainforest, bamboo and open moorland with breathtaking views of small rivers, beautiful waterfalls and gla-



ciated valleys. Point Lenana is best summited at dawn, on a clear morning, with Nelion's inhospitable rocks glowing a fierce orange in the rising sun and the curvature of the earth with the distant Kilimanjaro can sometimes be seen.

RWENZORI MOUNTAINS, THE MOST BEAUTIFUL IN AFRICA

Elevation: 5109m

Trek duration: starting from minimum eight days with plenty to keep one busy a full month

Called "Mountains of the Moon" by Ptolemy, the Rwenzori have a distinct otherworldliness about them, with swirling mists, giant vegetation, amazing mosses and deep dark lakes, making these one of the most unique mountains and certainly the most beautiful in Africa. Rwenzori means the "rainmaker" and the wet stuff positively cascades down on the mountain massif which straddles the border between Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The Rwenzori mountains range is about 120 kilometers long and 65 kilometers wide. It consists of six massifs separated by deep gorges: Mount Stanley (5109 m), Mount Speke (4890 m), Mount Baker (4843 m), Mount Emin (4798 m), Mount Gessi (4715 m) and Mount Luigi di Savoia (4627 m). Mount Stanley may not have the height of Kilimanjaro, but it's a far tougher trek out of the mountains in Africa. Both Wellington boots and crampons are essential, the former for crossing the infamous bogs in the marshes and the



AFRICA'S MOST EPIC MOUNTAIN CLIMBS



latter for conquering the Margherita Glacier and sheer rock wall near the summit. Mount Stanley has several subsidiary summits, with Margherita Peak being the highest point.

Out of the various options available on the Ugandan side of the Rwenzori, Inspiration Africa recommends to take the Kilembe route rather than the Circuit trail, for better acclimatization and mercifully fewer bogs. It is also possible to climb the mountains starting from the Congolese side, but this is currently off limits considering the eastern part of the Congo region being totally unsafe. While the actual summit might be beyond one's reach due to the technical need to cross some glaciers or simply because of adverse weather, the Rwenzori mountains are a real paradise for trekkers in search of a unique mountain totally off the beaten track, the beauty of which one will never forget.

Inspiration Africa can assist in planning your private expedition trek or you are welcome to join our fully escorted one scheduled for early 2024.

SO MANY OTHER MOUNTAINS TO CHOOSE FROM IN AFRICA

Considering the sheer size of Africa it will be no surprise that the list of trekking options is simply too long for being listed here entirely. Still we would like to share some great options for you to consider if hiking and trekking is your thing.

In Ethiopia, you may want to aim for Ras Dashen (4620 m) in the Simien Mountains as part of a nice five to eight days trekking route in this scenic and spectacular range. Further to the north west of Africa, lies Mount Toubkal (4167 m) in Morocco's Atlas mountain range which we would highly recommend.

For those who love to combine idyllic beaches with short trekking options, we would recommend the islands of Sao Tome & Principe including a two to four days hike up to Pico Sao Tome (2024 m).

Although it is directly overshadowed by Mount Kilimanjaro, we particularly recommend hiking up Mount Meru (4566 m) in Tanzania.

While not as high as the top of Africa, it will not disappoint in scenic beauty.

For those in search of something more actively volcanic, you may want to consider hiking up the Ol Doinyo Lengai in Tanzania, the Erta Ale in Ethiopia's Danakil depression, or the always impressive Nyiragongo in Congo.

South Africa's beautiful Drakensberg mountain range, shared with land-locked Lesotho, is also a great trekking destination to combine with a photographic safari while visiting Africa's Rainbow Nation.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST, OUR FULLY ESCORTED TREKKINGS

Inspiration Africa specializes in designing private tailor made trips to Africa and while we will gladly design your own hiking and trekking itinerary in Africa, you may also want to join one of our upcoming escorted trekking expeditions:



- Kilimanjaro via the Lemosho Route in January 2023
- Kilimanjaro via the Marangu Route in September 2023
- Rwenzori Mountains early in 2024

Should you wish any information on the above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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SWINGING ON A STAR

Not precisely swinging on a star but almost (sing along).

Since day one I took delivery of my Tesla Model S back in January 2014, I have been thrilled with the 'big screen' also referred to as the Media Control Unit (MCU) and all these applications.

The good old days of tapes, CDS or USB sticks are over and for our greatest pleasure, we all enjoy online music catalogs. Our Tesla aren't only 'computers on wheels', they also provide a unique Experience, aligned with today's World. We can enjoy playlists and most Artists throughout on-board on demand applications.

During our events and meet and greet, we often share our ideas, views and tastes. Quite often famous bands or composers come along. We were wondering what was yours ?

For me, I picked up Hans Zimmer and band Therapy?

Text : Martin Gillet

Pictures credit : Martin Gillet unless otherwise stated and except screen captures from respective apps

technology

USEFUL DAY TO DAY APPLICATIONS AND WEBSITES

New apps and websites are constantly being introduced, to help with practically every aspect of our daily electrifying lives, whether for business, leisure, health...or the connected car driver. Here is a selection of some of our recommendations for Tesla Owners and other EV drivers, based on owners' feedback.

Text : MARTIN GILLET AND MARTIN GILLET



PLUGSHARE

PlugShare is viewed by many EV drivers as an essential for keeping range anxiety at bay, providing a complete and accurate map of charging stations worldwide. It displays the location of all the nearest charging stations, the type of charger and whether they are in service. Over 800,000 reviews and 150,000 photos from other users help to assist in last-mile navigation.

PlugShare can be used as a route planner and to pay online for charging. Users can also share information on charging stations in real time, such as the number of cars queuing in line. The app can be used with iPhones, iPads, Apple Watches and Android. For more information visit www.plugshare.com/



OPENCHARGEMAP

OpenChargemap is another important point of entry, for accessing a wide network of charging stations. OpenChargemap is the global public registry of electric vehicle charging locations, updated by the Community; it can be used online or downloaded through the major App Stores.

