

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, July 24, 2020



Episode 5 Launches Today

Noseprints Against The Glass: Windows by Simon Doonan and LVMH's Faye McLeod and Ansel Thompson

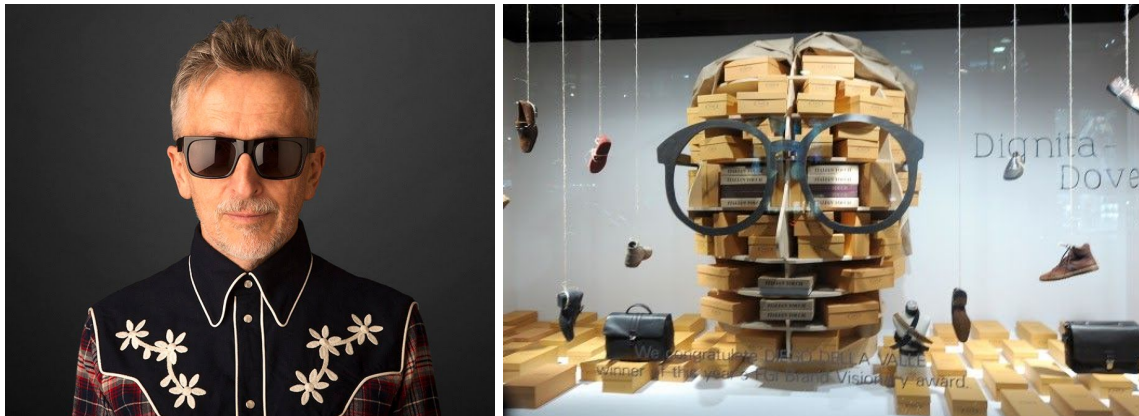
[LISTEN](#)

Beverly Hills, CA- As luxury boutiques on Rodeo Drive reopen to the world, the fifth episode of *Rodeo Drive-The Podcast* launches today. ***Noseprints Against The Glass: Windows by Simon Doonan and LVMH's Faye McLeod and Ansel Thompson*** explores window shopping as an art form for everyone to enjoy, even in an era of phone gazing and online retail. Three legendary window designers talk about their work: **Simon Doonan**, CFDA award-winning former Creative Director for Barneys, author and judge on NBC's "Making It", and **Faye McLeod** and **Ansel Thompson** from LVMH's Visual Image Studio. Hear them talk about the three-second rule, and what it takes to create boutique windows that astonish passersby– from rats in tuxedos to collaborations with world-renowned visionaries, among them Louis Vuitton Men's Artistic Director **Virgil Abloh**, architect **Frank Gehry** and Japanese artist **Yayoi Kusama**.



McLeod and Thompson also talk about designing during the pandemic -- with children painting rainbows as part of a recent campaign for Louis Vuitton's Rodeo Drive flagship and stores around the world -- and how global awareness, sustainability and ideas of street theater are finding expression in storefront windows that capture today's visual culture.

"How do you appear to be sensitive to all the things that are going on...while also wanting to distract people and make them feel that life is hedonistic and fun?" asks Doonan. Find out on this episode of *Rodeo Drive-The Podcast*.



"Rodeo Drive is open to a new norm with retailers going above and beyond to create a safe shopping experience and innovative window design," says **Kathy Gohari** Rodeo Drive Committee Vice President. "It's no longer about just putting a mannequin in the window. Expectations are higher, people are looking for experiences, and our goal is to feed your soul."



Rodeo Drive began as little more than a bridle path. Pioneering designers, hoteliers and entrepreneurs transformed it into a rival to New York's Fifth Avenue - with sun, palm trees and Hollywood sizzle. Hosted by fashion author and broadcaster Bronwyn Cosgrave, *Rodeo Drive -The Podcast* takes listeners behind the scenes with international luminaries, retailers and chroniclers capturing the creativity, showmanship and glamour of those who made the inimitable Rodeo Drive, and those, in today's complex climate, who are charting its future and making change.

Rodeo Drive-The Podcast connects listeners around the world with up to date stories about the past, present and future of the renowned three-block stretch in Beverly Hills.

