

Long live print

Dubai [MAGAZINES]

A love of print media has powered the growth of The Magazine Shop in Dubai. Backed by local publisher Brownbook, the store is a haven for paper mavens, with titles added every fortnight. Magazines are curated on aesthetics and content – but anything overtly political is avoided to skirt censorship issues (stickers cover up anything deemed offensive). Shoppers here are interested in print as a medium as much as they are the actual articles. “The shop’s a way to give back to the community, keep print alive and support other titles,” says Kamal Rasool, content manager. “There’s been a boom in Middle Eastern magazines. We have *The Outpost* and *The Carton*, two magazines from Lebanon and Rukh. We bring these titles over for events as we



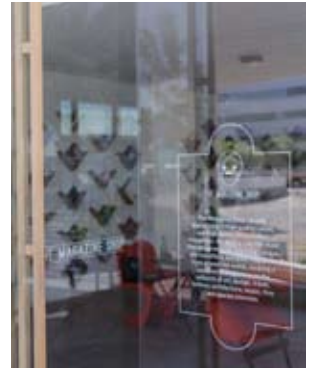
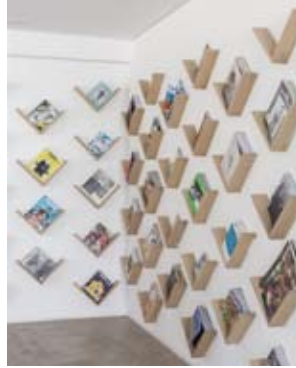
use the shop as a community space to promote things we’re into.” — GWP
themagazineshop.me

Most popular:

- 01 Kinfolk – Portland, Oregon
- 02 Little White Lies – London
- 03 The Carton – Beirut
- 04 The Gentlewoman – London
- 05 Apartamento – Spain/Italy

Recommended reading:

- 06 The Pitchfork Review – USA
- 07 The Outpost – Beirut
- 08 Dayjob – New York
- 09 Pinholet – France



constant stream of new things happening but we try to focus on the Middle Eastern arts. We have regular Arabic language and calligraphy classes as well as pottery, which has a long history in the region.

What are your most popular events?

We recently ran a vintage and arts market called The Market of Everything. The response was amazing. Fairs go down well – as do all the bigger community events where we can act like a hub. Our film screenings are free and really unusual so they’re popular. We try to make as much as we can as free as possible.

What’s next for The Archive?

We’re going to be doing a music festival in March focusing on regional artists. We want to do more markets but it depends on what we can squeeze in before the summer heat.

You’re branching out as well. What’s Creekside?

The Creekside space is in the same vein as The Archive – a community space and café that will open in March. It aims to re-engineer the concept of a culture centre by unpacking the deeper layers found within the historic walls of the Emirati city. Located in the heart of the creek, Creekside will be a place of artistic expression, debate and knowledge exchange. — GWP

thearchive.ae

Q&A

Beth Hopper
Community Manager
The Archive

The Archive is a creative oasis in the middle of Dubai’s Safa Park. A cool café and workspace, it’s become a community hub thanks to a wide range of activities, from bookbinding classes and days dedicated to Japanese culture, to al-fresco yoga and free film screenings on the lawn.

An old toilet block is now a creative space. How did this evolution happen?

The building has been here since the 1970s when it was a park facilities block. Cultural Engineering, which owns it now, wanted to renovate it into a community space which focuses on the art and culture of the MENA region. We opened last year as a café and creative space.

How do you plan your events?

Now we’ve been going for more than a year, we have a lot of people coming to us, using us as an events space. We have a



Q&A**Louise O'Hare**
Curator, writer
and editor

London



Louise O'Hare is a curator and writer, associate editor at Afterall and one-third of Publish and be Damned – the annual self-publishers fair. Along with curator Kate Phillimore, she is developing *Three Letter Words*, a new critical platform for the support of artists publishing, and a fair. Both will be launched later this year.

Why a map? Were you lost for a good read in London?

I had noticed a resurgence of art bookshops in the east – artist-led projects like Luminous Books, which at the time was hidden down an alley off Kingsland Road, and Banner Repeater, which is on Platform 1 of Hackney Downs train station. Having felt lucky to discover these places I realised they needed to be put on a map. There wasn't one so I made it.

Did you bump into these bookshops or was the map the process of intensive research?