For more information: <https://openchargemap.org/site>



technology



PLUGSURFING

With more and more charging points and network operators around the world, there are more and more payment systems which require individual RFID cards or contracts. For example, to charge throughout Germany, you could need over 70 contracts. PlugSurfing is an e-mobility and payment provider which has solved this problem, by developing a virtual one stop payment

system for EV charging. Drivers can now charge at thousands of EV points throughout Europe, while PlugSurfing takes care of all of the billing and clearing between parties. For more information visit www.plugsurfing.com/en/about



WAZE FOR TESLA

Waze is the driver's best friend when trying to avoid the daily jam commute and for locating potential accidents on the road. The App can be installed on smartphones and Tesla Owners can also use the direct Waze link on their consoles: <https://tesla.waze.eu/en/tesla.com/>



WHO IS HANS ZIMMER ?

Hans Florian Zimmer (German pronunciation: [ˈhans ˈfloʁiˈaːn ˈt͡sɪmɐ] (listen); born 12 September 1957) is a German film score composer and music producer. He has won two Oscars and four Grammys, and has been nominated for two Emmys and a Tony. Zimmer was also named on the list of Top 100 Living Geniuses, published by The Daily Telegraph.

His works are notable for integrating electronic music sounds with traditional orchestral arrangements. Since the 1980s, Zimmer has composed music for over 150 films. His works include *The Lion King* (for which he won the Academy Award for Best Original Score in 1995), *Gladiator*, *The Last Samurai*, the *Pirates of the Caribbean* series, *The Dark Knight* trilogy, *Inception*, *Interstellar* and *Dunkirk*. He won a second Academy Award for *Dune* in 2022.

Zimmer spent the early part of his career in the United Kingdom before moving to the United States. He is the head of the film music division at DreamWorks studios and works with other composers through the company that he founded, Remote Control Productions, formerly known as Media Ventures. His studio in Santa Monica, California has an extensive range of computer equipment and keyboards, allowing demo versions of film scores to be created quickly. (Source Wikipedia).

<https://hans-zimmer.com/>

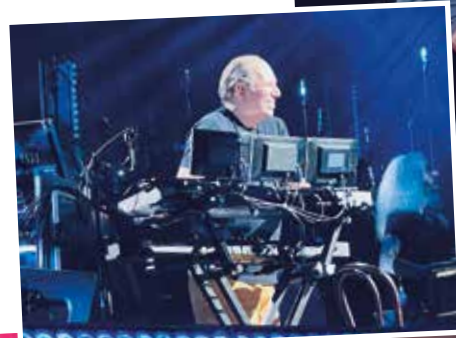
You might already be familiar with Hans Zimmer's work or just know him without knowing.

Hans Zimmer with all respects is a Legendary composer that climbed all the way to the Top 10, rather Top 5 magnificent World Composers. His Art, his music have accompanied us for decades in so many movies.

I trust it all started for me back in 1987 when the movie 'Rain Man' delivered a very emotional message, which was strengthened a thousand times by the music. I already knew some great composers such as Vangelis, John Williams, Ennio Morricone, Jerry Goldsmith, Maurice Jarre among others.

It was with great pleasure that ever since 1987, I have enjoyed many movies not only because of their script but the simple fact that Hans Zimmer was giving them a soul, an identity, a Life that made the magic works. Besides the Big blockbusters, I enjoy the days with movies such as *Crimson Tide*, *Peacemaker*, *Gladiator*, *Regarding Henry*, *King Arthur*, the *Dark Night*.

I always dreamt of having a live performance with full sound, to immerse myself into goosebumps. Well my wish was granted a few years back when Hans Zimmer started touring the World with a live Performance. His last Performance in Belgium provided us all the energy and the emotions his music was carrying, thanks to an awesome line up.



Set 1:

House Atreides (Dune)

Mombasa (Inception)

Themyscira / Games / Is She With You? (Wonder Woman '84 / Batman v. Superman)

Man of Steel (Hans' Original Sketchbook) : What Are You Going To Do When You Are Not Saving The World? / If You Love These People (Man of Steel)

Duduk of the North / The Might of Rome / The Battle / Earth / Honor Him / Now We Are Free (Gladiator)

Jack Sparrow / At Wit's End (Davy Jones) / Marry Me Suite (One Day) / Up Is Down / He's a Pirate (Pirates of the Caribbean)

Set 2:

Rango Suite (Rango)

Chess (Shadows: Part 3) / Discombobulate (Sherlock Holmes)

A Way of Life / Taken / Idyll's End / The Way Of The Sword (The Last Samurai)

I'm Not a Hero / Like a Dog Chasing Cars / Why So Serious? (The Dark Knight)

X-MDP (X-Men: Dark Phoenix)

Supermarine (Dunkirk)

Paul's Dream (Dune)

Murph / Coward / Stay (Interstellar)

Circle of Life / He Lives in You / Stampede / Remember (The Lion King)

Encore:

Gun Barrel / Cuba Chase / Back to MI6 (No Time to Die)

Time (Inception)

Spotify PlaylistShort Link <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/3I7CB1XC2jPtrQR5Fpzv7i>Link <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/3I7CB1XC2jPtrQR5Fpzv7i>**SAY WHAT ABOUT THE BAND THERAPY ?**

Therapy? are a Northern Irish rock band from Larne, formed in 1989 by guitarist-vocalist Andy Cairns and drummer-vocalist Fyfe Ewing. Therapy? recorded their first demo with Cairns filling in on bass guitar. To complete the lineup, the band recruited Larne bassist Michael McKeegan. The band signed with major label A&M Records in 1992, for which they released four albums, most notably *Troublegum* in 1994 and *Infernal Love* in 1995. Ewing's departure in early 1996 preceded the arrivals of his replacement Graham Hopkins, and Martin McCarrick on cello and guitar. Neil Cooper replaced Hopkins on drums in 2002. Following the departure of McCarrick in 2004, the band has remained a stable three-piece since. (Source Wikipedia).

