

lucire

NOVEMBER 2004

Helen Talbot

The creative
spirit of the New
Zealand designer

Brushing
up on beauty
Good foundations

That girl at Tiffany's

Lightly she goes

Red hot
From hair to
accessories
and everything
in between

The circuit
Previewing
catwalks in
Auckland,
New York,
San Francisco,
Stockholm and
Melbourne

The
Maldives
Six senses in
paradise

Getting
scent-sual
New season,
new scents

Tahiti
Win a trip
in this issue

true style

Greater causes

We've reviewed family vacations and we examined self-indulgence. Still feeling empty? How about helping the planet? Our allies at the UNEP have just the programme COMPILED BY Jack Yan



FAR LEFT: "Earthdiving" among the turtles. **LEFT:** Fish swimming in coral. **BELOW FAR LEFT:** Sunset over Angkor Wat galleries. **BELOW LEFT:** The west entrance of Angkor Wat.



United Nations
Environment Programme
Lucire is the UNEP's first
Fashion Industry Partner



Diving, Auckland, New Zealand.

Half the membership fees go to marine conservation projects. Members sign an international petition, demanding action to protect the oceans, which will be delivered to the UN in 2005.

WAY ANGKOR For years, the **ruins at Angkor** have not been readily accessible due to Cambodia's less than safe political situation. These days, these ninth- to thirteenth-century temples are now safe to travel to, reiterates Bangkok's **Circle of Asia** travel agency general manager, Chankit Yongpiyakul.

It seems a shame to miss the ruins for those travelling to Thailand. The city of **Siem Reap** is an hour's flight from Bangkok and has a large selection of hotels that range from backpackers' guest houses to five-star. There's still plenty of French food—a hangover from its colonial days—and pleasant tree-lined boulevards. Plus it's only four miles from the main ruins.

The **Angkor Wat** is a massive square

structure covering 500 acres. It represents a Hindu conception of the universe, with 400 m hallways and a central tower over 200 m tall. The structure features thousands of bas relief sculptures.

Within walking distance is the former city of **Angkor Thom**, which rivalled ancient Rome in size and population. Inside is the Bayon, with its many towers featuring more than 200 huge faces of what are believed to be the god-king Jayavarman, rendered as Boddhisatva.

Circle of Asia can supply packages including a budget tour for eight days and seven nights, via www.circleofasia.com.

If you feel two- and three-star hotels are really slumming it, then the **Raffles Grand Hotel d'Angkor** is about as good as it gets in town. Built some 75 years ago, this is part of the Raffles group, and has been lovingly restored. Inside are eight restaurants and bars, a business centre, treatment rooms, a gym, sauna, Jacuzzi and steam bath facilities. See www.raffles.com or call 855 63 963-888. This is proper five-star. •

THIS MONTH, you can enjoy travelling our world while helping the planet.

Chris Long, the man behind Run the World—a mass event in 1986 to help Africa through its famine—has created a new initiative, **Earthdive**. The idea: professional and amateur divers are being encouraged to help monitor the marine environment, including coral reefs and mangrove swamps.

'Earthdive wants people with an interest in diving to understand that what they see under the oceans is not just beautiful, it also sustains human life, and they can help to preserve it by simply recording what they see,' he said.

Member divers can record their findings at www.earthdive.com, contributing data on key indicator species to build a Global Dive Log, sponsored by **P&O**. You'd be sustaining fashion, too: there's a trade in black coral, turtle shells and cowries that really shouldn't happen.

Some of the top diving locations for Earthdive projects are Nassau, Bahamas, Canouan Island in the West Indies, and, with **Polaris**

Jack Yan is founding publisher of *Lucire*.



McCAN19702

THE BOMBAY SAPPHIRE MARTINI. AS REVOLUTIONISED BY KARIM RASHID.

TEN BOTANICALS + UNIQUE DISTILLATION METHOD = GIN, ONLY BETTER.



LEFT: Room service, Soneva Gili style. **BELOW LEFT:** Drinks by the pool side. **BELOW:** Sun lounging in one of the Resort's suites. **OPPOSITE PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:** The Crusoe Residences. The villa suite by night. The Soneva Gili bar delivers a drink.

Six senses in paradise

Paradises still exist, as **Nicola Brockie** writes, with the Soneva Gili Resort in the Maldives fulfilling at least one of her fantasies

Nicola Brockie is editor-in-chief of *Lucire*.

IN TODAY'S TROUBLED WORLD one could not be blamed for wanting to stop the world and get off at some point in time—if only for a brief taste of that most luxurious of necessities—doing *absolutely* nothing. I am sure at some stage we have all wished we could fulfil a desert island fantasy whether it be of the *Gilligan's Island* variety or more Brooke Shields *à la Blue Lagoon*. To be castaway with nothing but all pleasures horizontal to be achieved through the long, languid days in the sun—from snorkelling in turquoise waters to sun-bedding away with a banana daiquiri and a gritty novel. I have found this fantasy—I ticked it off on my fantasies fulfilled list (no, you can't see what I still have outstanding!). Save your pennies, pack your bags and leave your Manolos at home because it's time for some barefoot luxury in what I have come to know as one of the most beautiful spots on earth.

Sprawling over 800 km and set like precious gems on the vast aquamarine canvas painted by the Indian Ocean, 400 nautical miles southwest of the southern tip of India and Sri Lanka, this group comprising some 1,190 isles are the peaks of a sunken land straddling the equator named the Maldives. One hundred and ninety-nine of these low lying atolls are inhabited with 87 resorts surrounded by a halo of sugar-

sand beaches and crystal turquoise seas cloaked in lush palm groves providing the ultimate in island hideaways. Some are so small they can be circumnavigated in less than eight minutes. Here there are no hawkers, no traffic noise, no crime and no pollution. And whilst this is a fabulous place, you will also outlay fabulous amounts of money, so be sure to come prepared and with a healthy wallet ready to spend. This is one place on earth which delivers what it promises in the glossy brochures and, in fact, surpasses all expectations in real life.

My Maldivian escape was to be at none other than **Soneva Gili Resort and Six Senses Spa**, the first-ever all-over-water resort in the Maldives, which opened its doors in May 2002 with the intention of providing a luxurious back-to-nature experience, Robinson Crusoe-style. The resort is a member of the Small Luxury Hotels of the World chain and is set on the private tropical island of Lankanfushi—a tiny coral island in a sparkling lagoon with jetties threading out across the water to spacious stilted villas (44 in total). Located 15 minutes from the capital of the Maldives, Male, Soneva Gili is easily accessible by speedboat from Male International Airport. Believe me, you won't want to wait any longer than 15 minutes to get there!

Before setting one bare foot on Lankanfushi, the people at Soneva Gili



TOP PHOTO: CARL PENNIE; KATTIPONG PANCHEE & VICHIT YANTAPANIT; OPPOSITE PAGE AND INSET: ULLI SCHONART. COURTESY SONEVA GILI



All of your wishes will be arranged so that when you step into your villa, your choice of music will be playing, your chosen pillow type will await your weary head on your rose-petal-scattered bed and your favourite drink will be chilling nicely in the cooler



will *know* you—before your departure, all of your wishes and whims will be arranged via email so when you step into your villa, your prearranged choice of music will be playing, your chosen pillow type will await your weary head on your rose-petal-scattered bed and your favourite drink will be chilling nicely in the cooler. Pinch yourself—it's all real although it won't feel that way at first.

On arrival your shoes will be whisked away (there is a no-shoes policy so you can feel the powdery sand underfoot), you will be inducted to your new island home with a tropical cocktail and a smile before being escorted to your villa by a houseboy—these unobtrusive helpers called M. Fridays will remain discreetly on hand for anything you will need throughout the duration of your stay and have a charming way of anticipating your needs, often before you have even thought of them yourself.