Previous episodes of *Rodeo Drive-The Podcast* explore the legacy of Giorgio Beverly Hills, Academy Award-winning costume designer Ruth E. Carter's perspective on fashion and protest, Michael Chow's timeless design for Giorgio Armani and the rise of the House of Bijan.

Episodes in this series are released twice monthly. Listen, subscribe, rate and review *Rodeo Drive – The Podcast* on Apple Podcasts, wherever you get your podcasts and at rodeodrive-bh.com.

About Simon Doonan

Simon Doonan is the author of many books, including *How To Be Yourself*, to be published this Fall by Phaidon. He won the prestigious CFDA award for his work as Creative Director for Barneys New York. He is currently a judge on the Emmy-nominated NBC series 'Making It'. Simon lives in New York City with his partner, the ceramicist and designer Jonathan Adler, and their rescue-mutt Foxy lady.

About Faye McLeod

Faye McLeod is a self-proclaimed dreamer and the Visual Image Director for LVMH responsible for the ideation and creation of the world-renowned Louis Vuitton Windows. McLeod, who last year celebrated ten years with the French luxury house, started her career creating windows and visual merchandising for department stores. As her career evolved, her creativity and daring became more pronounced – pre Vuitton projects include commissioning Andrew Foster to graffiti the Liberty Building in 2003.

Since joining Louis Vuitton, Faye has built a studio of creative talent based in London and Paris and, leading this team, has created many extraordinary window schemes, including collaborations with Frank Gehry, Daniel Buren, Yayoi Kusama and the Chapman Brothers. In 2015, Assouline published a 168-page hardback retrospective entitled *Louis Vuitton Windows* documenting her savoir faire. Amongst the most recognised projects is the resplendent golden sun constructed across the façade of the Maison Louis Vuitton Vendome for the 2017 opening, and the giant statue created for the Rodeo Drive Louis Vuitton store to celebrate the launch of Virgil Abloh's first collection for Louis Vuitton.

Having lived in Paris and New York, Faye is now based in London, although California and specifically Los Angeles hold a very special place in her heart.

About Ansel Thompson

Ansel Thompson has worked for LVMH for over nine years as the Design/Art Director within the Visual image Studio. Working with a multidisciplinary team of designers, his aim is to nourish, nurture and direct the creative process. Ansel studied Industrial Design (BA) at Central Saint Martins and continued at the University of the Arts London as part of a socially responsive, practice-based research initiative and returned as a visiting lecturer. Before working for Louis Vuitton, Ansel ran his own design and construction studio in London working across multiple disciplines.

Image credits from top: Louis Vuitton Rainbow Project on Rodeo Drive, courtesy Louis Vuitton; Louis Vuitton Maison Seoul designed by Frank Gehry, courtesy Louis Vuitton; portrait of Simon Doonan photo by Joe Gaffney; window at Barney's New York by Simon Doonan celebrating Diego Della Valle's Brand Visionary Award, photo by Michael Loccisano/Getty Images; portrait of Ansel Thompson, courtesy Louis Vuitton; portrait of Faye McLeod, courtesy Louis Vuitton.

Podcast credits

Host Bronwyn Cosgrave

Editors, Frances Anderton and Avishay Artsy.

Theme music by Brian Banks.

Production Coordinators, Livia Mandoul, Mirabelle Alan and Guthrie McCarty-Vachon.

Executive Producer, Lyn Winter.

***Rodeo Drive - The Podcast* is presented by the Rodeo Drive Committee with the support of the City of Beverly Hills.**

The Rodeo Drive Committee

Founded in 1972, Rodeo Drive, Inc., also known as The Rodeo Drive Committee is a 501 C (6) non-profit organization, that provides a forum where its members—consisting of retailers, hoteliers, and landowners—can engage, share a dialogue, and help shape the present and future of the iconic, world-famous shopping destination.

For further information about *Rodeo Drive -The Podcast* contact:

[Lyn Winter, Inc., rodeodrive@lynwinter.com](mailto:rodeodrive@lynwinter.com)

[**IMAGES**](#)

<http://rodeodrive-bh.com/>

@rodeodrive

#onlyonrodeodrive #rodeodrivethepodcast

***** ENDS*****