

Vacation

As time away is a scarce commodity, it is essential to make the most of it. The destination resort **Tortuga Bay** merges the elegant sensibilities of Oscar de la Renta's décor with one of the most beautiful enclaves in the Dominican Republic. **The Beach House at Manafaru Maldives** is another option, boasting villas with plunge pools, a roaming "sorbet butler" and indigenous spa treatments. Head to Bali for an eco-friendly retreat and visit jeweler **John Hardy's** new **Bambu Indah hotel**, comprising four antique houses from Java that Hardy transported to his garden.

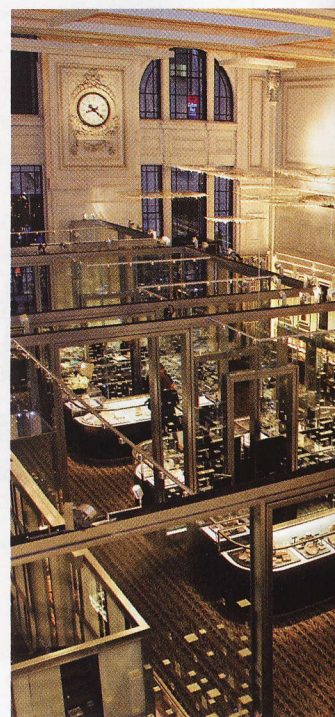


Vertical Gardens

A living wall containing more than 20 plant species created by French botanist and artist **Patrick Blanc** was a fitting backdrop for Stella McCartney's floral-focused spring 2008 runway show. In addition to designing "vertical gardens," Blanc is known for his ability to create these plant installations without soil. Ever since he took a trip to Malaysia in his teens, Blanc has dedicated himself to studying plant life. His work has appeared everywhere, from the Hôtel du Département outside Paris (above) to the Marithé + François Girbaud store in New York City. While Blanc spends a vast amount of his time in the tropics searching for new species, his work uniquely merges nature with urban life.

Wall Street Gem

Traders in Manhattan's financial district no longer have to travel to midtown to do their holiday shopping. **Tiffany & Co.** has just opened an 11,000-sq.-ft. (1,022 sq m) **Yabu Pushelberg**-designed outpost in the historic Trust Company of America bank building. The space (right), which has a hipper feel than the brand's uptown flagship, features a 60-ft.-long (18 m) crystal-and-mesh sculpture designed by **Ingo Maurer**, as well as the jeweler's famous collections. Among the first luxury boutiques to open in the neighborhood (Hermès and Thomas Pink are nearby), Tiffany hopes to attract not only Wall Street workers but also the growing residential community.



Wearstler for Bergdorf Goodman

Decorating fanatics don't need to sign up for a complete renovation in order to get a piece of design whiz **Kelly Wearstler**. The Los Angeles-based Wearstler, known for her high-glamour interiors like the Viceroy hotel in Santa Monica, the Avalon Hotel in Beverly Hills and the BG restaurant in New York City's **Bergdorf Goodman**, is introducing a line of limited-edition decorative home accessories to be sold exclusively in a special Wearstler boutique at Bergdorf Goodman. Known for her penchant for Hollywood Regency style, Wearstler has a knack for mixing and matching pieces, colors and fabrics to surprising results. Now it's possible for consumers to emulate her style with attainable items like marble books, brass hands (below, \$1,495) and selected vintage pieces.