Here, the people are as warm as the weather, which gives the Maldives its great charm. By law, hotels must employ at least 70 per cent local staff so even the highest-end resorts manage to retain the relaxed feel of the Maldivian people. This is a place where resort managers will happily greet you with bare feet and a wide smile. After a day or two, even the most hardened city slicker cannot help but to follow suit.

Environmentally focused

SONEVA GILI, and its creators Sonu and Eva Shivasdani, pride themselves on providing an experience of 'intelligent luxury' at their resorts. In spite of this luxury, they have taken every measure possible to retain the harmony of life at the water's edge with environmental preservation at the forefront of everything they do.

This resort—and all in the Six Senses group—are committed to protect-

ing the fragile environment. When Soneva Gili was developed, it was done with a comprehensive environmental infrastructure in place to ensure the preservation of the natural vegetation and the beauty of the island.

Guests are briefed on arrival on environmental issues including energy and waste conservation, passive solar heating is used in all buildings, clever architecture has allowed for good cross-ventilation to reduce the need for air-conditioning and there is a desalination plant to convert seawater to usable water for the resort. Ceramic pans filled with saltwater from the lagoon are provided for washing the feet before entering one's villa to reduce the need for cleaning; the list goes on.

Stilted lovers

IN LINE with this environmental philosophy, each villa is crafted in traditionally thatched style from natural materials, which offer rooftop and over-water sun decks for balmy nights, under skies lit by flaming orange sunsets and days languishing in the tranquillity. You will find open-air bathrooms, sumptuous day beds and discreetly concealed high-tech equipment. Some villas have portholes in the floor, floodlit at night so that you might spot something tropical on your way to the minibar. Baths are all big enough for two.

For those with a little more solitude on the mind, you can choose to stay in one of seven available Crusoe Residences. These Residences are free-standing in the Indian Ocean with more than 20 m between each for absolute privacy. If having your own private 250 m² abode on stilts above the ocean only accessible by private canoe appeals, you will love the Crusoe Residences which are fully kitted out with everything a castaway of the new millennium would ever wish for: anyone for a freshly brewed espresso or fresh pineapple juice on the rooftop sun lounger? Or perhaps

VOLANTE FEATURE



ABOVE: The suite's lounge.
ABOVE RIGHT: The bedroom, with personalized pillows and a fabulous thread count. **FAR RIGHT:** A sand massage by the sea. **OPPOSITE PAGE:** One of the author's activities, kayaking.



the floating kitchen, Ever Soneva So Tasty, could call to deliver a fresh fruit platter at sunrise? For the only commuting you will be doing here is by personal canoe or pontoon boat between your villa and the jetty.

For yet another step up the luxury ladder (and in case J. Lo was thinking of paying a visit) there will be a new addition to Soneva Gili at the end of 2004 in the form of a 1400 ft² Presidential Suite called the Soneva Gili Private Reserve. This has been built on stilts over the lagoon and is made up of five separate buildings complete with private spa, wine cellar, two on-call M. Fridays with their own private quarters and a personal waterslide into the lagoon for the kids, amongst other amazing features.

This suite looks to be one of the largest presidential suites anywhere when complete, all in keeping with the resorts' eco-friendly rustic style. The Presidential Suite will be available year-round for the sum of US\$8,000 per night, or if you would like to save a few dollars for duty-free shopping, go in May or June when it is only US\$5,000 per night.

Aquatastic

THIS IS THE QUINTESSENTIAL FANTASY ISLAND DESTINATION we have all dreamed about with icing-sugar beaches, palm trees quivering in the breeze and the sea pulsing with all manner of exotic marine life—a magical, watery world where the fish are friendly and the ocean is warm. Adventure tourists need not apply—this is one place in the world where all you will want to do is relax and rejuvenate.

The snorkelling here is second to none in the world. Some argue it's the best diving paradise anywhere, but if that starts to wear thin and you find yourself craving some deeper sea action, the resort has its own PADI School where you can learn to dive. It beats the swimming pool in North London in the middle of winter where I learned.

Sadly, the Maldives has been under siege, not from tourism or war, but from Mother Nature. In 1997–8, due to a rise in a few degrees in temperature thought to be the effects of El Niño and global warming, much of the shallow water coral reef around the islands bleached and died. The good news is that in the past five years the marine population has again exploded. Whilst the glorious colours of the coral may be gone, this underwater world still gives *Finding Nemo* a run for its money. The deeper, cooler waters were not as affected.

Soneva Gili is passionate about conserving this fragile marine environment and has



Getting there

Travelling to the Maldives: Flight Centre quotes that flights (ex-Auckland) with Air Lanka for high season are NZ\$1,799 plus taxes. On Air Emirates, NZ\$1,815 plus taxes; high season, NZ\$2,349 plus taxes.

Soneva Gili can be booked at www.sixsenses.com/soneva-gili/, or through Small Luxury Hotels of the World agents (see www.slh.com).

implemented a sound environmental protection strategy, raising awareness of staff and the communities of neighbouring islands. A monitoring programme is in place to monitor the status of the corals in the house reef of the resort. Guests are taken on tours to provide awareness on health and care of the reefs surrounding the islands. In addition, there has been an active reef clean-up project, which began in 2003 to remove waste.

Fresh

TO OFFER SOMETHING other than a fabulous thread count and spectacular surrounds to their discerning guests, Sonu and Eva have cultivated an organic vegetable garden at the resort to ensure guests are getting nothing but the freshest and most wholesome of ingredients in the delicious cuisine provided at the resort. The dining experience as a whole is something quite special at Soneva Gili: not only is the spectacular food a real highlight but so, too, is the location and ambience.

One morning during our stay, we were taken by pontoon boat to our own private strip of sand in the Indian Ocean for breakfast. We arrived to find a low-lying table set with crisp white linen and scattered with seashells; we sat on cushions on the sand and ate a wonderful breakfast with the sea gently lapping at either side. If every day could start this way, I am sure the world would be a much calmer place!

Lunchtimes are spent in the all-over-water bar where one can peruse the sea life beneath the glass drinks tables or indulge in a desert island picnic. Night-time dining takes on a whole new meaning when you are sitting on your private deck eating dinner by moonlight under starry skies or cruising at sunset in a local *dhoni*. Both are experiences not to be missed. The settings are as memorable as the cuisine, which is fresh and innovative:

expect fresh breads, organic veggies, seafood and meats, all to wash down with some of the finest wines in the world.

The sixth sense

JUST WHEN I THOUGHT I was as much in heaven as I could be and not wanting to extricate myself from my stilted-villa heaven, I went along kicking and screaming to the Six Senses Spa, where at the hands of a bevy of professional masseurs and therapists I was pummelled and pampered into a catatonic state of relaxed bliss. If you are a spa junky, imagine being able to gaze down through a glass-panelled floor for views to the



lagoon beneath whilst you are being pampered.

The mission of the spa is to deliver experiences that are unique and memorable. The therapists will take you on an exhilarating sensory journey through a huge array of holistic healing and well-being treatments. Spa products are made only from natural ingredients in harmony with the environment. Australian skin care brand Sodashi, made with 100 per cent plant essences and extracts, has been selected for exclusive use at all Six Senses spas.

If you can't bear to leave your gorgeous villa, you can always indulge your senses in the privacy of your own bathroom by choosing to soak Cleopatra-style in real milk, or even have a bath in hot chocolate soak—it's all there for the taking should you wish to indulge yourself.

Romance is another thing Soneva Gili does exceptionally well. Even if you aren't a honeymooner, this place will make you feel as though you are: the spa descriptions alone are enough to make a couple feel amorous. From the spa menu you can choose to have an indulgent treatment with your partner such as the 'Adam and Eve'—the menu describes this as a 'Sensual and romantic getaway for two'. Two therapists in rhythm will perform a nurturing and truly relaxing massage using a special blend of Aphrodite essential oils to set the mood and a bottle of champagne provided to complete the experience.

