

PHOTOGRAPHY ADAM WHITEHEAD



CREATIVE DIRECTION CHRISTOPHER WHALE

STYLING CATHERINE HAYWARD

Craft class

With modern artisanship and glamorous flair, classic style will always make a sartorial splash –

especially when matched with the head-turning panache of J Craft's timeless Torpedo



Previous pages: cotton T-shirt, £80, studiosorensen.com; recycled nylon shorts, £135, chestudios.co.uk; sunglasses, £214, persol.com

This page: merino-alpaca sweater, £345, linen shorts, £225, both orlebarbrown.com; Superocean Automatic watch, from £4,200, breitling.com

Opposite page: merino wool zipper bomber jacket, £295, thomaspink.com; sunglasses by Persol, as before; Superocean Automatic watch by Breitling, as before



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Cotton polo top, £165, thomaspink.com; linen shorts, £110, lucafaloni.com; Superocean Automatic watch by Breitling, as before

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This page: Sophie wears wool jumpsuit, £4,500, brunellocucinelli.com. Duncan wears linen suit, £669, and cotton grandad shirt, £139, both oliverspencer.co.uk; sunglasses, £166, ray-ban.com; Superocean Automatic watch by Breitling, as before

Opposite page: Sophie wears cashmere sweater, £449, ralphlauren.co.uk; silk shorts, £160, casaraki.com. M11 camera, £7,800, with Summicron 50mm lens, £2,300, both leica-camera.com



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*Sophie wears swimsuit, £485,
cotton/silk shorts, £695,
both dolcegabbana.com; cotton
shirt, £125, thomaspink.com.
Duncan wears cotton knitted
polo top, £165, thomaspink.com;
shorts, £195, orlebarbrown.com;
Superocean Automatic watch
by Breitling, as before*



*Duncan wears striped linen trousers,
£610, smrdays.com; Superocean
Automatic watch by Breitling, as before*

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This page: Duncan wears hooded sailing jacket, £755, moncler.com; sunglasses, £166, ray-ban.com

Opposite page: Duncan wears seersucker shorts, £89, mrm Jarvis.com; Superocean Automatic watch by Breitling, as before. Sophie wears cardigan, £190, chestudios.co.uk; bikini, £90, prislondon.com; sunglasses by Persol, as before



The J Craft Torpedo has been propelled by design as well as devotion, discovers Peter Howarth

When Radenko Milakovic saw his first J Craft it was, as they say, love at first sight. “I was in Monaco in 2007 and looked out from my balcony and there was this boat below. I had no idea what it was, but it looked so beautiful – all elegant polished wood and curves, but somehow substantial too. I rushed downstairs to speak to the guy on board.”

What he learned was that this was a J Craft, a Swedish boat named after its inventor, Björn Jansson. It was a rare beast, one of only a handful that had been made on the Swedish island of Gotland since 1999, and other owners included the King of Sweden. “I knew nothing about boats and had never even thought of owning one, but I loved the sea,” confesses Milakovic, a former banker and hedge fund manager, as we sit on the terrace of his summer home on Shelter Island in the Hamptons. Down below, bobbing gently at a small wooden jetty is his J Craft, now 13 years old. But Milakovic is no mere fan (though he is very much that too): he owns the Swedish company, and his boat – a 12.8-metre J Craft Torpedo – is an early hull of a new generation of design he introduced during 2009 that evolved the original

into what he describes, with characteristic straightforwardness, as an immensely capable but “idiot-proof” vessel. Milakovic explains how after his Monaco encounter he rented the boat he’d seen for a week, which turned into three months. Then he bought one. “I had this idea that I wanted to pilot her myself, but it turned out to be rather hard. She was not easy to manoeuvre, especially for a beginner.” Intrigued, he sought out the firm’s founder in Sweden to request modifications, but discovered that Jansson was ill and lacked the energy to change his design. After lengthy deliberations, Milakovic offered to take on the company and promised to preserve Jansson’s vision of hand-building these classic-in-appearance, yet extremely modern and seaworthy boats, in small quantities on Gotland, using the skills of only a handful of artisans.

Working with the firm’s master builder, Johan Hallén, a native of Gotland, and in close co-operation with the engineers from Volvo Penta, the team rethought the underwater hull design, replacing the original straight shaft Yanmar propulsion system with the Volvo Penta IPS system, featuring two pod-mounted forward-

facing props, making the Torpedo one of the most manoeuvrable vessels on the market.

By 2009 the firm’s new owner had produced the first Torpedo, which had the looks of Jansson’s original creation, but now was easy to drive. Hallén explains that its independent forward-facing propellers, when manoeuvred using a joystick, enable the boat to turn in all directions.

“The J Craft is pretty, but she can sail in the open sea and is certified to withstand four-metre waves,” Hallén adds. “We’ve frequently sailed Torpedos to far-flung destinations across the open seas, be that the Baltic Sea, North Sea, South China Sea or the Atlantic,” adds Milakovic, “though most of our clients prefer the Med. If you want to journey around Greece or Capri – or the Hamptons – this is perfect.”

As for the future, Milakovic is all about enhancing performance and achieving sustainability. Already the boatyard has its own solar power source and the Torpedo’s fibreglass hull is now near fully recyclable. Next, he’s looking at alternative power sources including diesel electric and hydrogen. But always for a boat that looks like a queen of the Riviera. j-craftboats.com

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Models: Duncan Macrae and Sophie Pumfrett; digital tech: Henry Huntingford; hair and make-up: Ciona Johnson King at Aartlondon using Charlotte Tilbury, BioEffect, La Mer, Philip Kingsley & Color Wow. Special thanks to Radenko Milakovic, Tibor Tazlari, Johan Hallén and Peter Howarth