It was not so methodical a survey – the map is based on personal recommendations and word of mouth. I started with

bookshops I knew and then asked those for their suggestions, and it grew from there. If I don't personally know the shop I ask for a second opinion from my excellent group of advisers.

What do independent bookshops have that chains don't?

Quite simply, publications by small independent presses, self-publishing and idiosyncratic choices of books. The term 'independent' is slippery but the spirit I look for is a bookshop that is open to stocking more than market-led selections. Oh, and insightful advice and suggestions from people who work there – independent bookshops are vital platforms for communities and informal education.

There are some good bookshop names on here – what are your favourites?

I am a big fan of X Marks the Bökship on Cambridge Heath Road, which stocks a great range of independently produced publications by artists and designers. Also Marchpane on Cecil Court – an antiquarian that specialises in *Alice and Wonderland*. And Ripping Yarns in Archway is great. Other art bookshops I love are Artwords, Ti Pi Tin and Claire de Rouen... and, of course, Donlon Books... and finally there's Housmans, London's oldest radical bookshop. — RB

**Food for thought**
Australia [JOURNAL]

Scrag End would never have existed if the Rust brothers had worried about their lack of publishing-industry credentials. Sasha, a chef in Melbourne, and Björn, an industrial designer in Brisbane, set out to give local farmers and chefs a voice, and their inaugural 95-page *Issue Zero* – released in late 2013 – is a worthy effort. Named after the inferior cut of a lamb's neck meat, Scrag End is the antithesis of the glossy food-porn magazine, its size and paper stock more reminiscent of a literary journal. Every story and essay reinforces the Rustian view: if they can get you to think about the farmer who rises at 05.00 for four months to raise the bird that ends up on your plate as duck-leg confit, their venture was a success. — KH
scragend.com

Q&A**Shy Barmeli**
TV format
creator

Tel Aviv

From Canadian diamond dealer to Israeli gameshow producer Shy Barmeli hasn't taken the obvious route to creating a global TV hit.

After leaving behind a well-paid career in diamond dealing, he headed back to Israel with only a rucksack and a bag full of TV ideas, which turned into *Raid The Cage* – a trivia gameshow with physical challenges that has been remade around the world and earned him a bumper deal with Sony Pictures Television.

What's your pre-TV background?

I moved to Canada when I was younger. I was working for a diamond company but I hated it. On the side I was making movie trailers with friends. Then one day, after four years at my job, I woke up and left Vancouver, left everything and got a flight to Israel.

How did you go from diamond dealing to working in TV?

I originally studied at film school and when I got back to Israel I started working at United Studios. I left a very well-paid job, took nothing and came back with one suitcase. I couldn't believe it when I saw *Raid The Cage* on TV; I started from zero.

Why did you prefer TV?

I prefer creating something with heart than chasing the money. I believe in following your heart and not letting the money disturb you.

How did you come up with *Raid The Cage*?

I was filling up a bag of vegetables and I thought: what the fuck. While I was walking back to the studio, I thought we have an idea for a game-show. It's about what happens when greed meets its biggest enemy: time. We were shooting a pilot four months later.

What happened next?

After *Raid The Cage*, Sony signed me to a first-look deal and I am now working with them on some new game-shows. — PWH

Italy down under
Melbourne [NEWSPAPER]

Il Globo has been publishing football scores and political coverage for Melbourne's large Italian population since 1959. In its early days the Italian-language newspaper was instrumental in combatting racism towards newly arrived migrants. "We fought some big fights," says Ubaldo Larobina, the publication's 83-year-old publisher and co-founder. Most memorable among these scuffles was *Il Globo's* successful campaign

to disprove a major Australian broadcaster's assertion that Melbourne's now famous espresso bar scene was a front for prostitution. Nowadays the newspaper has dropped from five issues a week to two. Its central readership – post-war migrants – is shrinking. For Larobina, *Il Globo's* future lies in catering to the new wave of Italians who are arriving in the wake of the European financial crisis. "If they go on the internet they won't discover much about Italians in Australia but with *Il Globo* they will," he says. — AC

**Best boombox**
Japan [AUDIO]

Hamamatsu-based Yamaha has parlayed its expertise as a music-instruments maker in this smartly designed, crisp-sounding audio system – the TSX-B232. With the company's trademark solid build, it can play music from multiple sources and doubles up as a wireless radio and mobile-music streaming device. This will trump many a rival's offerings. — KH
yamaha.com