It is recommended to book this treatment after an early dinner for a special evening together, or indulge in the luxury of a couple's aroma massage in a room full of candles with the sound of waves or simply under the stars.

No shoes is good news

WHILST I AM NOT THE TYPICAL VISITOR to Soneva Gili, and nor did I come here loved up with my sugar daddy, I took to the 'No news no shoes' policy like a duck to water and found myself melting very nicely into island time even resisting the urge to complain to management about the lack of traffic noise—I have wracked my brain for things to complain about but keep coming up blank. Am I relaxed? Check. Glowing from the insides out? Check. Come to think of it, I may have even lost a little weight—I sure know my wallet has, but it's all been worth it. It's been an outrageously decadent and surreal time and whilst I am leaving with a slightly bruised left arm (from having to pinch myself to make sure I was really here), I am otherwise intact and feeling like I never want to leave.

I recommend a stay here to any of my friends that can afford it and those who can't can live vicariously through my incessant goings-on. But what will I tell them when they ask what I did here? *Absolutely nothing*, naturally. •



Sonu and Eva: a marriage made in heaven, a resort made in paradise

A YOUNG SWEDISH MODEL travelled to the Maldives for a photo shoot and fell in love with the untouched beauty of a simple way of life. The white sands, clear, aqua water and warm climate also helped. A young British-born, Oxford educated man, also fell in love. And so was born a marriage made in heaven, but also a resort built in paradise.

Six Senses Hotels, Resorts & Spas was founded by Sonu Shivdasani with his wife Eva. He is an Old Etonian who has attended many management development programmes. Eva is a former top fashion model who has appeared on over 100 magazine covers including *Vogue*, *Marie Claire* and *Elle*. They met at the Monaco Grand Prix. They married and spent their honeymoon travelling around the world's most exclusive hotels and resorts. They'd made up their minds that they'd like to open a resort like no other, and the honeymoon served as a chance to view what was on offer around the globe.

Sonu had the means and the management expertise; Eva the style and design concepts. Together, this couple wanted to develop a resort that would satisfy their desires for a dream destination for those who liked to travel in luxurious style. They both also

had an overwhelming desire to protect the environment. What was conceived was a unique philosophy of simple sophistication and returning luxuriously to nature.

They bought an abandoned resort on a far flung 100-acre atoll (Kunfunadhoo Island) in the Maldives and set about creating their dream. Sonu and Eva drew on all their experiences when they planned the resort.

Eva took on the responsibility for the design; an ambitious project considering her only interior design experience had been renovating her own house in London. Eva's design initiatives ensure that each resort reflects the Six Senses' essence. Her attention

to detail is legendary amongst her colleagues.

Soneva Fushi was born in 1995, named after themselves. Soneva is an amalgam of Sonu and Eva; Fushi is the Maldivian word for island.

When it opened, Soneva Fushi established the benchmark for resorts in the Maldives. Nine years later, it remains the favoured retreat for a legion of high-profile guests. Once the resort opened and became successful, the couple discovered they had a flair for designing and running exclusive resorts.

They oversee the Six Senses Group and its brands: Soneva, Evason, Evason Hideaway and Six Senses Spas. •



ABOVE: Sonu and Eva Shivdasani, the founders of the Six Senses group, which includes Soneva Gili resort.

They married and spent their honeymoon travelling the world's most exclusive resorts. It served as a chance to view what was on offer around the globe

Life/Style

living the *lucire* way



Wearable music

Virgin Electronics has innovated again—this time with a **wearable** “silver-dollar”-sized **128 Mbyte MP3 player** that holds c. 40 songs. And, because it’s designed for humans and not boffins, it’s simple to use—just the thing for the busy WTG who doesn’t need to trouble herself with too many buttons (this has two). It comes with an armband and specially designed earbuds for wearing around the neck. Available for under US\$100, with more info at www.virginelectronics.com.



The camcorder for the Playstation generation

TRUST THE CHAPS at **Sony** to innovate again. Knowing that people prefer German lenses to Japanese ones, they’ve leap-frogged most of the competition with their Carl Zeiss Vario-Tessar lenses on their digital cameras and camcorders. This month, Sony’s **DCR-DVD301 camcorder** is filled with innovations, such as its ability to record directly to three-inch DVD-R and RW discs. They’ll then play in most DVD players as well as PlayStation 2 consoles. And if you need more for the US\$1,100 you’d pay for one of these beauties, they’ll take one-megapixel digital still photos, too.

Custom Vespas

Vespas—the anti-SUVs—are very popular amongst the trendy California set. At **San Francisco Fashion Week**, of which *Lucire* is a media partner, designers have taken to some Vespa scooters with their signature touches. **Christina Hurvis Couture, Loungewear Betty, Saffron Rare Threads** and **Rock & Republic** each created a custom Vespa reflecting the style and spirit of their collections shown in late August, and reviewed in next month’s *Lucire*.

Revealed at the Palace of Fine Arts with some proceeds to **Dress for Success**, Christina Hurvis showed a Vespa with Indian motifs symbolizing life and hope (*in white, at right*). Loungewear Betty’s Monni McCleary envisions Brigitte Bardot zipping down Mission Street on her Vespa (*above right*). Rock & Republic went more Harley-Davidson than Vespa with a rock ‘n’ roll-inspired job, and Saffron Rare Threads’ white *Saffron Ajira Vespa* is for the girl who ‘cruises from the conference room to the cocktail lounge—because the Saffron girl doesn’t have time to deal with parking!’



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A Mercedes-Benz to fight cancer

The new **Mercedes-Benz SLK 350** roadster is one of the most sought-after in the range. Sportier, it won't be the sole province of mistresses of rich men. It's made more appealing after we learned that Mercedes-Benz created 1,000 exclusive models to raise funds for Saks' **Key to the Cure** and the Entertainment Industry Foundation's **Women's Cancer Research Fund**. There's the option of Airscarf, a neck-level heating system. If it gets too hot, there's a show-off solution: the hardtop folds into the boot. Or trunk.



As you wish it

WE COULD WRITE a page on this wonderful new **Tissot High-T** watch for the US and Canada, for it's the biggest jump we can think of since the digital watch. Not only is the face's display customizable between digital and roman, you can get news, weather, personal messages, appointment reminders and stock quotes on it through **MSN Direct**. There's automatic time-zone adjustment, too. Tissot, which has been making watches for 150 years, has even built in an antenna into the watch, so after you hand over the retail US\$725, you can switch it on and be wired free for the first six months.

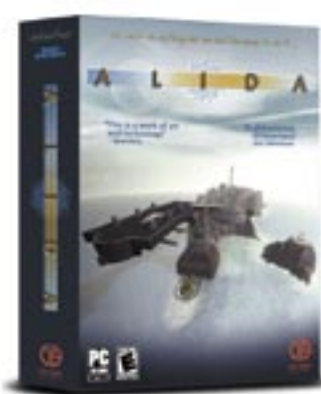
It's not cool to say, 'Breaker one-nine,' on it

XACT'S **Wristlinx X33X Timepiece and Two-Way Communicator** is an arm-band two-way communicator with 22 channels. It incorporates a radio with AM, FM, TV and weather bands, as well as a rechargeable lithium battery. The Wristlinx comes with a wide array of fashion-forward colours and is perfect for many situations, including boys and girls who want to chat with their friends at the mall or on the slope, parents wanting to keep an eye on their kids while enjoying a day at the park, at amusement parks, on school trips, trick-or-treating or just playing spy games. Priced between US\$30 and US\$40 at most major retailers or order toll-free at 1 866 466-XACT.—PHILLIP D. JOHNSON



Danish delight

VISITORS to Sweden may observe that furniture imports from across the water—or the Øresund Bridge—are quite favoured. **BoConcept**—you'll find them anywhere from Madison Avenue to Mt Eden, Auckland—is affordable and stylish, while having maximum interchangeability. It's one of those brands that respects the consumer has creativity, and we like that. •



Finding Arin

AUSTRALIAN MUSICIAN and artist **Cos Russo** has created **Alida**, a new computer game from **Got Game Entertainment**. Set on a fictitious island with an abandoned theme park, players have to search for a missing fellow band member—while going through some of the stunning scenery that Got Game is known for. It's from the same folks who did *A Quiet Weekend in Capri*, which we previewed in May. Watch the trailer at www.gotgameentertainment.com/alida/AlidaTrailerHigh.mov.