<https://www.therapyquestionmark.co.uk/>

As we finally can resume 'a normal life', Therapy? Was able to hit the road with their 'So much for the 30th(32nd) year plan'. Therapy? Came to Belgium and Luxembourg to only name a few countries. The Band, even after 'all these years' hasn't lost any of their vibes and rock attitude. The Band energized the audience with their master hits and some of their recent songs for the greatest pleasure of all guests. Andy also made a few points, either finger pointing at UK elected officials or criticizing the non action mood of Uncle Sam to act (based on recent sad recurrent shooting events). The audience had a Blast even if we had less pogos (*) going around. After all, we are all wise and not 20 anymore...



(*) The pogo is a dance in which the dancers jump up and down, while either remaining on the spot or moving around; the dance takes its name from its resemblance to the use of a pogo stick, especially in a common version of the dance, where one keeps one's torso stiff, one's arms rigid, and one's legs close together.

Swinging on a Star



© Therapy



© Therapy



Rockhal concert setlist

Nausea
Stories
Kakistocracy
Die Laughing
Opal Mantra
Prison Breaker
Turn
Callow
Trigger Inside
Church of Noise
Poundland
Still Hurts
Disgracelands
Loose

Diane
(Hüsker Dü cover)
Teethgrinder
Knives
Potato Junkie
Isolation
(Joy Division cover)
Breaking the Law
(Judas Priest cover)
Nowhere
Screamager

Spotify Playlist

Short link <https://tinyurl.com/TherapyAnniversaryTour>
Link <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/7rHa9tWuEmAfdUGkqDAM-dV?si=af58aa3950d34da7>

Thank you to Rockhal for their hospitality and the Media Team.

<https://rockhal.lu/agenda-en/>

What about you ? What your favorites picks and playlists ? Favorite App ? Share them with us #TeslaClubBE

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Geniet van flexibel geluid.

Ook met het geluid blijft je flexibel: al dan niet met onzichtbaar geïntegreerde luidsprekers de "Loewe invisible sound" of de dockable klang bar i soundbar. Met de Loewe klang bar5 mr en de subwoofer sub5 breid je de bild i eenvoudig uit tot je persoonlijke home cinema systeem. De speciaal voor de bild i ontwikkelde floor stand flex is bijzonder geschikt voor een elegante presentatie van uw Loewe TV vrijstaand in de ruimte. Ook als wandopstelling, vrij zwevend aan de muur of als tafelopstelling perfect geplaatst op een dressoir, slaat de bild i een perfect figuur.

Smart tv.

De Loewe bild i - een smart-tv die uw persoonlijke streaming-highlights met één druk op de knop klaar heeft staan. Eenvoudig en duidelijk. U kunt snel naar de gewenste functies in het nieuwe menu navigeren en native video-on-demand-diensten openen met behulp van directe knoppen op de afstandsbediening. Of het nu Netflix, Amazon Prime, YouTube of Deezer is. Series, blockbusters, documentaires of muziek wachten op je. De bild i - uw persoonlijke streaming-tv die niets te wensen overlaat.

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MEET AND GREET WITH **NEW MODEL Y OWNERS** FROM OPPOSITE SIDES OF THE ATLANTIC!

Jelani Anderson, from Atlanta/Fort Worth, and Youri Van Cutsem, from Zaventem, are both proud Model Y owners. Let's get to know these Model Y drivers from opposite sides of the Atlantic and hear about their Tesla experiences!

Pictures by Jelani Anderson and Youri Van Cutsem



JELANI ANDERSON

Jelani Anderson currently lives in Fort Worth, Texas – but at the time of writing this article he was just about to move back to his hometown of Atlanta. Jelani shared his journey to Tesla ownership and the new Model Y...

I was born in Atlanta, Georgia. Not knowing what I wanted to do when I left high school, I decided to follow in my father's footsteps and study nuclear medicine. However, it wasn't for me and after two years I had a change of heart and decided to go into business marketing. After living and working in Texas for a few years, I'm now taking a new job where I'll be back closer to my family in Atlanta. An interesting anecdote is how I got introduced to my new company. It started because I struck up a conversation in a car wash with somebody who liked my Tesla! We got chatting and he sent me the details to apply for a job. So, the car has already brought me good luck.

MY JOURNEY TO TESLA

We have a few Teslas in my family. My Mum and Dad both have one, as do my uncle and cousins.

My first electric car was a BMWi3, but I found it impractical as I could only get 140 km out of it on a full charge. That meant I had to charge it twice a day. I traded the i3 in for a Corvette, then for a Shelby GT350. The Shelby was nice – when it worked – but the motor was burning fuel. I was waiting for a motor replacement, but I got so fed up with it that I started thinking about trading the car in for something else. I was already exploring my options when my dad beat me in a race with his Tesla. That really prompted me to dig a little deeper. Dad had already been telling me how maintenance free his Tesla was, so I thought "Why not try it?" I did my research

and ordered two Model 3's – a black one and a white one. The black one came first, so I kept that and cancelled the white one. The next thing I did was to drive 3,200 km from New Jersey, to Atlanta, to Texas. I used autopilot for nearly 2,000 km of that trip! It was phenomenal – and I had no issues. I don't think I ever drove 1,500 km with the Shelby without having an issue. So that was my first Tesla, and I drove 61,000 km in that car.

MY MODEL Y

I decided I needed something a bit bigger than the Model 3, so in January 2021 I got delivery of my Model Y. I have really driven a lot in it since I got it – over 80,000 km in fact. In August last year I did a big road trip where I travelled over 15,000 km, through 37 states in 17 days. I created a spreadsheet with all the charging stations I stopped at and took loads of photos on the trip. I didn't stay in any hotels on the trip – I just used the Tesla camping mode and 10-dollar gym memberships to shower and freshen up.

Besides the big road trip I did last summer, I do a lot of journeys between Fort Worth and Atlanta. That is nearly 1,500 km each way, so 14.5 hours with stops. I also drove to Pikes Peak in Colorado for Christmas, which was gorgeous with all those mountain roads, as well as Boseman, Montana. As I said, I have had no issues with it, but I have got through two windshields and two sets of tyres. The tyres are only to be expected, with all the mileage that I've been doing but I was just a bit unlucky with the windshields.

