

MEDIA/PUBLISHING

Departures looks to the future with 30th anniversary issue

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Swizz Beatz, Jordan Casteel, Hank Willis Thomas, and Demick Adams for *Departures* magazine. Photo by Stefan Ruiz.

By STAFF REPORTS

Meredith's luxury travel publication *Departures* is celebrating its 30th anniversary by having inspirational visionaries grace its September issue.

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The 12 honorees, who represent a wide range of fields, were chosen for their impact on a fairer, more sustainable future. *Departures* also revealed it has seen double-digit revenue growth in the last year.

Publishing milestone

Among the visionaries selected by *Departures* are Broadway star Lin-Manuel Miranda, hip-hop producer Swizz Beatz, chef Jos Andrs and supermodel/activist Behati Prinsloo. Also included are Cyrill Gutsch, designer, founder and CEO at Parley for the Oceans, and Anna Deavere Smith, an actress and playwright.

"It was really important for us to celebrate *Departures'* 30 years by looking forward at what the next 30 years could bring," said Jefferies Blackerby, editor in chief of *Departures*, in a statement. "We are in a time when how we travel, shop, eat and engage with the world has real impact on the health of the planet and all of us who live on it.

"This issue explores the impact and the steps being taken by a wide range of companies and creators to address them," he said. "At the center of this are 12 standout individuals whose ideas and actions are helping to move us forward toward sustainability and inclusiveness."



Lin-Manuel Miranda on the September 2019 cover of Departures. Image credit: Departures

The September issue also includes features on sustainable travel, overtourism, ethical clothing production and how cities are becoming more efficient.

Advertising revenue for *Departures* has also risen 21 percent since the September 2018 edition. The travel and fashion verticals have seen the most advertising gains.

Departures publishes seven print editions annually, and is published exclusively for American Express Platinum and Centurion cardmembers.

Mr. Blackerby became editor in chief last year, and unveiled a redesign for the publication with the March/April 2018 issue.

Departures' new look features more white space, a cleaner format and a refinement of the different sections of the magazine. The design focused on clearly delineating the distinct sections of the publication while maintaining a consistent aesthetic across the entire magazine ([see story](#)).

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