ABOVE: Audi's new corporate nose gives it the sort of presence to take on BMW and Mercedes-Benz.

The grille of your dreams

Since the 1960s, Audi has been the quiet German. With the launch of the A6 and the A3 Sportback, Jack Yan says that the Ingolstadt-based marque is about to shout, 'I've arrived'

WALTER DA SILVA, who had been at Alfa Romeo and was behind the sexy (but dated) 156, had been pondering this for years. Audi, it was said, was not in-your-face enough. Years of moody black-and-white print ads from Bartle Bogle Hegarty and *Vorsprung durch Technik* had given the brand sufficient cred. But there was still a segment of the population for whom, despite the pioneering Audi Quattro and the aerodynamics of the 1982 Audi 100, these were still Volkswagens with a fancy four-ring badge. For most of the 1970s, that wasn't far from the truth.

The reality has been quite different for some years. Ever since Audi stuck a v8 into the mid-sized 100 in the late 1980s—the equivalent of force-feeding Boris Becker and turning him into Helmut Köhl—you knew that the Ingolstadt cafeteria was putting something into the beer. Then Princess Di bought an 80 Cabriolet to replace her Jag. When the A8 appeared with an aluminium body, the European Union started buying them as limousines for VIPs. And Mr da Silva had been going around with sketches of a big-grilled Audi, using the theme on his show cars, knowing that this was the way forward for the company if it was to have a front end that would signify it more readily than BMW's kidneys or Mercedes-Benz's traditional grille.

It is the gentle German no more; it's not "Owdy!", but a firm 'Guten Tag'

It's not the first time sticking a fancy grille on to a car suggested it possessed ideas above its original station. Toyota did it to its Corolla and Corona in the late 1970s, to much mirth. Infiniti put one on its original Q45. Even Ford has a fancy one on its Chinese-market Mondeo, making it more of a Mercury. But it's been a while since anyone went for a grille quite this big, swallowing the space normally reserved for the number plate. And if you are challenging the usual German brands, size matters. It's time to open the presence.

Now that the new A6 has been launched, we're not too shocked. Truth is, da Silva has been warming us up for years. The show cars with their 1930s-retro grilles shocked: 'Mr da Silva, Audi has been about Bauhaus rationality, not avant-garde recklessness. Leave that to the Bavarians.' He persisted. We got the unfamiliarity out of our systems. With

the previous A6, we got an inkling of the new grille, even if some needed a spiritual medium to find it; now that the A6 and the A3 Sportback are here, Audi is in-your-face. It's *Vorsprung durch Technik* but in big, bold, capital letters. It is the gentle German no more; it's not "Owdy!" but a firm 'Guten Tag.'

Does this work? Audis have been known for their elegance over the years and there's a sense that the new grille has the hallmarks of an *Extreme Makeover*: it looks quite good but it isn't totally harmonious. One reason may be the absence of body colour between the grille and its lower air intake: we're not used to it.

Audi tells us that the car is meant to be sports-luxury, so in terms of positioning, the new grille signals the former: power, intention and strength. The rest of the car looks more like the A6 of old, now signalling luxury through very mildly different proportions. It could be said to have a masculine front and a feminine centre, with its airy, six-light cabin.

It fulfils the brief and consumer research that said that buyers of this type of car were likely to look for sporty handling and more aggression, something that Mercedes-Benz itself has been trying to do with its E-Klasse (and being let down by very bland looks). Given that, we're not totally sure why Dustin Hoffman was selected to advertise it in Germany though, with a dubbed *Graduate* spoof. Maybe it was about Audi "graduating".

For this is BMW's usual territory of the Ultimate Driving Machine. There, too, Audi has been making inroads over the years. And with the new A6, the folks from Ingolstadt may have done it.

Besides, BMWs have become uglier, with the exception of the 6-series and Z4, and when this author spoke to a European car designer about them, he was not impressed. The new 5er Reihe, with its avant-garde intentions but no real changes to the proportions of the 20th century sedan, will continue to be driven by people who don't create smiles on the faces of other drivers. The only thing we wonder about now is whether Audis will be seen as being driven by people nicer than BMW owners. It could be the end of the Love Parade. Audi means business.

Not too many people have had quips about Audi's build quality or interiors, either, and the new A6 preserves them. If anything, grafting the big grille on to the car is more about marketing Audi as a *tour de force* in luxury motoring than changing the good stuff about the brand.

We're willing to bet that the gamble will pay off. In *continued on p. 115*

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Pretty in white

Barcelona WEDDINGS aren't usual *Lucire* coverage fare, but we have made a few exceptions over the years. And when we heard that **Karolina Kurkova** was the major model at the bridal fashion week in Barcelona—**Pasarela Gaudí Novias**—our photographer **Joma García i Gisbert** was there like a shot (pardon the pun).

While there, he not only caught the images from the Gaudí catwalk but Miss Kurkova herself backstage (before and after the show) as the muse for **Pronovias**, the world's number-one bridal gown company with the wedding lines for brands such as Emanuel Ungaro, Elie Saab, Miguel Palacio, Lydia Delgado, Hannibal Laguna and Manuel Mota, and sold in over 60 countries.

Kurkova wasn't alone in the celebs (and celeb models) at Gaudí Novias: the *Lucire* lensman caught iconic 1970s model and proud Mum **Pat Cleveland** and her aspiring-model daughter **Anna von Ravenstein** for a special pose; **Laura Sanchez**; **Martina Klein** (three months pregnant at the time); **Eugenia Silva** and rising model favourite **Hana Soukupova**.—JACK YAN

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: After the show: Hana Soukupova, Pronovias' creative director and designer Manuel Mota and Karolina Kurkova. Karolina Kurkova before the show. Laura Sanchez. Anna von Ravenstein, daughter of Paul von Ravenstein and model Pat Cleveland. Pat Cleveland holding the daily report featuring Anna. Mother and daughter. Eugenia Silva. Mother-to-be Martina Klein.

Fashion recovered



Wellington THERE'S A "EUROLOFT" FEEL at vintage store **Soup**, opened by former model agency head and fashion events' coordinator **Bron Eichbaum**. Soup brings Armani to Zambesi to a Blair Street location next to Scotties, the stockist of Junya Watanabe, Yohji Yamamoto, Dries van Noten and Issey Miyake, complementing the way many customers buy in mixing new with "recovered".

Soup stays away from the done-that-before boutique in favour of a slightly-below-ground location (with natural light), tastefully using angles and brick to create an intimate, personal atmosphere. No surprises there: architect **Max Herriot** created the fit-out.

Spotted at the launch were former Miss Universe **Lorraine Mexted**, designers **Andrea Moore** and **Zana Feuchs**, and Positively Wellington Tourism's girl-about-town **Sally-ann Moffat**, herself a *Lucire* contributor.—JACK YAN

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: On opening day, Lorraine Mexted, Anna Ronberg and Christine Nightingale. Sarah Hard and proprietor Bron Eichbaum. Hetty and Esther. Barb Stone and Kath Boyle. Cushla Roughton and Caitlin Plummer. Andrea Moore and Brian Molloy.