UPGRADES

I have been making some cool modifications to the Model Y. I have changed the side view mirrors for blue tinted ones and I have replaced the interior trim cover with carbon fibre, which looks good.



© Youri Van Cutsem



© Youri Van Cutsem



© Youri Van Cutsem

What gets the most attention is the new yoke steering wheel I have had installed. I have had a lot of people asking me about that.

My two boys, who are 3 and 7, love the Model Y and there is so much more room for them in the car. In terms of space, it's also great for me when I want to take my bike in the car. I am a keen road cyclist and now I can put the bike in without having to take the wheels off. The camping mode is also great for those bike trips.

I love my Model Y and the fact that I have had no running issues with it. The higher ride height is better too, as I'm less worried about debris on the road. It's practical to put everyone's luggage in when we go on a trip and then some. The added space compared to the Model 3 is a big bonus. Above all, my biggest reasons for buying the Model Y are because it's fun and I like the economic benefits. It's an awesome drive and there is real ease of ownership. By the way, I also have a Cybertruck on order, so I'm looking forward to getting news on that.

YOURI VAN CUTSEM

Youri Van Cutsem from Zaventem, is a long-time fan of Tesla. He took possession of his new Model Y in March.

Youri, 35 years old, is CEO of his own video production company and works with broadcasters on news, sports, and entertainment productions. The Model Y is his first Tesla, but his second electric car, as he also owns a Kangoo to transport his production gear...

A LONG-TERM FAN OF TESLA

I'm a long-term fan of the Tesla brand. Ever since the first Model S came out, I have been following news about electric mobility. Compared to other brands, Tesla is the outsider. It's like owning a computer versus having a Mac. You're not just driving an electric car, every trip is journey, an experience. Nothing can compete with that. This is what I like to most with the Y. It's not just a car, as you have so many added extras like games, video streaming services and other fun applications. But on the other hand, you are not overwhelmed with buttons, commands, menus, submenus, warnings, and other boring stuff.

Prior to ordering my Model Y, I researched into a lot of electric vehicles and narrowed my choice down to a Polestar 2 or a Tesla Model 3. The trunk of the Model 3 was too small for my needs, and the interior of the Polestar 2 looked too much like a regular car, with buttons everywhere, small screens and not much in the way of

infotainment systems. The other problem, with both of those cars, was the size of the interior as I'm 1.89 tall. No one would have had any room in the rear seats, so that would not have worked for me.

When Tesla released the Model Y in Belgium at the end of 2021, I went to the store and had a chat with David (the seller, who is also a long-term friend). I was immediately convinced. I like the look of the car and its bigger than the Polestar 2. My 1.90cm friends can sit in the rear passenger seats without any problem!

One fun fact is that a few weeks after ordering the Model Y, we recorded a TV show about "The car of the future » - obviously, it was a Tesla. Our production team got in touch with Martin, and he drove up with one of Belgium's first Model Ys (a shiny blue one). I met Martin at the studio, and I told him that I had already ordered a red Model Y. Martin and I hit it off straightaway and we are still in touch on a weekly basis.

7,000 KM WITH CARMEN

In the first two and half months, I drove 7,000km with her (yes, it's a her and, for the record, her name's Carmen, as a tribute to Carmen... Electra). The furthest I've driven is to Rotterdam, and that was on a single charge. I've also made a few city trips from Zaventem to Zeeland, stopping at some spots to eat, sleep and charge. Its super easy to find chargers in the Netherlands.

Of course, not everything in life is always perfect, and I have had one issue with the Model Y. I was at a drive-in at a local MacDonald's when the rear motor stopped working. I had to get a call out service to tow me. I was given a replacement Model X to drive for 10 days, then a Model 3 for 20days. Then, finally, I got my car back! The good thing about that story, is that I got the opportunity to 'test' both vehicles, and I'm still convinced that the Y is the right choice for me :-).

The things I like the most about the Model Y are the power, the fact that the car makes me feel safe all the time, it's silent and it's gorgeous. Driving with just one foot is so much more relaxing and easier. It takes a few days to get used to and understand properly but once you got it, it's so good.



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AT ORODÉE, JEWELLERY IS TRULY EXCLUSIVE

The fact that it's never too late to realise your (childhood) dreams is proven by the life story of Carine Vercauteren. All her life she designed jewellery, but only at a later age she decided to start her own business, which she named 'Orodée - Exclusive Handmade Jewellery'. Carine unconditionally opts for unique jewels with colourful stones that are given a generous but refined 18 carat gold finish.

Text: Wim Vander Haegen - Photos: Orodée





FOCUS ON DESIGN

As a child, Carine grew up with her grandparents who had a family member active in the world of jewellery. “Every time I went with grandma and grandpa to visit them, I was fascinated by their beautiful creations and I was eager to take a look in the workshop where watches and jewellery were made and repaired. Even then, I dreamed of having my own career in that world. At the age of 18 - I had just finished my secondary school education - I wanted to train as a goldsmith, but at that time it was not possible. That was only possible on an apprenticeship from a young age and I had already passed that stage. I went on to do something completely different and ended up working professionally in a dairy wholesale business. However, the idea remained dormant. For a while, I thought about going to evening school, but my busy professional and family life left little room for it. Later, by chance, I came into contact with someone who taught in Antwerp and also had his own studio. I decided to take lessons there, but soon understood that it takes years of experience to master the skill to perfection. That is why I focused on designing jewellery and had it made in specialised workshops. Initially with the intention of continuing to take courses, but in the end I decided to focus solely on designing and to find the right people to turn my creative input into jewellery, whether it be rings, bracelets, earrings, pendants, etc.”

