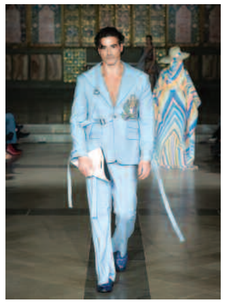
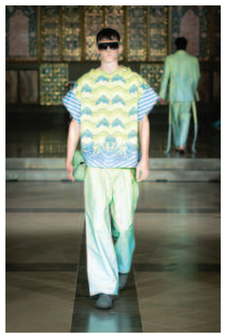
Charles & Ron celebrate 35 years with 'A Love Affair' at London Fashion Week SS27





Charles & Ron unveiled their Spring/Summer 2027 collection, *A Love Affair*, at St John's Church, Hyde Park, during London Fashion Week. The collection marks a personal and creative milestone for the designers, celebrating 35 years since they first met in Amsterdam and began a journey that would evolve into one of Malta's most recognised fashion brands.

Presented to an audience of international press, industry guests and supporters from Malta, the show featured Maltese model Matthew Saliba, whose return to the Charles & Ron runway added a meaningful touch to the anniversary celebration.

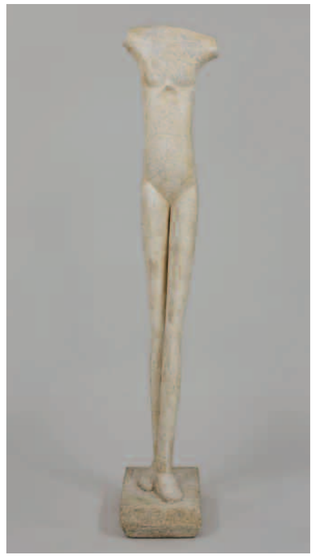
Drawing inspiration from the brand's rich archive, *A Love Affair* revisits the colours, prints, symbols and techniques that have defined Charles & Ron over the past three decades while reinterpreting them for a contemporary audience. A fresh pastel palette featuring lilac, butter yellow, soft orange, lime green, mint and light blue runs through the collection, complemented by ombré effects, signature stripes and reimagined prints inspired by previous collections.

The collection pays tribute to Malta through references to traditional festas, the iconic Luzzu eye, the crown of St Helena and landscape imagery inspired by Marsaxlokk. Archival scarves have been transformed into garments through draping, ruching and pleating, while hand-beaded fabrics and structured silhouettes add texture and dimension.

A special focus of the collection is the traditional Gozitan handwoven wide-brimmed hat, a craft that is rapidly disappearing. Reimagined with Charles & Ron's distinctive aesthetic, the hats highlight the importance of preserving local craftsmanship and celebrating Malta's cultural heritage on an international stage.

More than an anniversary collection, *A Love Affair* is a tribute to 35 years of creativity, friendship and shared vision. It reflects the designers' enduring connection to Malta and demonstrates how heritage, tradition and personal history can be transformed into something fresh, relevant and forward-looking.

Francis Bacon, *'Sketch for a Portrait of Lisa Sainsbury'*, 1955. *Sainsbury Centre, University of East Anglia. © James Austin © 2026 The Estate of Francis Bacon. All rights reserved. DACS*



Alberto Giacometti, *'Walking Woman'* (I). *© 2026 Succession Alberto Giacometti. DACS*

Lucian Freud, *'Girl in Bed'*. *© The Lucian Freud Archive. All Rights Reserved 2026. Bridgeman Images*

Hanover Gallery (1948–1960s): Erica Brausen's lasting influence on British art

Ordovas presents *Hanover Gallery*, the first exhibition dedicated to Erica Brausen (1908–1992), the pioneering post-war gallerist who founded London's legendary Hanover Gallery and helped shape the course of modern and contemporary art in Britain.

Widely recognised for championing Francis Bacon, whom she represented during the formative years of his career, Brausen also introduced British audiences to major international artists including Alberto Giacometti, Germaine Richier, Jean Fautrier and Niki de Saint Phalle, while supporting British artists such as Lucian Freud, Richard Hamilton, Eduardo Paolozzi and William Turnbull.

Born in Düsseldorf, Brausen left Germany in 1930 and became part of Paris's vibrant artistic circles before settling in London in 1937. In 1948, she established the Hanover Gallery in Mayfair, creating one of the most influential venues for post-war art in Britain. A migrant, lesbian woman working in a male-dominated field, she was particularly supportive of émigré, female and queer artists.

The exhibition brings together significant loans from museum and private collections alongside archival material that illuminates Brausen's remarkable career. Highlights include Francis Bacon's *Sketch for a Portrait of Lisa* (1955), Alberto Giacometti's *Diego au chandail* (1954), *Buste d'Annette IV* (1962) and *Femme qui marche (I)* (1932), as well as major sculptures by Germaine Richier. Works by Lucian Freud, Richard Hamilton, Eduardo Paolozzi, Marlow Moss, Niki de Saint Phalle and Liliane Lijn further demonstrate the breadth of Brausen's vision and influence.

Hanover Gallery – Collection of Jean-Yves Mock, *reproduced courtesy of Gill Hedley*

J.S. Lewinski, Erica Brausen, March 1968 © *National Portrait Gallery, London*

Curated in collaboration with Jane Alison, former Head of Visual Arts at the Barbican, the exhibition is accompanied by a fully illustrated catalogue featuring a new essay by Alison.

This is the second Ordovas exhibition to explore the legacy of pioneering female gallerists, following the success of *Peggy Guggenheim and London* in 2019.

Hanover Gallery will be held between 9 October and 11 December at the Ordovas, 25 Savile Row, London W1S 2ER

Opening concert of Valletta lunchtime concert series announced

Music lovers are invited to experience *Voyage entre Rêve et Réalité* (Journey Between Dream and Reality), the opening concert of the sixth consecutive year of the popular lunchtime concert series, taking place on Tuesday, 6 October at 12:30pm at Our Lady of Victory Church, Valletta.

The recital will feature acclaimed soprano Maria Grazia Grech and pianist Sofia Narmania, who will guide audiences through a captivating programme of French music inspired by the delicate interplay between dreams and reality.

The programme includes works by Duparc, Fauré, Hahn, Debussy, Chausson and Delibes, offering an elegant musical journey rich in lyricism, atmosphere and expressive beauty. From the poetic reflections of *L'Invitation au voyage* to the dazzling brilliance of *Les Filles de Cadix*, the concert promises a memorable lunchtime escape.

More than a musical event, the concert celebrates community and cultural collaboration, marking a partnership between *Din l-Art Helwa* and the Barocco Foundation, two organisations dedicated to preserving and promoting Malta's rich cultural heritage.

Admission is by a suggested donation of €13.

For ticket reservations and further information, contact *baroccobookings@gmail.com*, *baroccomalta@gmail.com*, or call 79680952.

Edited by Marie Benoît