It's good to be the king



London JERRY BRUCKHEIMER'S films aren't exactly known for historical accuracy (e.g. *Black Hawk Down* and *Pearl Harbor*), but that's just what he's claiming for the new epic *King Arthur*, starring **Clive Owen** in the title role. At the premiere, we spotted a laid-back Owen and a stunning **Keira Knightley** in Jil Sander, Jimmy Choo shoes and plenty of Asprey diamonds. If Knightley wasn't big after *Pirates of the Caribbean*, should be a sought-after leading lady now. Knights include **Ioan Gruffudd** as Lancelot, **Ray Winstone** as Bors, and **Hugh Dancy** as Galahad. **Stephen Dillane** is Merlin.

The premiere took place in July at the Empire, Leicester Square, London.

The difference between this and other Bruckheimer premieres is that press materials were accompanied by a quotation from British historian **John Matthews**: 'In my opinion the film comes closer to historical truth than any yet made.'

TOP: Clive Owen, Keira Knightley and Ioan Gruffudd. **ABOVE:** Keira Knightley resplendent in Asprey diamonds and a Jil Sander dress.

Work in style

Auckland **Working Style** and **Audi** joined forces in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch, New Zealand, to launch the new A6 sedan, covered in this issue of *Lucire*. Auckland saw guests including **Charlotte Dawson**, **Sam Wallace** of *Sticky TV* and bass singer **Michael Rippon**. *Lucire* chief photographer **Amanda Dorcil** worked behind the scenes in all centres.

The fashions were smart, and consequently Working Style's male staff could be spotted some distance away.



ABOVE LEFT: One Agency's Ricardo Simich, Michael Rippon and Penny Evans from the Hilton. **ABOVE:** Charlotte Dawson. **LEFT:** Sam Wallace and guests.

Trading Spaces' Santo Tomás turns to tables



New York



TOP: Meredith Phillips from *The Bachelorette* and fiancé Ian McKee. **CENTRE ROW, LEFT:** Carley Roney and a blue setting based around Reed & Barton stemware. **CENTRE ROW, RIGHT:** Designer Nicole Miller with *Trading Spaces'* Hildi Santo Tomás. **ABOVE:** Patricia Field's romantic table setting.

IT MAY HAVE BEEN late summer and there are always fewer events in the northern hemisphere, but it doesn't mean we stopped searching. We found a classy event at the **Hudson Hotel** a month before the catwalk mayhem begins at Bryant Park again.

The Sterling Style Council, a consortium of Gorham, Lenox, Lunt Silversmiths, Reed & Barton and Syratech Corp., put on a bash hosted and styled by *Trading Spaces'* **Hildi Santo Tomás**, and had five other celebs involved, creating unique settings for each.

Designer **Nicole Miller** was given a table setting reflecting her New Year's Eve parties with the Lenox Repousse pattern and white orchids floating in water, small votive candles and Gorham Rosewood glasses.

Santo Tomás created a sophisticated setting for *The Bachelorette's* **Meredith Phillips** and fiancé **Ian McKee**. Colourful Vera Wang glasses and her Imperial Scroll flatware created an elegant effect.

Patricia Field, who has done far, far more than *Sex and the City's* styling, got a setting based around romance, Lunt's Golden Embassy Scroll pattern and black and silver themes—represented by sterling silver candlestick holders, elegant champagne flutes and a flower centrepiece.

The Knot's **Carley Roney** inspired a blue theme with Reed & Barton stemware and plates, sterling ice buckets as the base for the centrepiece and tiny wedding cakes by famed baker **Colette Peters** upon the sterling dessert dishes to double as placecards.

Lisa Ling, formerly of *The View* and now host of *National Geographic Explorer*, received Asian touches. On there were black bento boxes, bamboo sake cups, fortune cookies, chopsticks and dragon candlestick holders.

Finally, Santo Tomás's own setting covered most of the Council members' offerings, with Towle Craftsman and Lunt William & Mary flatware, Lenox Eternal Gold and Solitaire Platinum Selections glasses and Reed & Barton placecard holders.

Making a scene

10.04 *Through the Eyes of Shirin Neshat*

This exhibition at the Auckland City Gallery, New Zealand, runs to November 7. Neshat is an Iranian videographer whose installations are moving and demonstrate the universality of cultures. Visit www.auckland-gallery.govt.nz.

Air New Zealand Fashion Week begins October 17 and runs through October 25. There's a swish new venue at the Hilton and the Viaduct in Auckland, marking quite a change for the fourth autumn-winter (2005) instalment of the collections. See www.nzfashionweek.com.

San Francisco International Fashion Week Not to be confused with San Francisco Fashion Week, of which *Lucire* is an international media partner, SFIW—with *Lucire's* help—will feature designers from across the United States and the planet. Begins October 21, runs through October 23.

Russian Fashion Week *Lucire* has been invited and we hope to bring you coverage. Russian Fashion Week runs October 21 through 25, showcasing spring-summer 2005. This is an international event, with 60 designers from around the globe.

Mercedes-Benz Australian Fashion Week In Melbourne, October 24 to 29, as covered by our own Alice Goulter and Clare Marshall.

Los Angeles Fashion Week In an upcoming issue of *Lucire*, Mercedes-Benz LA Fashion Week spring-summer 2005 begins October 26 and runs through October 29.

11.04 *Big Island Festival*

Hawai'i holds its Big Island Festival November 3-7, with top cuisine and special-reserve wine tasting, seminars, tours, spa treatments, and championship golf. Some of the top Hawaiian chefs, including Glenn Alos from the Kona Village Resort, will participate. For more information, visit www.BigIslandFestival.com or call 1 866 424-FEST.

A Wine & Food Affair The sixth annual Wine & Food Affair sees 50 wineries on the Russian River Wine Road in Sonoma County, Calif. is a two-day event from November 6 to 7 where guests can sample wine and food and get a copy of the event cookbook at check-in. Call 1 800 723-6336 or visit www.wineroad.com. Advance ticket sales only.

Skin deep The Scleroderma Foundation is running a silent auction, with a live band and food, at its *Skin Deep in Fashion* event on November 10, at Scottsdale Promenade on the Courtyard, 7000 E. Shea, Scottsdale, Ariz. More information at www.scleroderma.org/chapter/arizona/contactus.htm.

Chocolatarama Manhattan, NY's Chocolate Show runs from November 11 to 14 with top exhibitors, chefs, chocolate fashion, gifts and more. There will be over 50 demonstrations by pastry chefs at two culinary theatres. Visit www.chocolateshow.com for tickets and info.

For more bulletins, visit www.lucire.com/news.shtml.

NSYNC with charity



Miami Beach

THE BOYS from **NSYNC** sang together for the first time since 2003 at the sixth annual **Challenge for the Children Foundation** basketball game event at Miami Beach, Fla., where sponsor **Joico** donated K-Pak products in the goody bags. Not only did **Justin Timberlake** (who was here with Britney Spears back in '01) join **JC**, **Lance** and **Joey** to perform 'The Star-spangled Banner', but **Cameron Diaz** and **Lindsay Lohan** were present.

The Foundation benefits children's organizations including the Boys' and Girls' Club of America.

Gran canon

What do Christina Aguilera and *Coronation Street*'s Hilda Ogden have in common? Astrologically, "granny chic" sees us in to 2005, writes **Susan Kelly**

SEEMS LIKE OLD TIMES. Yes, a nostalgia for the refined elegance of the older crowd has swept fashion. Urban centres teem with legions of young women, barely old enough to vote or drink legally, all emulating the blue rinse set. It's sometimes called "granny chic". Some comb local thrift shops for genuine vintage clothing. Finds of the moment: a gaudier-than-thou rhinestone brooch, a Chanel-inspired tweed jacket, a pencil or tulip skirt, any reptilian accessory.