THE ULTIMATE STEP

If there is one predicate that can be placed on Orodée’s collection, it is ‘unique’. “Unique in the sense that you will never find the same piece of jewellery twice, but also unique in terms of the design itself. I love wearing jewellery and am always on the lookout for unusual things that you don’t see anywhere else. Also when I travel, I look for unknown elements and shapes that appeal to me and that I can later incorporate into my designs. And of course, I also wear my own jewellery then. Many people approached me and asked where I had bought these beautiful things. Friends and acquaintances were equally enthusiastic and urged me to continue. After refusing for a while, I thought: why not? People need unique pieces and want to distinguish themselves with them. If you go to a classic jewellery shop, there is a good chance that you will find beautiful jewellery, but that there are several at least ‘similar’ pieces in circulation. This is not the case with me, I guarantee it. That is also why I took the step to become self-employed, even though, given my age, you could call it a late vocation. And I haven’t regretted that ultimate step for one second.

TRULY UNIQUE

Carine often remembers the story told by one of her very first customers. “The first thing the couple told me was that they were six months late... Some time before, they had been at a party and the lady had bought a beautiful piece of jewellery especially for the occasion. It turned out that someone else had worn the same design that evening. That lady was so disappointed that evening ... what should have been a festive evening, fell immediately to pieces. Well, you don't run that risk at Orodée, everything here is 100% exclusive. Personal and tailor-made, always a unique piece. Unique with me is really unique”.

It is striking that the gentlemen appreciate that ‘uniqueness’ even more. “It is not unusual for a man to want to give his partner a ring or other piece of jewellery as a present and then consider that if he is going to spend a certain amount of money, he wants something that no one else has. A reasoning that I, as a creative designer and jewellery lover myself, naturally support 100%.”

COLOURFUL GEMSTONES

Carine calls colourful gemstones her trademark. “Orodée jewellery adds colour to your appearance. Precious stones such as tourmaline, emerald, ruby or topaz play the leading role in the designs. By the way, these are gemstones that are still affordable today. Of course, I combine them with diamonds on request, but I do point out to the customer that the cost price can quickly go up. A personal jewel with a colourful stone that perfectly matches a stylish dress for a special occasion, completes the picture. The 18 carat gold, forged by real craftsmen, provides a generous finish.”

A NEW FUTURE FOR AN HEIRLOOM

How does everything work exactly? “Customers like to be inspired by a creation they have seen in someone else's shop or they first take a look at the collections on my website. But they may also have come across me or my jewellery at an exhibition. They then make a first appointment so that we can sit around the table and determine what exactly is on their wish list. Of course, they can opt for an existing piece of jewellery, but also for a personalised design or an existing creation in a different colour setting. I then get to work and draw a first proposal. Sometimes it is an immediate hit, sometimes





people ask for a few adjustments until they find what they really want. Existing jewellery can also be adapted perfectly, for example a valuable heirloom. A nice example is a ring that is split in two and becomes two rings. On death, for example, one ring goes to one daughter and the other to another daughter or daughter-in-law. Recently, a lady came by with a bracelet she had inherited. A very beautiful piece, but it turned out to be too big. I reduced the size of the bracelet and made the remaining links into a beautiful ring that matches the bracelet itself. The customer's wish is also my command. Someone else had a beautiful gemstone from which we cut 'disks' to make a custom-made pendant. I then gave the remaining pieces a new purpose in a bracelet and in matching earrings."

DOG'S PAWS

At Orodée it's the customer's turn, Carine never imposes her opinion. "That's a sacred principle for me: I never judge. What has a certain value for someone else, is also what counts for me. For example, someone asked me to make earrings with dog's paws on them because she attached strong emotional value to them. In itself not an everyday request, but I accepted it with great pleasure and the client was very happy about it afterwards. And that's what I aim to do with my creations: create beautiful, personal jewellery for happy people, even if someone else doesn't value it."

CONTACT

Anyone who would like to get to know Orodée's jewellery can make an appointment with Carine or visit the exhibition at Lauretum, Jabbeke where the collection is on display in all its splendour from 29 September to 3 October 2022.

More information: www.orodee.be

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A photograph of three people standing on a rocky cliff overlooking a large body of water at sunset. The person on the left is a woman in a dark long-sleeved top and leggings, with her hands behind her head. The person in the middle is a woman in a light-colored jacket, purple shorts, and a pink cap, with her arms raised in a celebratory gesture. The person on the right is a man in a light green long-sleeved shirt and black shorts, with his hands behind his head and a backpack. The sky is a warm orange and yellow, and the water is calm. The brand name 'Peak Performance' is overlaid in white serif font across the middle of the image.

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LA BUTTE AUX BOIS ELEVATES HOSPITALITY TO A NOBLE ART

82

A jewel in the three-country region

Luxuriously furnished rooms in an idyllic setting, top quality gastronomy, a wide range of wellness facilities, excellent service ... a stay at La Butte aux Bois in Lanaken is synonymous with the highest level of hospitality. The luxurious Relais & Châteaux 5-star 'Superior' hotel is located at the entrance of Hoge Kempen National Park in the tri-border region Belgium-Netherlands-Germany. The exclusive hotspot is headed by Jochen Leën who also enjoys name and fame as a designer of exclusive jewellery.

Text: Wim Vander Haegen - Photos: La Butte aux Bois



SPOILING WITH GREAT CLASS

When visiting La Butte aux Bois or “the hill in the woods”, one does not have enough eyes. The main building, which is called the “Manoir”, was built in 1924 for Knight Lagasse de Locht and his family and radiates the stylish grandeur that may be expected of a noble residence. The hotel is situated in a spacious park and presents itself as an idyllic and above all restful oasis, surrounded by the fresh green of the restful nature. The spacious terraces offer a beautiful view of the tastefully designed garden with mature trees, ponds and beautiful art objects. Like no other, La Butte aux Bois succeeds in combining hospitality and warmth. The 59 rooms are

spread over three buildings, each room is decorated with luxurious furniture and offers idyllic views. The hotel has enjoyed numerous visits from well-known and distinguished guests, but that does not mean that not everyone is welcome here. Spoiling with great class and optimal relaxation in one of the many high-class facilities, including the renowned Restaurant Ralf Berendsen, has been part of the tradition since the beginning. In addition to the Manoir, which is the centrepiece of the prestigious estate, guests in the charming Villa can enjoy a very quiet location with breathtaking views of the lake and forest. But there is much more ...

