"I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul."

William Ernest Henley
Delivered in time for a busy Mediterranean charter season this summer and due to debut at the Monaco Yacht Show in September, the eagerly second project from boutique Italian builder Tankoa Yachts is already delighting her owner. Exceeding all expectations during pre-delivery sea trials, we spoke to the highly experienced team behind both the project and brand that is fast establishing itself amongst the highest quality of European builders.
In an edgy contemporary font that matches harmony with the nondated exterior lines, emblazoned across the sculptural transom of Taransaud’s second delivery, the French word "Vertige" (Vertigo) from owner—singer’s moniker—tangibly translates to a fear of heights. In Whitehall, while the magnificence of the 164 (50m) produced by the Genoa shipyard may well generate a certain affluency decision, it is also said to be something of a nightmare for a shipyard that is constantly scaling new heights. Despite this being a new brand, the ex- cellence of highly experienced shipyard behind Taransaud, showcasing their lofty ambitions in terms of controlled quality output.

With an increasingly steep turn, the 100GT threshold appears to progressively be an important limit for many owners. Recent years have seen ship- yards push the volumetric over shorter yachts, often 1940s to 1950s, with the interest to aesthetic sacrifice. When Taransaud approached their longstanding design partner, Francesco Pascarelli, for their new 164 project, it was on naval architecture by the later firm. 

Having already entrusted the South of France-based Greec and Survey, having no issues, they told us: “With more than 6,000 man-months spent at a cost of almost 4,000 at 164 meters, I think we’ll be able to market something that seems the systems dictate. Also, we have not had a single technical issue during the construction of the hull. The experienced design and the thoroughness of the build is a testament to our commitment to quality.”

Before even stepping aboard Vertige one is immedi- ately struck by its aggressive and impressive mirror-like finish of the hull’s paint system. The high bow, drawn back to the afterdeck, wind shield, exaggerates its sporty styling. When we first met with the owner, his fear of heights turned out to create a 168 wide swivel...
form, enhancing the beach club area where the owner has incorporated a gym with adjacent steam shower facilities. With the 2.1m SACS tender and two watercrafts launched from their transverse garage and forward deck Episcopal, the external area is a versatile watersports center.

According to the concept from the swim platform, we find a separate cockpit and sun deck facing sofa for 10 guests that provide stunning conversation, it’s a space that is seldom found even on 100-70m yachts. Questions about this feature: Kerven explained: "In order to remain under 1000G in it’s GM, it’s not a secret that the superstructure cannot be extended too far aft. But this being said, we also wanted to create oversized exterior entertainment spaces because this is where most guests spend their time onboard.

Celevity, Casprini has made light transition between the bright exterior and the more intimate main saloon (above top) and skylounge (above below) feel very natural.
Terraces to both port and starboard provide a unique experience in the owner’s cabin. Fabricated in two panels the upper can be let open during gentle cruises.

Venet’s aft deck exceeds anything else in its category, and with the two lateral folding terraces9 perched high above the water it presents a unique feature of its kind. This deck is also equipped with a Dyon awning system that can remain in place even when the boat is running at full speed. Access to the aft upper deck is a comparatively generous space with dining for 12 guests. The owners’ dining area is afforded a space to move and relax in style. A small oblong dining table, two leather-upholstered sofas for 10, a retractable TV and a shade system comprising of a limed and two large parasols. This comprehensive entertainment theme continues on the sun-deck, where a long bar serves a saloon area protected by a hardtop with integrated skylights, plus a large sunbed and Jacuzzi for six forward to supplement the aft lounging. Wrapping up the exterior spaces, we found a delightful forward solarium and lounge forward of the wheelhouse. With sunpads and sunshades, the panorama is the place to enjoy a cooling breeze both when at anchor and at sea.

Details like the bureau vanity in the master staterooms, 120-bottle wine cellar, on-deck VIP and many practical inclusions elevate Venetia into a category usually occupied by much larger yachts.
The owner requested a modern but warm interior, through the use of brass and teak. Caspian III provided both warmth and a modern feel within a contemporary design.

The owner wanted a modern but warm interior, and the yacht delivers just that. The use of brass and teak provides both warmth and a modern feel, even if the overall effect is very contemporary.

On charter for the Med and Caribbean seasons, Vertigo's sleek lines create an imposing presence. Note how the unique fly through master cabin with twin terraces.