Others pick up their cues from Sarah Jessica Parker's televised plugs and head over to the Gap for some newly minted duds with old-timer flair. Yes, it's all the rage, with fashion magazines showing page after page of solemn models clad in tweeds, cashmere twinsets and pearls.

Why all this yearning for yesteryear? And why now?

Astrology is the study of cycles, with the movement of the planets denoting changes that are happening back on *terra firma*. This cosmic art-science has been around for around 4,000 years. During which a lot of trends have come and gone into mothballs.

When tracking fashion trends, the ol' astrolabe first turns towards Saturn. And it's Saturn's current sojourn in the home-loving, nostalgia-ridden sign of Cancer that's largely to blame for the granny chic craze.

Patrick Robinson, who now designs for Perry Ellis, says this trend is all about 'pure 'fifties optimism ... People are looking back to a time when lots of families were buying homes, wanting that white picket fence.'

Cancer loves pouring over old photo albums. It's the keeper of the family archives, official or unofficial. It hangs on to every nugget of family lore, with trunks of paraphernalia harkening back to the Mesonic era. And probably includes mother's pearls, granny's fox stole and Aunt Minnie's Balenciaga.

Stylist Katie Grand even looks to the 1960s and episodes of *Coronation Street* for inspiration. Yes, that's right—the world's longest-running televised soap opera, reviled and revered throughout the Commonwealth though virtually unknown in the US. Come to think of it, Christina Aguilera was recently snapped sporting hair curlers and a knotted headscarf—not unlike one of the show's original characters, Hilda Ogden.

Grand, who is a consultant for Prada and Miu Miu, told *New York* magazine that the early episodes were 'black and white and so grimy. They just looked so

cool ... so in keeping with where fashion is at the moment.'

Why would New Yorkers just weaned from *Sex and the City* gravitate towards looks inspired by 1960s working-class Britain? Saturn is the planet of often-harsh reality. Its movements can tell us a lot about what the down-to-earth issues we'll be facing. Which seems far removed from the ephemeral and frippery world of fashion.

But not when you consider the duds we sport are, after all, the armour we put on to face the world. Saturn in Cancer is big on survival as well as nostalgia. Although it often feels vulnerable, it's a scrapper. And it's the masses struggling to be free. Hence the stalwart women of *Corrie Street*, so resplendent in working-class grit and fierce determination, become poster girls for new-millennium granny chic. Complete with tweeds, blouses, and sensible skirts and shoes.

Upscale or downscale, the trend marches on, continuing until next July. Saturn then slips into Leo. So you can look forward to a whole new wardrobe that's big on bling ... and more forward-looking style and slink. •



Why would New Yorkers just weaned from *Sex and the City* gravitate towards looks inspired by 1960s working-class Britain?



TOP: Sarah Jessica Parker in Gap, complete with pink cardy. **FAR LEFT:** Advertising campaign to celebrate Ann Taylor's half-century play on the nostalgic, sensible mood: Shalom looks granny chic in an ivory wool bouclé jacket over a peony-print silk blouse and pink herringbone skirt. **LEFT:** Richard Tyler tapped in to the sensible mood with his fall-winter 2004 collection at Los Angeles Fashion Week, as reviewed in our August issue.

Susan Kelly is Montréal editor of *Lucire* and chairs Astrology Montréal.

Living a dream

Indashio designer **Brad Batory** left everything he knew in Florida in order to make it in New York. He writes of his experiences exclusively for *Lucire* as he prepares to show his spring 2005 collection at New York Fashion Week

IT'S BEEN about eight months since I've moved back to New York. I thought it would help start my career, but I now look back to see the start of a struggle.

On January 11, 2004, I left my job, family and so-called life in Dunedin, Florida.

But through all the bad there's good, and eight months later I'm still here in New York, getting ready for Fashion Week and my spring '05 collection debut. The pressures and stress are overwhelming for any one putting together a show and collection for Fashion Week, especially when you're 19 years old. But the only thing that gets me through it is the vision and dream of success—it's something that I can taste, and it drives and pushes me harder.

My fall 2004 show was a disappointment. It was not at all what I expected or wanted but I look at what I accomplished from the show. I had a lot of people who believed in me and my project, working for little or no more money to make it work.

Faith is my biggest inspiration and disappointment my greatest ambition, because it forces me to work harder. Faith is all you have when you have nothing. Faith is what keeps you looking ahead.

Faith has been my armour. I wear it with pride and determination. Faith has been my shield.

My dream has been my mission and my mistakes have been lessons. Many don't understand my struggle, nor do they comprehend why I would continue, but it isn't until a dream lives in you that you begin to understand.

Another thing that was hard to swallow is being misunderstood. I recently auditioned for *Project Runway*, Bravo's new TV series hosted by supermodel Heidi Klüm. I went to the audition and two days in a row, knowing I wasn't even old enough to try out, I cut the line and went in front of the panel. I was then kicked out because they found out I wasn't pre-screened.

On the web
Read our interview with Brad Batory at www.lucire.com/2003a/0221feo.shtml.

I came back the following day, only to be turned away by a volunteer whom I call a 'hater'. I wasn't taking no for an answer and I snuck in the side door, only to be restrained. I was hoping one of the judges would see how hungry I was and how bad I wanted people to see my work and vision.

A week later, my friends were calling me saying I was in *Women's Wear Daily*, telling me how the police were called, how I was restrained and made out to be some crazy deranged amateur. The press always overdoes everything.

But I looked at the bright side: at least I got a write-up out of the audition.

The hardest thing I would say is the blood, sweat and tears literally I've gone through—not having anyone to turn to, not knowing where my next meal is going to come from, or how I'm going to get enough money to pay my rent. In addition, the distractions being in New York

City, the city that never sleeps. Something is always going on; someone is always trying to get you to party or go out with them. It's hard to do everything, to have a life, career and a business.

One of my biggest lessons out here, besides taking things for granted, is sacrifice. If someone wants something, they need to ask themselves

I have sacrificed so much: thousands of dollars, hours of handwork, friendships, family, security—everything you can imagine—all for what? A dream

what they are willing to give up or do for it. The more you want it, the more you'll give up and sacrifice.

At times, I feel sorry for myself because I'm never satisfied, but someone once told me, 'Those who are satisfied aren't successful.' When I

RIGHT: Singer Eve and one of her favourite designers: Indashio's Brad Batory.



heard that, it made so much sense to me: if I were satisfied with the outcome of anything, I wouldn't have the ambition to take it to the next level.

I was depressed for the longest time because I knew deep down I wasn't giving it my all: here I am in the fashion and entertainment capital of the world and I'm going out getting drunk and partying every night. I was pissed because I wasn't where I know I can be. It was because, at the time, I wasn't sacrificing enough.

I have sacrificed so much: thousands of dollars, hours of handwork, friendships, family, security—everything you can possibly imagine, all for what?

A dream.

People always ask me, 'What is Indashio? What does it mean?' And I would always answer, 'Whatever it means to you.' But it wasn't until last month, when I was planning a benefit party for my collection, did I realize this: Indashio is my destiny. It means living a dream and my dream is being successful. I know everyone has a different meaning of success but my dream is to be living in New York.

What keeps me going is that one stylist who calls me every time there's a shoot or that publisher who tries to include me any way he can, or that person on the street who likes my jeans. And days like yesterday where I was doing a photo shoot for Spanish *Bazaar* with Naomi Campbell and Omyra.

I was so honoured the stylist pulled three of my dresses for the shoot. After that I went to MTV for a meeting where I met with a show creator and segment producer, who are interested in developing a fashion reality TV show around me. I also got a call from *Entertainment Tonight*, who wants to follow me around for a day during Fashion Week. Those days are the most rewarding and make all the sacrifices worthwhile.

I am so thankful to God for everything He has given me. He has given me so much: talent, life, ambition and support. He has looked after me this whole time in New York and if it wasn't for faith, I would be dead. I also am thankful for the opportunities He has given me.

