

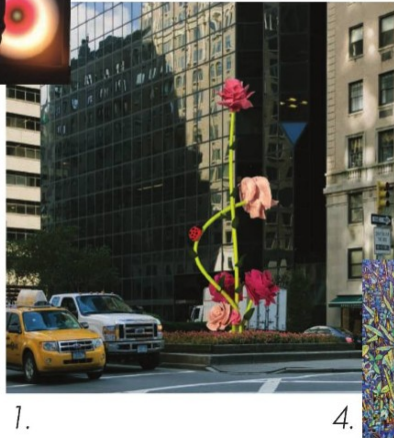


Whitewall Magazine — Spring 2011

WW NEWS



1. Renderings of Will Ryman's "The Roses" on Park Avenue, courtesy of WR studio.
2. Yan Lai, an LM 100 member, in front of his room key designs for Le Meridien.
3. W Vieques' Creative Retreat program.
4. Arnaldo Rocha, *The Long Awaited Voyage* mural at the St. Regis Bahia Beach.
5. Michael Elmgreen & Ingar Dragset, *Short Cut*, 2003, Mixed media, Fiat Uno, camper trailer. Commissioned and produced by Fondazione Nicola Trussardi, Florence, Stazione Leopolda, January 13 - February 6, 2011. Courtesy of Michael Elmgreen & Ingar Dragset, Galleria Massimo De Carlo, Milan.
6. Almoqul Manliboyeva and Bohar Behbahani Video still from *Ride the Caspian*, 2011, 2-channel HD video, color, surround sound 13:00 minutes. Sound artists, OMFO and Negar Behbahani.



PUBLIC WORKS

Walking down Park Avenue this month, you may notice some early signs of spring. Okay, they're man-made, but between February and May New Yorkers will be glad to see flashes of color amid the gray of late winter and early spring. Scattered over ten blocks between 57th and 67th streets will be Will Ryman's sculptures of rose blossoms. The eight bouquets range from just three to a soaring twenty-five feet in height, each with its own charming bumblebee or bright red ladybug. *Will Ryman: The Roses* has been produced by The Sculpture Committee of The Fund for Park Avenue and the City of New York Department of Parks and Recreation's Public Art Program, in collaboration with Paul Kasmin Gallery.

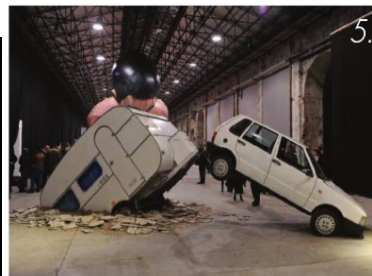
If you find yourself outside New York, perhaps visiting warming climates, staying at one of Le Meridien's many locations around the world will help keep you surrounded by art. Its lobbies, rooms, restaurants, elevators, and even room keys boast commissioned art, food, sound, and experiences by creatives like Ralph Gibson, Marcus Kreiss, Kiki Allgeier, and Jean-Georges Vongerichten. Le Meridien has dubbed this group of collaborators "LM100." Just last winter the

program, curated by Jérôme Sans, celebrated its fifth anniversary.

The W Vieques Retreat and Spa, designed by Patricia Urquiola, opened in 2010 and quickly became a go-to destination for rest, relaxation, and revitalization. What few may not know is that it has also become a destination for artists. It's no surprise, though, given the beauty of the island, which is just off the coast of mainland Puerto Rico. Capitalizing on the island's aesthetic appeal, W Vieques launched a Creative Retreat program, a month-long residency for designers and artists alike to get inspired and create, create, create!

Also focusing on the arts in Puerto Rico is St. Regis's newly opened Bahia Beach resort. Throughout the property are works by Lindsay Dean, Angel Botello, and Luis Torruella. Outdoor and indoor sculptures on view for the appreciation of all guests and visitors range from the figurative to the abstract. Perhaps the most striking is *The Long Awaited Voyage* (2010), a mural that depicts a blindfolded, wayward traveler in a canoe among lily pads and reeds.

Trussardi, and its Fondazione Nicola Trussardi, is no stranger to the art world. In January, the foundation presented the exhibition "8½," curated by Massimiliano Gioni in cooperation with the Fondazione Pitti Discovery.



The event was the first of Trussardi's year-long 100th anniversary celebration. A day after the exhibition opened, the brand presented a collection by Milan Vukmirovic, Trussardi dal 1911.

But if what you're really looking for is warm weather, heat, and some serious cultural history, be sure to check out this year's Sharjah Foundation's biennial, taking place from March 16 to May 16. The 10th edition has been curated by Suzanne Cotter and Rasha Salti, along with associate curator Haig Aivazian. There you can view work by 119 artists from 36 countries, plus 65 unique commissioned works. Titled "Plot for a Biennial," the exhibition will explore the biennial as script, taking its inspiration from keywords like "necessity," "translation," "affiliation," "insurrection," "treason," "corruption," and "devotion."



PHOTO: COURTESY OF LE MERIDIEN

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