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## Roland Mouret opens 8 Carlos Place



roland mouret 8 carlos place

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Today, Roland Mouret opens his eponymous London residence, Roland Mouret at 8 Carlos Place – all six gorgeous Grade I Listed Edwardian storeys of it.

Yesterday, the designer himself (the NICEST man in fashion!) treated *Bazaar* to an exclusive tour from the ground floor salon housing those iconic dresses: the *Moon*, the *Galaxy* and the *Pigalle* through to the 'lab' of unisex knitwear and Mouret's new handmade aviator sunglasses line (made in different head sizes like gloves) and menswear at the rear of the store.

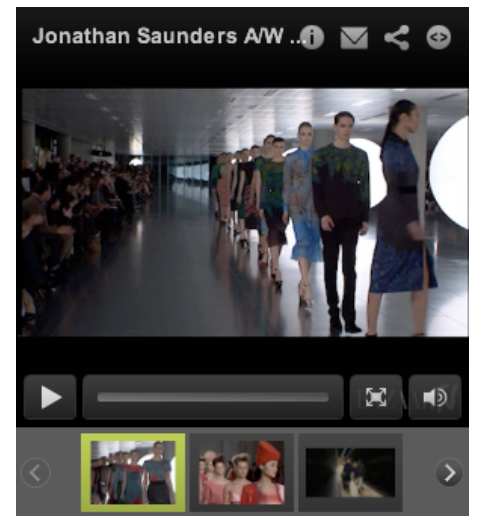
The interiors concept was created by Roland's old friend, Jerome Dodd, owner of Notting Hill antique store *Les Couilles du Chien* (The dog's bollocks) with seemingly contradictory metal piping creating a visual flow from room to room lending the space real continuity – "It's an abstraction of metal and 70's modern furniture."

Mouret adores the surrealist movement and a lobster encased in Perspex sits on a mantelpiece – the lobster, he says, "is the perfect symbol of fashion" as espoused by Dali to Isabella Blow and Lady Gaga.

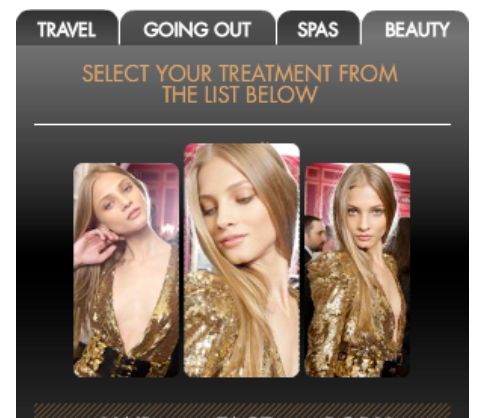
And up we go to the first floor housing the current spring/summer collection and the *Myrtha* – this season's 'it dress' – the point of which is to "make woman feel really sexy but at the same time to make them feel themselves." We stop to help the side out



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them reel themselves. We stop to help the girls put up the curtains in a fitting room – Roland gallantly climbs the ladder himself – and then we're off again but not before Mouret runs a finger along a windowsill and shows off the dust with a disapproving nod – "I'm a virgo, what can I say?"

"Six storeys and no lift", Mouret observes as we climb further still past the showroom and up to eves his atelier and finally his studio right in the attic –

completely empty save a desk and a tailor's dummy set before a wall-to-wall mirror. Dave the dog snoozes in his basket next door and wiggles in delight as his master tickles his tummy: "He's a French dog, he's such a flirt".

Mouret loves the house like a person from the rose balustrade in the entrance hall to the mimosa tree outside ("so *Breakfast at Tiffany's*"). He also loves the fact that the house is to be a laboratory for the development of new products and new lines. He feels that he has reached a perfect balance in himself between the creative and the commercial: "It's not about the money you're making, it's the legacy you're leaving - honestly I'm so blessed," he laughs, "sometimes I feel I should be a monk."

A monk with a penchant for 1970's surrealism, a compulsive virgo streak and a genius appreciation of the female form.

By *Stephanie Hirschmiller*

EDITORS' Q&A

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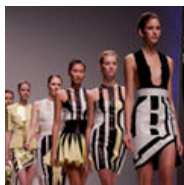
**Kristen Stewart wearing RM by Roland Mouret**

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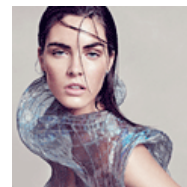
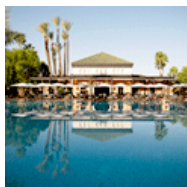
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