When God gives you talent and ambition and determination and you don't do anything with it, it becomes a waste of life. Why not live to your life's potential?

I think a lot of people are afraid: my family and friends have told me they would never have the balls to do what I do. To give up everything and just go!

As hard as New York has been to me, I am so proud to say I am still here, ready to see what hardball it's going to through at me next. Like they say: if you can make it here, you can make it anywhere. •

Brad Batory was first covered in *Lucire* in February 2003, before he debuted in New York. His shows always contain a charitable component—proceeds usually wind up going to teen pregnancy awareness or other good causes. Consequently, he has featured in several speeches by this magazine's publisher as an example of fashion with a social conscience. Batory's label, Indashio, can be found online at www.indashio.com, and is favoured by artists such as Eve. Indashio designs have graced presenters on MTV and BET.



Extended coverage

This month at *Lucire's* Webby Award-nominated web site at www.lucire.com, don't miss out on our designer-by-designer reviews from New York by **Phillip D. Johnson** and photographed by **Richard Spiegel** and **Cheryl Gorski**—the most in-depth analyses you'll get for free on the 'net.

You'll get to read **what's in for fall** from each one of the designers whose shows we checked out at Bryant Park back in February, and whose designs are hitting the stores right now.

Amber Peebles, who is about to travel to Beijing to represent New Zealand in Miss World, talks of her experiences in a **Ford Territory**, driving around the North Island.

Carolyn Enting checks out the **BEE range** of environmentally friendly cleaning products.

Devin Colvin has his picks on the season's CDs and movies.

There are our web exclusives, such as our guides to **beauty products** and **products for men** and **autumn-winter fashion**, plus an extended interview with **Tony Milich** of **Sabatini**.

Stay up to date with our news and features—some of which appear online before they appear in the magazine—and talk directly with the editors and publisher of *Lucire* at the **StyleTalk forum**.

Access selected articles in our archives dating back to 1997, when we first started.

Don't miss our online **competitions**, get **relationship advice** from Answerology, go online **shopping**, **subscribe** and, coming soon, **book your travel online**. Check in to www.lucire.com for all of this and more.

THIS MONTH LAST WORDS

Back to the future

continued from p. 32

Swarovski 'brooches' that are scattered on wool coats.

Who, what or where inspired you?

We are inspired by the need to chase the winter blues away and to escape them completely with great resort and spring clothing. A delicious mix of kiss red, lagoon and a smattering of black and white offers a more graphic approach to colour in our prints and embroideries. We also pay homage to romantic, exotic locales such as Mexico (with hand embroideries decorated in sequins) the French countryside (Provençal border prints on canvas) and '70s Scandinavia (large scale floral motifs on cotton voile). We celebrate the Tocca daisy motif with 'lace' that is in fact made completely of embroidery and match it with trenches, skirts and jeans in luxuriously soft cotton.

Can you tell us a little of what to expect at the show?

Special this season are our experiments of hand embroidery appliqué on prints, a modern take on Broderie Anglaise eyelets and lovely trousers and skirts in buttoned-up merino. Pieces in very fine gauge cashmere knitwear will also cocoon their wearers in a puff of sublime luxury. •

City of sales

continued from p. 35

stuff. It has a sense of humour but [it is] still serious.'

While Robertson is targeting the United States, Tulloch's aim is on Europe, where she has had interest in the past. Certainly her designs speak to a European sensibility of subtlety and style.

Sabatini is one of those rare labels that has a familiar story to *Lucire*'s: it is more better known outside New Zealand. Eighty per cent of its production goes to Australia, and a recent trip confirmed its high profile there.

Sabatini White will be shown at both Air New Zealand Fashion Week and Mercedes Australian Fashion Week Melbourne, and *Lucire* has already taken a quick peek at what the label will send down the catwalk—sophisticated and complete are two words that come to mind. Sabatini White will show distinctive trim and pocket details. And to be totally sure, we observed that Sabatini's Australian base in Toorak was busier than American presidential campaign headquarters.

Sabatini's **Tony Milich** speaks highly of the Australian consumer. 'Australian buyers are international fashion travellers and they view the best world fashion there is on offer.

'Many of these professional buyers regard Sabatini as an international label, with a proven sell-through record encompassing over 12 years.'

Australia is key to Sabatini's expansion, including to the United States where it already has a foothold—California is first, aiming at 20 boutiques early next year.

To become world-class, 'a label must succeed in Australia before exporting further afield. By establishing the label there, the stepping stones to new markets will unfold!' said Milich.

As to the autumn-winter 2005 collection, Milich revealed that Sabatini would continue to 'invent'. '[We] create a lot of our own fabrics and colours to give unique surface interest. We follow up with styling that is fashion-forward with a definite edge!' Expect a full range from coats to accessories.

High Society encompasses four labels—Obi, Catalyst, Chocolat and Mosaic—and design director **Laurinda Sutcliffe** has been there to keep each label from overlapping. For autumn-winter 2005, she told *Lucire*, 'The retro influences are still there and that's a constant thing about fashion: in looking at a new interpretation you are often referring back to what has gone before.'

Obi will draw 'from the influence of German screen goddess Marlene Dietrich in the 1930s and '40s. She made masculine tailoring with clean and sharp lines very sexy and seductive and the range will have that sultry feel to it.'

Catalyst goes back to the 1920s with what Sutcliffe terms a 'fun, frivolous, cheeky range.' Expect colour, vintage fabrics and embellishments, with the direction cemented after a recent European trip.

Sutcliffe says that High Society is on track for more growth and, through listening to agents and retailers, is able to balance the needs of domestic and international clients.

First-timer **Philippa Beaton**, who featured in *Lucire* in May 2004 with her memorable Vodafone ID Dunedin Fashion Weekend collection inspired by Alfred Hitchcock's *The Birds*, revealed that she has 'gone literary' for autumn-winter 2005.

'I've taken a leaf from Dorothy Parker's book: her "wicked wittiness" and ambiguous background. Winter 2005 from Philippa Beaton is secretive, sophisticated, urban and intellectual.'

Expect elegant pieces with the attitude of '... a born rebel—thumbing her nose at the rules that women were expected to obey' (a passage from Marion Meade's biography about Parker that Beaton quotes), with a leaning towards the 1920s and 1930s.

Beaton's desire to create "trustworthy" fashion continues. 'I like to choose fabrics that have a bit of substance to them, but then contrast that with the luxe—silks and velvets, etc.'

Since the announcement that the young designer will show at Air New Zealand Fashion Week as part of the 'New Generation', Beaton says that strangers have been congratulating her on the street in Dunedin.

Her primary export aim is the Australian market and she has already scouted Melbourne.

Between these designers, it seems Air New Zealand Fashion Week could go down quite well. There is no singular trend, just as there never is at any fashion week; conceptually, the collections are distinctive enough from one another to give foreign media and buyers a lot to consider. The designers will be, collectively, the greatest element to making the new New Zealand Fashion Week work a treat. •

Jack Yan is founding publisher of *Lucire*.

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LEFT: High Society design director Laurinda Sutcliffe.

Golden Gate's fashion flare

continued from p. 37

who travel to San Francisco to purchase their "wears".

Cari Streeter

WITH HER BOOTH in the reception area of SFFW, **Cari Streeter** is launching a new career in jewellery. Cari, who resides in San Luis Obispo, Calif., has created beautifully elegant, handcrafted jewellery.

With different moods and elements as inspiration, Cari produces sexy, edgy looks that perfectly complement the youthful vibe of SFFW. It is at SFFW that Streeter will launch the Pure Sculpted Silver Collection for 2004.

