



CEO & Publisher of the Vogue Arabia, Shashi Menon poses for the camera at the magazine office at the Dubai Design District in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.



Mohammad Hazem Rezq, one of the Vogue staff works behind his desk at the magazine office at the Dubai Design District in Dubai.

## Vogue Arabia appoints new editor after abrupt 2-issue exit

The local publisher of Vogue Arabia announced Manuel Arnaut as its new editor-in-chief yesterday, a day after the surprise exit of its former editor. Arnaut is currently the editor-in-chief of Architectural Digest Middle East, which like Vogue Arabia is a publication of Conde Nast International. Dubai-based publisher Nervora, which publishes Vogue Arabia in partnership with Conde Nast, said Arnaut will start in his new role on May 7. Arnaut, who hails from Portugal, previously held posts at Vogue Portugal, GQ Portugal, as well as having had his work published in Vogue and GQ Brazil. The luxury fashion magazine's edition for the Middle East had published just two print issues when it was reported Thursday that its editor-in-

chief, Saudi Princess Deena Aljuhani Abdulaziz, was no longer in the post. She was quoted in a statement to insider fashion website Business of Fashion saying she was fired because she refused to compromise on her vision for the magazine. "It had initially been my intention to build this important and groundbreaking edition of Vogue from inception to a mature magazine in line with others in the Vogue stable," she said, before adding that she felt the publisher's approach conflicted with the traditional values that underpin the region.

The inaugural print edition published in March featured American supermodel Gigi Hadid on the cover and included a section entirely in Arabic. In an interview last month with The Associated Press

in her Dubai office, Abdulaziz discussed the idea behind Hadid wearing an embellished, mesh veil on the cover. "I don't want Vogue Arabia to just be another regional magazine. I definitely want it to be a global one as well, especially in this political climate. I think it's very important," the mother of three had said. Her surprise departure comes just days after Abdulaziz posted on Instagram images from the magazine's launch party held recently in Doha, Qatar. — AP

**This undated photo released by Vogue Arabia, shows the cover of the March 2017 edition of Vogue Arabia magazine with American supermodel Gigi Hadid in an embellished, mesh veil. — AP photos**



## DOCUMENTARY CHRONICLES BOSTON, 'GRANDDADDY OF ALL MARATHONS'

What's the planet's most legendary marathon? Probably that fabled first one Pheidippides ran in 490 BC, breathlessly proclaiming a great military victory before perishing from his effort. Next in line? Surely the Boston Marathon, whose colorful 121-year history is captured in a movie premiering Saturday in its host city. Narrated by Matt Damon, "Boston," the first feature-length documentary about the race, tells how it grew from 15 runners in 1897 to become the globe's most venerable footrace. The world premiere at the Boch Center's Wang Theatre, where the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra will conduct a live performance of Emmy-winning composer Jeff Beal's score, comes two days before Monday's running of the marathon. The film will be screened at 450 theaters around the US on Wednesday.

"The Boston Marathon is a truly iconic sporting event," said director Jon Dunham, a marathoner who calls it "the granddaddy of all marathons." "It's unique in the world of marathons, and in fact it transcends the world of marathons," he said. The 2013 bombings near the finish line that killed three spectators and wounded more than 260 others aren't the focus of the film, but neither are they a footnote. Dunham had 56 cameras rolling along the course in 2014 to record the euphoria of athletes from around the world essentially reclaiming the marathon, paced by Meb Keflezighi, the first American winner in 31 years.

Mostly, though, the documentary is devoted to the Boston Marathon's rich lore. The Boston Athletic Association, which organizes the race, gave Dunham exclusive rights to its archive of photos, video and marathon memorabilia. Through the ages, the marathon has mirrored society's idiosyncrasies:

1. Some of the first to run it - all men - thought steak and whiskey gave them a competitive advantage. Chuck Mellor, the 1925 winner, ran the entire race with a cheek full of

chewing tobacco.

2. Seven-time champion Clarence DeMar's doctors warned him to stop running because they were convinced it weakened the heart.
3. A race official had to pay 1939 winner Tarzan Brown's \$1 entry fee after he showed up penniless at the start line.

There's a direct tie to Pheidippides' run as a foot soldier relaying word of the Greeks' victory over the Persians in the Battle of Marathon. When the first modern Olympic marathon was run in 1896, retracing Pheidippides' steps from Marathon to Athens, members of the US team - many of them Bostonians - marveled at the event and came home determined to duplicate it here the following year.

"They said, 'Boston is the Athens of the West' - we want our own marathon," Tom Derderian, an acclaimed running coach and author who served as an executive producer for the documentary, says in the film. "Boston" also chronicles how women broke through the gender barrier, starting with Bobbi Gibb in 1966 and Kathrine Switzer the following year. Both, as well as Sara Rae Berman, ran before women were allowed to register for the 1972 race. Four-time Olympian Shalane Flanagan, who posted the fastest time ever for an American woman on the course in 2014, appears in the film and captures Boston's spirit. "There's no one who can watch the Boston Marathon and not be inspired somehow by someone," she says. — AP

**In this April 19, 1930 file photo, veteran marathoner Clarence DeMar, of the Melrose American Legion Post, crosses the finish line to win the Boston Marathon in the last of his record seven wins in Boston. — AP**

