

JEWELRY

## Van Cleef & Arpels showcases high jewelry at Milan exhibition

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*The "Van Cleef & Arpels: Time, Nature, Love" exhibition runs through Feb. 23 at Milan's Palazzo Reale. Image credit: Van Cleef & Arpels*

By STAFF REPORTS

French jeweler Van Cleef & Arpels is running an exhibition in Milan's Palazzo Reale to showcase high-jewelry items that bear unique designs, gems and innovations.

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Called "Van Cleef & Arpels: Time, Nature, Love," the exhibition runs through Feb. 23, curated by Alba Cappellieri and with scenography by Johanna Grawunder.

**Van Cleef** is part of Richemont, also owner of French jeweler Cartier.



*Exhibit room with display cases showcasing Van Cleef & Arpels jewelry at Milan's Palazzo Reale. Image credit: Van Cleef & Arpels*

### Sparkling ideas

A film running four minutes and 13 seconds explains the thinking and layout behind the exhibition that boasts many pieces from the Van Cleef & Arpels collection.

Nicolas Bos, president/CEO of Van Cleef & Arpels, opens the video with his thoughts on the exhibition and creativity behind the jewels.

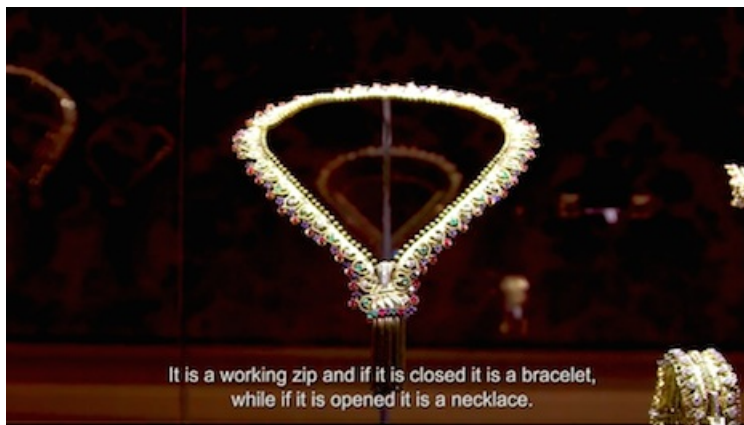


*Nicolas Bos, president/CEO of Van Cleef & Arpels, explains the thinking behind the exhibition. Image credit: Van Cleef & Arpels*

On display are a 1949 Ludo watch bracelet that opens to reveal the time of day at the touch of the wearer and a 1942 Bird of Paradise clip in flight inspired by nature that creates a stark contrast of light and color.

In another section, 1951 Romeo & Juliet brooches capture the poignant sincerity of young love. These pieces are the maison's interpretation of the mythical love stories taken from classic theater, according to Van Cleef.

An expression of the house's passion for capturing the true-to-life movements of dancers, a 1945 Ballerina clip portrays a Spanish bailaora in motion.



*The Duchess of Windsor suggested the idea behind the zip necklace. Image credit: Van Cleef & Arpels*

AND THEN there is the zip necklace.

In the late 1930s, Van Cleef set out to create a piece of jewelry inspired by the zipper. This was an idea suggested by the Duchess of Windsor. The item can be zipped up and worn as a bracelet and unzipped to become a necklace.

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