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# WONDER WORLD

SEASONAL

THE UNIQUE ITALIAN LIFESTYLE  
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DESIGN&FURNITURE  
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FOOD&WINE  
From mountain to sea

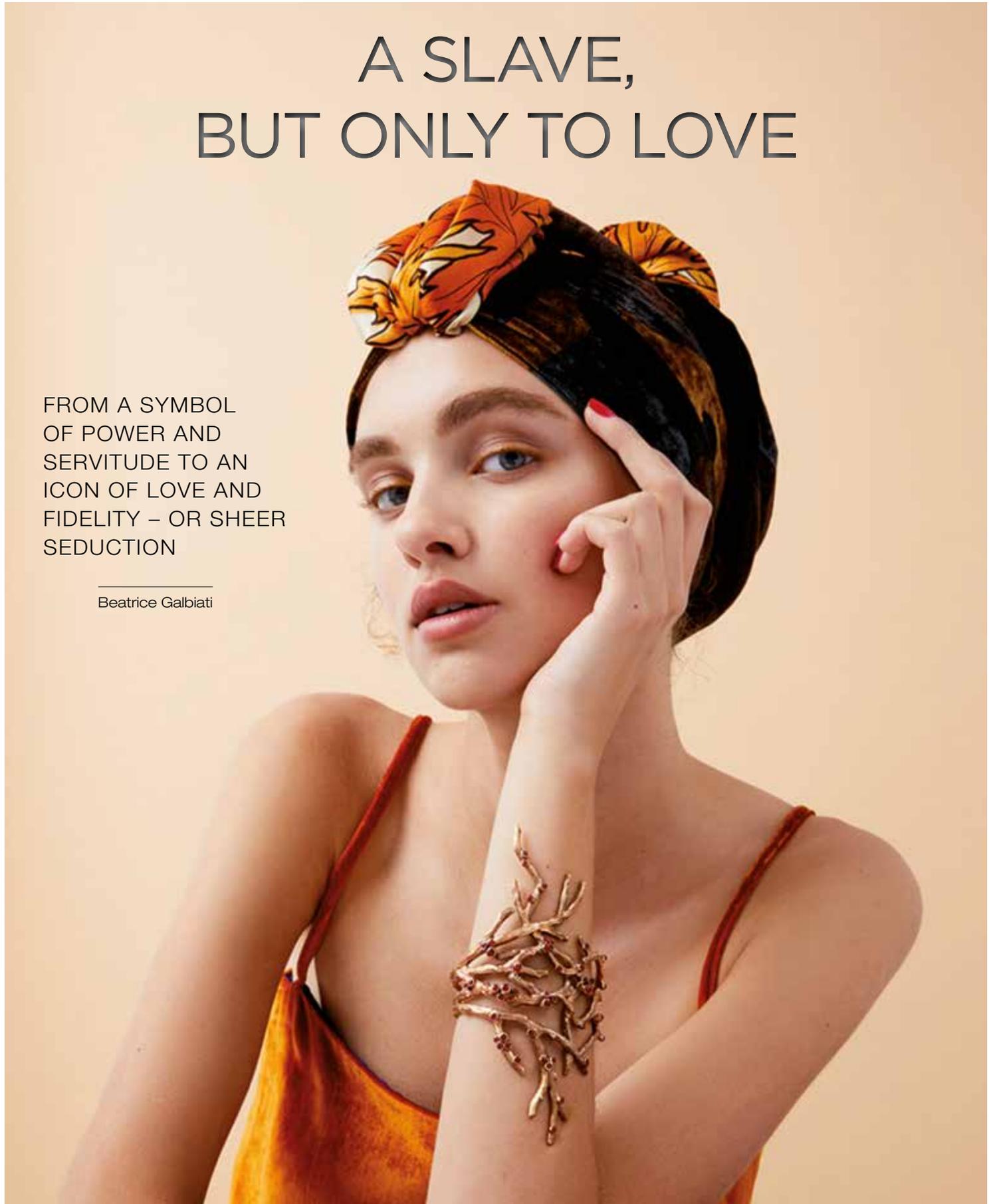
ITALIAN HOSPITALITY  
Summertime Escapes

# A SLAVE, BUT ONLY TO LOVE

FROM A SYMBOL  
OF POWER AND  
SERVITUDE TO AN  
ICON OF LOVE AND  
FIDELITY – OR SHEER  
SEDUCTION

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Beatrice Galbiati





Opposite page, the natural bronze and cherry enamel Ramo Cuff bracelet by MADINA VISCONTI is a call to nature. Above, left: rose gold and clean lines for Iconica, a bracelet by DI POMELLATO to wear by itself or complemented by other pieces. Right: rose gold, onyx and diamonds for the Arabian Horse bracelet by ROBERTO COIN

Even the simplest and most minimal create an air of splendour. Sensual, especially when very high, rigid and worn in summer on tanned skin and a naked arm, and despite their history, elegant when worn alone and without other jewellery, making them even more visible. Slave bracelets are one of the most antique yet timeless pieces of jewellery, originating in the period of slavery, and not just for women. They are a symbol that display the wearer's servitude, even identifying the slaves' owner. Fortunately, the age of slavery is past, and what once represented subservience and inferiority has become an emblem of love and devotion, emphasising an imperishable sentiment that makes the person wearing it a willing slave to their love for another. But do we really have to be in love in order to wear one? Must we belong to someone? Be faithful and devoted to the person we have opened our heart to? Absolutely not, thank goodness! Let's leave the fascinating symbolism and meanings to history or those

who now romantically embody it and learn to wear what we like most, with freedom and happiness! And with love, of course, but also simply because this type of jewel pleases us.

So take a look at the most sensual bracelet ever made – yes, the slave bracelet gives women an intense sensuality, mostly because it always tends to evoke that past, enduring sense of ownership, but also because it's wonderfully feminine if worn in a hot season that allows us to bare our arms and show off this jewel to its best effect. Little wonder that in Mediaeval times, when fashion imposed long sleeves and decorated wrists, the wearing of bracelets almost disappeared from use, only to reappear during the Renaissance with garments that left the arms almost completely naked. I'd say that the most sensual slave bracelet is worn above the elbow, and is in the form of a more or less stylised serpent, coiled around itself and the forearm – a super-sexy effect, especially over sun-bronzed skin. I'd



Giunco is a slave bracelet by VHERNIER in interwoven strips of white gold edged in diamonds



Left, the Alga bracelet by AGAPANTHUS is in 9-carat yellow gold. Above, With the inevitable name of Eden, this rose gold and black ceramic serpent bracelet is by DAMIANI



also say it can be worn with almost anything – in summer, any look that leaves the arms uncovered will be the perfect choice, from the most classic and masculine like jeans and a white blouse or Oxford shirt with rolled-up sleeves with our bracelet rigid and high on the wrist to a long, vaguely gypsy sleeveless dress or chemise with slim shoulder straps and the bracelet – serpent shaped is best - wrapped around the forearm. So all in all it's the quintessential summer accessory, and the slave bracelet, precious or simple, will suit all of us, slaves of love with promises of eternal adoration or singles for life with a desire to seduce and bewitch. Worn on the wrist or forearm, no other jewel is anywhere near as seductive.