HAUTE CUISINE

Today the estate is under the inspiring leadership of Jochen Leën. "I had been here since 2008 as a jeweller and had set up my base of operations. On 1 January 2021 I took over this hotel, together with the 4* Hotel Stiemerheide and Restaurant De Kristalijn, which has one Michelin star, in Genk. Until recently, La Butte aux Bois was the only 5* Superior hotel in Belgium and therefore also houses the Restaurant Ralf Berendsen - previously known as La Source - which is named after the chef and boasts two stars in the famous Michelin guide. It is one of the 40 best restaurants in Belgium and, under the direction of Chef Ralf Berendsen, serves surprising, but particularly tasty and inventively composed haute cuisine creations. Just as in the hotel itself, quality and innovation go hand in hand with heart-warming hospitality, which Maître Ylja Berends watches over on a daily basis. We have also accommodated the new gastronomic concept 'Le Ciel', under the leadership of Chef Pieter Beurskens, in the former bistro Het Binnenhof where we have doubled the space in cubic metres by removing the old roof and opening it up with a six-metre high glass ceiling construction. In this way, Le Ciel provides a beautiful view of the typical neo-Tudor architectural style of the main building. It is a French-Belgian cuisine with global influences translated into dishes that are accessible and surprising. The restaurant also features an open-air set-up, surrounded by greenery and inviting you to enjoy a delicious cocktail in good weather."

EVERYTHING THAT COMES FROM THE SOIL

The date of the takeover is striking, as it happened at a time when the corona pandemic was at its height. "It was not a purely rational decision, but more an act from the heart, also and especially because I have been working here as a jewellery designer since 2008 and over the years I have fallen in love with the location and the possibilities that La Butte aux Bois has to offer. I've been keeping a low profile all these years with the jewellery - we still do that, by the way - but I've now taken the opportunity to discreetly create more exhibition space for my collections and related items. We specialise in everything that comes from the earth, from dinosaur fossils to minerals and gemstones to meteorites. Our passion is focused on nature and what you find in classic natural history museums. And it is precisely this concept that we want to link to the hotel. The important thing is that we like to see happy, joyful people who come here to celebrate something. The love between two people, a wedding anniversary, a communion party, ... they come to enjoy good food, impeccable service, an extensive wellness and if they also stay the night, there is an extra experience. In short: people find the total care they need here."





FROM WUNDERKAMMER TO MOONSCAPE

From the very beginning, Jochen's aim was to bring more experience to the hotel. "We work hard on that day after day. The classic 'giving service' appeals to me enormously and I try to extend it to the field of jewellery. We work not only by size, but also often by colour, which is our trademark, and rare gemstones that we try to get hold of through collectors, gemstone laboratories and museums worldwide. We also have a unique concept here called the 'Wunderkammer', which combines private dining with the presence of a gemologist who explains the various curiosities in the room. Our chef is also particularly enthusiastic about the idea and is happy to lend his full cooperation. At the moment, we are also building a truly unique lunar landscape in the basement of a former swimming pool that the visitor can admire and 'experience' from a space shuttle, called "Hidden Odyssey". We always want to offer a surplus. For example, you can go horseback riding across the street or take a walk along the Purple Route, one of Western Europe's most inspiring hiking trails that has been awarded by the German Hiking Institute and is right on our doorstep. We also rent out bicycles so you can enjoy the most beautiful cycling routes in Limburg. Within short distance by car are cities such as Maastricht, Aachen, Liege, Hasselt, Genk and many other historical towns. And in just 10 minutes you are in Maasmechelen Village where all the top fashion brands are within reach."

A PARADISE FOR WELLNESS

In La Butte aux Bois, we also find a Shiseido Institute within the wellness offer. "The only one in Europe," Jochen proudly explains. "It offers a wide range of massages, tailor-made yoga classes, pilates, etc. You can also use first class fitness equipment and participate in the daily activities we organise in our Gym. For guests who book spa treatments, we have the exclusive Spa Lounge at your disposal. By the way, you can also eat healthy here and enjoy beauty food to help support the process of skin rejuvenation and improvement."

The extensive estate and its tranquil location, the contemporary fine dining restaurant, the new Le Ciel restaurant as well as ten fully equipped lounges and meeting rooms also lend themselves perfectly to business events and incentives. Our specialist team is happy to take care of all aspects of a perfectly organised corporate event, from design to implementation, including the high-quality service and hospitality that has made La Butte aux Bois a 5* Superior hotel."

More info:
www.labutteauxbois.be
www.jochenleen.net



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SOLID OAK CRAFTSMANSHIP YOUR DREAM KITCHEN BEGINS IN INGELMUNSTER

90

"A top-quality product made of European oak, produced by hand and offered at the best possible price by eliminating all intermediaries between the manufacturer and the end customer. That is the best way to describe our kitchens. Kris Callewaert, one of the managers of de Bosbeke in Ingelmunster, which is run by two brother pairs, summarises in two sentences what his company, which recently invested in a unique experience showroom, is all about.



IT STARTED WITH FOUR BROTHERS

To understand a family business' approach in the present, you have to go back to the past. For the very beginning of de Bosbeke, we travel back in time. To 1962, when four brothers with a shared passion for wood set up a furniture factory with its own workshop: de Bosbeke furniture factory.

The four brothers - Etienne, Guido, Maurice and Wilfried Callewaert - have a particular fondness for oak wood and they pass on this preference to the second generation, who currently run de Bosbeke. Maurice and Wilfried each have two sons to take care of the succession. On the one hand Kris and Andy, on the other Dirk and Robrecht. The four brothers of the past became two pairs of sons and cousins.

"Only the end product changed," Kris Callewaert explains. "The seats of yesteryear made way for custom-made kitchens, bathrooms, dressings, doors and tables." "This is the result of some small changes in direction in the past. For example, in 2005, we started a sister company for bathroom furniture (OAK4U), with which we mainly worked towards the wholesale market. In 2014, the original name of the company changed to de Bosbeke. De Bosbeke is responsible for kitchens and all kinds of custom work, aimed at

the end user, and we are currently expanding that part of the business. You could say that 70% of the work currently falls under the consumer-oriented de Bosbeke and 30% under the wholesale-oriented Oak4U."

