

# WWD

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## WWD Honors

Those being recognized at the WWD Honors gala in October include Sarah Burton, Willy Chavarría and Ralph Lauren's Patrice Louvet.

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## Big in Paris

RH has opened a seven-level, mega flagship in the French capital, complete with a rare book room, restaurant and bar.

Page 8 and 9

## Women In Power

WWD + FN + Beauty Inc reveal their annual list of female leaders impacting the industry, plus updated data on female representation.

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## Per Giorgio

Designers, industry figures, celebrities and athletes turned out to pay their last respects to Giorgio Armani in Milan over the weekend. But what was even more touching was the thousands of everyday people, like those seen here, who queued for hours to spend a few minutes in front of his casket in his Teatro in Via Bergognone to acknowledge the enormous impact of the man universally known as "the Maestro." *For more, see pages 4 to 7.*

PHOTOGRAPH BY DARIA KOLOMEYTSOVA





The new Vao coffee table by French architect and designer Thierry Lemaire features prominently among the many contemporary furnishings, lighting and unique art and sculpture at RH Paris, The Gallery on the Champs-Élysées.

glass polyhedrons, it boasts views of the Eiffel Tower, Grand Palais and the Pyramid at the Louvre. Friedman explained that architects Foster & Partners designed a retractable 15-foot elevator that comes up and disappears to avoid blocking its neighbors' views of the Eiffel Tower.

RH worked with Foster & Partners on select areas of RH Paris and will be again partnering with the architectural firm for the opening of RH London in 2026.

Le Jardin RH is located on the second-floor terrace and sits under a curved glass-and-steel structure inspired by the Grand Palais and offers a menu of American and Mediterranean classics.

On the third floor sits the World of RH Bar & Lounge, a physical and digital immersion into the places and spaces that define the brand while enjoying a glass of wine or a craft cocktail by famed mixologist Colin Field.

The RH galleries have been a winning concept, boosting its European revenues. RH England, The Gallery at Aynho Park – a 73-acre, 17th-century estate opened in 2023 – is testament to that success, he said, noting that it generated \$46 million in total demand in its second full year. This bodes well for all new galleries, including the upcoming London Gallery in Mayfair and the one in Milan, which is set to open during Salone del Mobile.Milano in 2026.

"If an RH Gallery in the English countryside, with an estimated population of 100,000 in a 10-mile radius two hours outside of London, can generate \$46 million...what can an RH Gallery in the center of Mayfair, the most exclusive shopping district in London with a population of 9.7 million, do in its second

full fiscal year?" the CEO asked.

RH's expansion strategy is focused on taking market share despite macro headwinds. Moving forward, the company will open seven to nine new galleries a year, despite the unpredictable market conditions. China for now isn't in the cards, he said.

"But, you know, and I think that's just, it's not, I don't think it's necessarily, you know, are we rushing to go to China? Not necessarily. We're not rushing to go to Russia either, right? There's political instability in a lot of places in the world right now with tension. And so I think we'll let things, you know, kind of cool down politically, you know, let the geopolitical stuff get worked out, whether it's worked out in this current administration or next administration," he said, adding that U.S. President Donald Trump's trade policy and his announcement regarding further tariffs on furniture makers is an incredible challenge for the industry as a whole.

"You'll start to feel it in the second half of this year. You'll feel it more in the fourth quarter than the third quarter. You'll really start feeling it in the first quarter of next year. And by the second quarter of next year, you'll feel it at about 80 percent," he said. RH remains one of the largest upscale furniture and home businesses in the world and posted \$3.18 billion in net revenues in 2024.

"And so who knows what the world's going to look like. I think right now you've got to pray for peace and plan for war. I don't mean war from a militaristic point of view, or even from a financial point of view. There's never been this much chaos in business in my entire career," he said. ■

EYE

## Ellen DeGeneres, Theo James, Zoe Saldana Attend RH Opening

● The furnishings retailer celebrated its splashy flagship.

BY JOELLE DIDERICH

**PARIS** – On the opening night of Paris Design Week, the French capital was abuzz with happenings and cocktail parties, but the hottest ticket in town was the reveal of RH's latest gallery on the Avenue des Champs-Élysées.

Guests including Zoe Saldana, Theo James, Ellen DeGeneres, Portia de Rossi and Catherine Deneuve made their way through majestic wrought iron gates down a hedge-lined path, flanked by violinists dressed in Grecian-style gowns.

Giant gilded medallion doors led into the soaring atrium of the building, fully decked out with bronze accents.

"This is my very first time seeing everything – I'm kind of amazed," said Saldana, part of a blue-chip host committee that included Destree cofounder Geraldine Guyot-Arnauld, art director Fabien Baron and event organizer Alexandre de Betak.

She's a fan of the California-based furnishings retailer, formerly known as Restoration Hardware. "One of our homes is all Restoration Hardware," the "Emilia Pérez" star said.

"It's so elegant and beautiful and peaceful and as a mom, I really need tones that kind of add a contrast to the lively energy that my kids bring into our lives," added the actress, who has three sons with husband Marco Perego-Saldana.

She likes the fact that the store offers everything from bedding to bespoke furniture.

"Buying a home is already difficult as it is, furnishing it is twice as hard – and when you feel like you have to go to 200 different places to bring a home together, just that thought can overwhelm a person that is already overwhelmed and exhausted. Having a one-stop shop, I think it's a good thing," she said.

DeGeneres and de Rossi warmly greeted RH chairman and chief executive officer Gary Friedman and his wife Bella Hunter, as Friedman showed them photos of their baby boy on his phone.

"We've actually been working together for about seven years now. I have an art publishing company called General Public, and we provide RH with about 90 percent of the art that they sell," said de Rossi.

When it comes to interior design, though, she's happy to delegate. "This is my interior decorator," she said, pointing at her wife. "Ellen really loves to do interiors."

DeGeneres is a fan of midcentury French furniture. "Prouvé, Perriand – those are my favorites," she chimed in. The couple recently moved into a palatial new home in England and DeGeneres, it seems, was in the mood for shopping.

"She was just told about a store called Downtown today, and I'm glad we didn't get to go there before we came here, because that would have cost a lot of money," de Rossi said.

Designer Alexis Mabille, who also has a thriving interior design business, was getting ready to unveil his new Paris apartment after a multiyear renovation. "It's a haven of peace, and with my own décor, it feels great," he said.



Ellen DeGeneres and Portia de Rossi



Theo James and Zoe Saldana

Meanwhile, Dan Thawley, another member of the host committee, was getting ready to move homes with a giant closet sale over the weekend. "There's probably 300, 400 pieces," he said.

The former editor in chief of A Magazine Curated By, who last year launched design salon Matter and Shape, believes RH is filling a gap in the French market.

"We have large benchmark European

editors that have been there for many years, the Cassinas and the Vitras and people like that, but then between that and a Zara Home and an Ikea, there really hasn't been a great deal on the market," he said.

With its premium offering, the RH flagship, which includes a restaurant, bar and garden rooftop, should draw both locals and Paris-based decorators working on international projects, he predicted. He's already ordered a sofa for his new apartment. "I've never measured so many corners in my life," Thawley said.