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QUEST

THE
PALM BEACH
ISSUE



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RH REIMAGINES RETAIL IN PALM BEACH

MATTHEW MCCONAUGHEY and wife Camila Alves, supermodel Karolina Kurkova, and the renowned contemporary artist RETNA were among the many influencers who recently descended on Palm Beach to attend the unveiling of Restoration Hardware's latest retail experience, RH West Palm, The Gallery at CityPlace.

Guests at the private opening celebration, which benefitted The Norton Museum of Art, enjoyed a DJ performance by Chris Malinchak of New York, gourmet bites by RH Café, fresh bellinis by Cipriani NYC, a rosé garden, curated wines by Ma(i)sonry Napa Valley and Blackbird Vineyards, and an ice bar that paired caviar with vodka martinis.

Spanning four levels and nearly 80,000 square feet, the compound showcases all of RH's businesses—RH Interiors, Modern, Outdoor, Baby & Child, TEEN, Interior Design and Hospitality—and includes a Rooftop Restaurant, Wine Vault, and Barista Bar by celebrated restaurateur Brendan Sodikoff, who is also founding president of RH Hospitality.

"RH West Palm reflects our quest to revolutionize physi-

cal retailing, blurring the lines between residential and retail, indoors and outdoors, home and hospitality," says Chairman & CEO Gary Friedman. "It's a seamless integration of food, wine, art, and design."

Prominently situated in the center of Okeechobee Boulevard, this first-of-its-kind retail concept marks Friedman's ongoing collaboration with design architect James Gillam of Backen, Gillam & Kroeger, a firm recognized as one of Architectural Digest's Top 100 architect and design firms in the world.

At valet, visitors discover a 14-foot wall of cascading water inspired by the famed fountain in New York's Paley Park and a monumental, ancient text-based mural installation by RETNA, which commands the entire eastern façade of the building. "Everybody talks about how brick and mortar is dead, but we believe imagination is dead and we want to bring back the magic," Friedman says.

Arriving to the gallery's western entrance, visitors first encounter an elliptical fountain inspired by those at Villa d'Este in Tivoli and pass through 20-foot steel gates inspired by the



This page, above: One of two wine vaults with groin-vaulted ceilings and floors of checkered French antique marble, where guests can savor a glass of rosé or Cabernet. Below: Guests at the opening celebration included (from left) RH Chairman and CEO Gary Friedman with supermodel Karolina Kurkova; Nicolas Rafferty and Caroline Cummings Rafferty; and Georgina Bloomberg and Ariana Rockefeller. Opposite page: The estate gardens and western façade of RH West Palm, an 80,000-square-foot compound that reflects the brand's quest to revolutionize physical retailing.



DESIGN



Above, left to right: Matthew McConaughey and Camila Alves at the opening celebration; landscape architect Mario Nievera was on hand at the opening; the RH Rooftop Restaurant, with a seasonal menu by celebrated restaurateur Brendan Sodikoff and its atrium punctuated with heritage olive trees, a massive crystal chandelier, and 12-foot circular fountain; golf legend Greg Norman and his wife, Kirsten, at the opening. Below: RH Interior Design, a concierge-level program where the brand's interior design professionals help clients to envision the home of their dreams.





work of late 20th-century Venetian architect Carlo Scarpa. The estate gardens that follow feature open-air pavilions, glimmering chandeliers, and exotic tropicals, all of which enhance an artistic display of the brand's expansive outdoor collections.

A 25-foot threshold of retractable glass and steel doors leads to the gallery's central hall, which is flanked by a classical arrangement of rooms featuring RH Interiors collections from internationally renowned designers. Here, visitors enjoy unobstructed views through the entire main level to the water wall beyond.

Continuing their journey to the upper floors, guests ascend a grand double floating staircase spanning nearly 40 feet. An enormous skylight four floors above washes the space with natural light, while a spectacular installation of 23 crystal Helix chandeliers hanging 75 feet overhead highlights a striking composition of gilded antique mirrors.

Level two features RH Design Atelier, a fully integrated workspace inspired by the world's best architecture and design studios, where the brand's interior design professionals help clients to envision the home of their dreams. This space also provides access to RH's vast library of fabrics, leathers, and finishes, and includes a Ben Soleimani rug showroom displaying the fourth-generation designer's hand-knotted and hand-woven rugs.

On the third level, visitors discover an 8,000-square-foot exhibition space presenting RH Modern, one of the largest curated assortments of modern furnishings, lighting, and décor under one brand in the world, which is developed in collaboration with a select group of acclaimed global designers. Offering tasteful,

high-quality furnishings for children and young adults, Baby & Child and TEEN can also be found on this floor.

At the top of the grand stair, a dramatic 10,000-square-foot rooftop space serves as the primary location for the gallery's hospitality experience. Here, guests enjoy Sodikoff's seasonal, ingredient-driven menu in the RH Rooftop Restaurant sitting beneath a pyramidal glass and steel atrium punctuated by heritage olive trees and a massive rococo crystal-and-iron chandelier hovering over a 12-foot circular fountain.

Adjoining the restaurant are intimate loggias with iridescent gold groin-vaulted ceilings and floors of checkered French antique black and white marble that play host to the Wine Vaults, where guests can savor a glass of rosé or Cabernet. Espresso and house-made pastries can be found in the nearby Barista Bar, which is flanked by 12-foot Moroccan tile fountains.

But the excitement extends beyond Palm Beach, as Friedman will soon unveil the brand's largest gallery to date: RH New York, The Gallery in the Historic Meatpacking District. He describes this project as "a one-of-a-kind experience situated on what is quickly becoming one of Manhattan's most iconic corners" due to its location across from the new Whitney Museum and entrance to the High Line. "We're trying to create environments that activate all of the senses and cannot be replicated online," Friedman says. ♦

RH West Palm, The Gallery at CityPlace: 560 Okeechobee Boulevard, West Palm Beach; 561.804.6826. Open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m., and Sunday, 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.