HONESTY, HONESTY AND HONESTY

The de Bosbeke approach is of particular interest to us. After all, this approach can serve as an example of how the family business sees its own role. Whoever you are as a customer, at de Bosbeke you end up with people who uphold the term honesty throughout the entire design cycle. And don't expect ladies and gentlemen who are dressed to the nines, in Ingelmunster the bosses also roll up their sleeves in the workshop...

"The consumer should get maximum value for his money, whoever that may be. That alone means you have to offer an honest product. And we go a long way in being fair. Take the recent price increases for wood. Most competitors promptly passed these on to their customers, but we chose to do the exact opposite. Anyone who signs a contract with us for a certain price can be sure that he or she will not be presented with a higher final invoice upon delivery. After all, it is not acceptable that we suddenly charge so much more for wood we bought at a certain price!



“What matters to us is very simple. We only deliver quality and we do so with a fixed number of people who work side by side with the managers. These people are given responsibility for their work and must feel good about themselves. Perhaps it is no coincidence that, unlike most other companies, we hardly have any staff turnover and can keep the know-how in-house.”

NO GROWTH FOR THE SAKE OF GROWTH

“With us, there is no growth for growth’s sake; the only growth we strive for is in quality. That is why we recently invested heavily in a brand new showroom, where we do everything we can to show what we can do. Thanks to this showroom, people no longer have to go to all kinds of trade fairs; with us, they can literally see all the possibilities, without us lapsing into offering digital gadgets of all kinds. No, it is all about showing solid oak craftsmanship. That craftsmanship fits in perfectly with our favourite wood, oak. It is a slow-growing type of wood, so there is no place for inferior materials here. As a customer, you can immediately feel the difference in our showroom, and if you want, we are happy to take you into the workshop, where you can literally smell the oak! That high quality raw material, combined with craftsmanship and the best possible installation, that is what de Bosbeke is all about.

THREE TYPES OF FINISHING

As everyone knows, solid wood products can be quite expensive, even if you keep the supply chain to a minimum. That is why de Bosbeke offers three types of finishing cabinets, each with the same look. After all, the finish always consists of solid wood.

“We try to keep the price as acceptable as possible, by planning the work optimally. Everything is done according to an 80-20 rule. Standard work, such as the inside of a cupboard, does not re-

quire manual labour, so we tackle that with computer-controlled, pre-programmed CNC machines. The craftsmanship is in the remaining 20 percent, where our people demonstrate what they are capable of.”

“The most expensive end product is of course the fully solid kitchen, but whoever comes to us does not necessarily have to choose that. We provide three types of finish, the most economical being one with laminate on the inside and the intermediate model using MDF veneer. The appearance of the cabinets is the same in the end, only the best possible oak is used. French oak that our own purchasing team buys on trunks, with our own sawing.

MORE THAN KITCHENS

It is clear that the most important product made in Ingelmunster is the kitchen. But there is more than that. Preparations are already underway to focus even more on bathrooms and - of course - total interiors. What is currently still a standard product under OAK4U and intended for wholesale, will be tackled in the same way as the kitchen. Very soon, the bathroom will be supplied directly from the manufacturer to the consumer.

“This is actually a logical step,” concludes Kris Callewaert. “Also in the bathroom and in the interior, the use of solid wood is perfectly possible. What we are going to do is play our strongest asset here as well: our craftsmanship. With this, we can serve the consumer down to the smallest detail and respond to the very individual wishes of the customer. We are working this out in detail and will soon communicate extensively about it.”

Find out more: www.debosbeke.be

THE GREEN CHOICE

Sustainability and working in an ecologically responsible way are what it's all about these days. The managers of de Bosbeke have known this for many years. Right from the start, they have opted to handle both the raw material and the way it is processed in the most environmentally-conscious manner.

In terms of materials, de Bosbeke only uses European oak. Oak is the best type of wood available in our region, which is why we decided from the start to work only with top-quality material from our own area. For the supply of this oak, they also count on regular, reliable suppliers who deliver wood that comes from sustainably managed forests.

"Don't forget that you can also significantly reduce the impact on the environment by minimising transport", Kris Callewaert adds. "A greener world starts by thinking locally and working with local suppliers. Working with local people has an extra advantage: you also ensure that local employment is created, so that many more people can earn an honest living!

FIVE STEPS TO THE IDEAL KITCHEN OR BATHROOM

At de Bosbeke, we believe that the best marketing starts in our own company. In the recently completely renovated showroom, you can explore realisations down to the smallest detail and get inspiration for how your home should look. And above all, you will see what is possible and how oak can make a difference in any room. Here, it is anything but a vague sketch...

A visit follows a number of fixed steps. It all starts with an intake interview, during which time is taken to map out what exactly is wanted.

After the wishes and preferences have become clear, a specialised employee gets to work and converts all information into stylish designs. You will not be overwhelmed with mere technical plans, but will be able to see the possible end results vividly via 3D visualisations.

After the design has been carefully checked and adjusted in joint consultation, an accurate and detailed offer is made. The price proposal is worked out down to the smallest details, and there is always room to remove or add certain options. In this way, you have maximum control over the desired budget.

In the next step, de Bosbeke gets to work and a planning is drawn up. The oak panels are carefully selected, after which the craftsmen in their own workshop in Ingelmunster get to work on the design. They carefully prepare all parts, so that a smooth installation can be guaranteed.

The final step is the transition from production to installation. An extensive team of experienced fitters and carpenters installs the kitchen, bathroom or interior, with - once again - maximum attention to detail.



CLASSIC, RURAL OR MODERN?

Because every oak kitchen at de Bosbeke is custom-made, there is a choice of styles. This choice can be divided into three types: classic, rural and modern. The designers do not work with standard models, but draw them up according to all possible wishes. On the website, you will find numerous examples, which will enable you to orientate yourself in advance in the desired style.

If you like timelessness, the classic kitchens are for you. You will discover that classic is not synonymous with boring. On the contrary, kitchens of de Bosbeke stand the test of time effortlessly.

If you prefer warmth and cosiness, the choice will probably be a country kitchen in oak. The website introduces you to a selection of rural creations, which aptly illustrate the craftsmanship of de Bosbeke.

You thought that with a natural material such as oak you could not go the modern, rigid way? Several examples will make you change your mind. These creations prove that modern and warm can be combined almost effortlessly.

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ART BY NANS

FROM PORTRAITURE THROUGH MIXED MEDIA TO ART IN A BOTTLE MAN IN HIS IMPERFECT PURSUIT OF PERFECTION

Under the name Art By Nans, Nancy Luijks allows her creativity to be fully expressed in her studio in Essen. Her unique creations are difficult to put into words, but can be described as 'contemporary art in various forms'. Art lovers can come to her to choose a work of art from her collection, but Nans also creates portraits and contemporary art on commission and is happy to listen to ideas or questions.





OWN STYLE, OWN LINE

As a child, Nans was always busy expressing her unbridled creativity. Later, she almost naturally chose an artistic education, more specifically in the graphic arts. "Over the years, I evolved more and more towards my own style, which, for example in portraiture, has little or nothing to do with the reproduction of pictures. I mainly want to let emotions speak and I do that by making intensive use of colour and relief. After my studies, I have always remained active in creative directions, but only after the children left home did I decide to make a living out of it. Before that, I regularly offered my services as an art consultant and also did interior design, so my love for drawing and design always remained under the skin. In 2019, I finally took the step to no longer pursue my art as a hobby, but professionally. From the very beginning, I have chosen to follow my own line, first and foremost in the portraits that started it all. I have always loved experimenting with many different materials and that has evolved into the art form that I am known for today as Art By Nans."

ART THAT TOUCHES PEOPLE

On a personal level, Nans has gone through some difficult moments in her life. "In hindsight, my creations were a great way of processing my feelings and emotions. I no longer wanted to hide behind a mask, so you could say that I put a lot of myself into my works of art and, to a certain extent, I expose my inner self. Maybe this is not immediately visible or tangible for someone else, but it has helped me through a difficult period. Of course, I am by no

means the only one who has gone through difficult times emotionally, but I do think that you are allowed to be open about it. It does absolutely no harm to show other people who you are and in my case that is by creating art objects. I have already heard from certain people that it touches them in some way and that is also my intention. Since it is my source of income, I naturally want to sell my art, but art that adds value for the buyer."

DOWN TO THE SMALLEST DETAIL

Portrait art is of course art on commission. "That can be someone who wants a portrait of themselves or of someone else who is dear to them. That can be a living or deceased person. I then visit the person for a personal interview to find out what their wishes and desires are. At the same time I take the opportunity to explain who I am and what I do. The portrait is usually based on a photograph. This does not mean, however, that I copy the photograph exactly on canvas. People don't have to 'pose' for hours, I don't want to do that to anyone. There are fellow artists who can do all that very quickly and then you can indeed 'live' pose, but I am quite perfectionist. With me, it has to be right down to the smallest detail and I put a lot of time and work into that. I have to be able to do my own thing with it and work very concentrated and I prefer not to have anyone around me."

MIXED MEDIA

Portrait art is an important pillar of Art By Nans, but it is by no means the only creative expression. "Besides portrait art, I also

create artworks that fall under the heading of Mixed Media. That is a completely different form of art and is also aimed at a wider audience. In the Mixed Media concept, several materials are used together. The result, however, is not a collage, but results in a painting technique with acrylic paint. Each painting has its own story and a specific feeling that I apply in relief and depth. I usually work with soft tints, close to nature, to give a natural impulse to my work. The Mixed Media experience goes from flowing circles to wild compositions. Every feeling is respected. In my creations one sees the human being in his imperfect striving for perfection. Portraiture is what I do with a lot of pleasure, but I also like to express myself in other ways and as an artist you need that surplus to get a wide audience. I put a lot of work into that because I am striving for a unique form of art that you won't find anywhere else and at the same time it is an expression of my personal style.

FROM BARK TO GLASS

Nans' sources of inspiration for Mixed Media can be very diverse. "It can be something that I have heard or seen and that has affected me personally, but it can also be fun ideas or objects or even certain materials. Actually, I am constantly inspired by things. For example, I found bark to be a nice material to work with and at the moment I am busy experimenting with glass and cans. I always make a sort of composition in my head first and see what feeling I get from it. Only then will I work that out into a creative work of art.

Anyone who takes a look at Nans' catalogues and website will notice that each work usually also includes a quote. "As I just said, there is a feeling in each painting, and the quote is a bit of a translation of that in words, a sort of 'articulation' of the work. It is therefore much more than just a title and tells about the background of the work of art."



ART BOTTLES

And then, with the Art in a Bottle concept, there is also a very specific art expression. How did Nans actually get into painting bottles? "In 2020, for a project in Knokke to support the local shopkeepers, they were looking for artists who wanted to create artworks in the shape of bottles. We quickly came to an agreement and have successfully continued this collaboration for two years now. Art in a Bottle is the ideal gift for a special occasion or as a business gift. The combination of a bottle of '7SINS' gin of superior quality and a handmade piece of art makes it completely unique and perfect for personalising the bottle.

ABSOLUTELY UNIQUE

Interested parties can get to know the art of Art by Nans in different ways. "I recently did a large exhibition, but I also work with art galleries. Thanks to my now extensive personal network, I also enter into collaborations with traders or companies that I can call on to create certain things. For example, I once designed a large number of art objects with the same drawing. And each time it was something different, there were no exact copies. There are different paths I can take to promote my artworks. My art is also a nice investment, although I do not have that as an initial goal. I do know that my pricing is in line with the market situation and that my work is 'exclusive'. You won't find what I make anywhere else, it's absolutely unique."

More information: www.artbynans.com





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