This new line has been hand-sculpted with a recently invented, cutting-edge material known as Precious Metal Clay. According to Cari, this clay allows her to produce unique shapes that are worked in pure silver or pure gold. Hand-cut by a San Francisco lapidary artist, Cari's pieces are rare while boasting a local flair. With Cari's unique vision and exquisite taste in gems, the client gets pieces that are truly one-of-a-kind and have a quiet edginess that makes them truly unforgettable.

Making the SFFW Scene

COMBINING ELEMENTS of beauty, fashion, art, energy, elegance and structure, San Francisco hopes to put the city on the map as a unique fashion capital. Not for the faint of heart, this fashion capital of northern California is for the daring consumer who is happy to break the mould with her eclectic tastes—whether they are those of a wild-child, a soccer mom, a Nob Hill socialite, a nine-to-fiver or an inspired fashion student. •

Catherine Rigod is San Francisco editor of *Lucire*.

All around the world

continued from p. 39

(both new and established) choose to design street, bohemian, or casual style. I wanted to differ. I wanted Sharka to be very feminine. I also wanted to achieve a more grown-up look without being boring or exaggerated.'

Her aim is to be elegant and sophisticated but not overly dressy. She has one proviso, however: 'Sometimes elegant and sophisticated sounds old and snobbish. I am thinking elegant and sophisticated with a young mind.'

Her next collection is autumn-winter 2005, to be released in February. Despite being involved in Stockholm FashionDays this August, Mastera has spent the year concentrating on

restructuring and strengthening her company. From what we've seen, autumn-winter could be quite a season regardless of the designer's origins. •

Jack Yan is founding publisher of *Lucire*.

Making scents

continued from p. 53

Frédéric Malle L'Eau d'Hiver

Frédéric Malle's L'Eau d'Hiver

created by master perfumer Jean-Claude Ellena, is the third fragrance for the Editions de Parfums Frédéric Malle. It is the transparent blend of warm iris, musk and white heliotrope. This fragrance is a tenuous balance because too much of one note produces an oriental and too much in another direction creates an eau fraîche. After two years of development, this warm, soft and lusciously comfortable fragrance is available in a variety of sizes: 50, 100 and 250 ml spray. It's meant to be splashed on liberally like cologne and becomes that signature that is such a reflection of the wearer.



Notes

Top: bergamot, angelica, iris.

Heart: hawthorn, jasmine, carnation, honey.

Bottom: white heliotrope, caramel, musk.

Creed's Original Vetiver

Creed's Original Vetiver is the newest launch for fall 2004.

This twist on the honoured classic has been redone by the **House of Creed** and is the first in a new generation of scents created by Master Perfumer Olivier Creed, the sixth head of the House of Creed, and his son Erwin. Original Vetiver is green with a kiss of citrus and spice from the Mediterranean. It captures the sultry sunshine and the sophistication of summers in the south of France in its warm sensual blend. Packaged in a graduated green bottle and a black stopper, this is an elegant fragrance for those who seek a more unisex fragrance.



Notes

Top: Haitian Vetiver, ginger, coriander.

Heart: white pepper, mandarin, Italian bergamot.

Base: Sandalwood from Mysore.

Towards the cure

continued from p. 71

Go Smile, the company that has brightened the smiles of many Beverly Hills beauties, has created a special **pink compact** for Breast Cancer Awareness. This tooth whitening kit makes it easy for your smile to sparkle wherever you go. The pink Go Smile compact is available at Fred Segal and Pure Beauty stores.

Sephora has created its own product to support Breast Cancer Awareness. A mirrored **compact** converts to a fun pop-up brush that is so convenient to use anytime, anywhere. The Sephora stores and web site stock a number of other companies' products that support breast cancer research, including **DDF Cleanser, Lola Pink Shimmer Powder, Stila Pink Ribbon Set, Phyto Volume Maximizing Shampoo and Spray, Tweezerman Tweezers with Pink Ribbon, Tony & Tina Lip gloss, Clinique Palette, Chantal Thomass Eau de Coquine, Fracas Body Cream, Lacoste Touch of Pink, Tarte Slide Tin Gloss and Philosophy Remember Me**. Check out www.sephora.com to order products or find a store in your area.

Fresh (www.fresh.com) presents a limited edition eye palette that will donate 100 per cent of the proceeds toward a national breast cancer charity. The new **Burnished Earth Eye Shadow Palette** highlights a warm palette of six colours featuring burnished golds, pomegranates, clever pink and metallic mist that have intense pigments and are enhanced with crushed pearl and green tea extract. The beautiful compact is done in deep berry with the black silhouette of a miniature Japanese maple tree echoing the autumnal colours.

Breast exams are a must to help detect breast cancer but it's not the most pleasant thing to do. **Bath By Bettijo** has come up with **Fenomenole** which makes self exams more comfortable and easier to do. This all natural oil blend housed packaged in a bright pink bottle includes pink grapefruit essential oils for a bright, fresh-smelling experience. Twenty-five per cent of the proceeds benefit breast cancer research.

With so many fun, inspirational and pretty pink products available, there are a number of ways that you can choose to support breast cancer research. In addition, it's important that you schedule annual doctor visits to maintain your own good health. Let's fight to bring an end to breast cancer! •

The grille of your dreams

continued from p. 94

the mid- to late-2000s, we may see a new name in German luxury motoring, especially as Volkswagen edges itself into the old Audi territory and Skoda becomes the "people's car".

And to prove that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, Rover announced a v8 model with the same type of grille a few months ago. Because she's been around to see the Brits, the grille next door will never look the same again. •

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L'Oréal Paris has gone back to the drawing board and designed its most dramatic mascara yet. Now, with **Lash Architect**, your lashes can do it all—thicken, lengthen, and curl—all at the same time. Lash Architect features a new multi-faceted spiral brush that builds up volume and length while maximizing curl. With bristles cut on a bias, lashes are lifted, thickened, and lengthened. Combined with the technologically advanced formulation of Lash Architect, it can help you achieve spectacular eye drama. MSRP NZ\$28.95 each.

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Custo Barcelona: online: www.asos.com; New Zealand: Maggie Potter. Visit www.custo-barcelona.com.

Easton Pearson: call 61 7 3839-3188. New Zealand: Maggie Potter.

Martin Margiela: UK: Harvey Nichols, Selfridges; Australia: Belinda Men's; New Zealand: Zambesi.

Miranda Brown: at Jude, Wellington, New Zealand.

Sloggi: stockists worldwide. See www.figleaves.com for online sales.

State of Grace: New Zealand: Caroline Church, PO Box 68-507, 3/1 Cross Street, Newton, Auckland, telephone 64 9 377-7050, fax 64 9 377-7051. Australia: Marris Fotheringham, Shiraz Agencies, 35 McKinley Avenue, Malvern, VIC 3144, telephone 61 3 9500-2075, fax 61 3 9500-2074, cellphone 61 410.512.075. Email mail@stateofgrace.co.nz; www.stateofgrace.co.nz.

Trelise Cooper: own boutiques at 536 Parnell Road, Parnell, Auckland, New Zealand, telephone 64 9 366-1962; Princes Wharf, Quay Street, Auckland, New Zealand, telephone 64 9 366-1964; 580 Malvern Road, Hawksburn Village, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, telephone 61 3 9521-2411. See www.trelisecooper.com. Stockists worldwide.

ZFA: 111 Customhouse Quay, Wellington, New Zealand, 64 4 499-0408.

Insider

Majority of stockists listed with item.

Antheas: agents for Tycoon Cut diamonds, 333 Remuera Road, Remuera, Auckland, New Zealand, telephone 64 9 520-1092, fax 64 9 524-7695.

Bijoux Moda: Capital on the Quay, 250 Lambton Quay, Wellington, New Zealand, telephone 64 4 472-7157, fax 64 4 472 7536.

Kate Spade: Neiman Marcus, Nordstrom, neimanmarcus.com; book from Amazon.com. Full shop listing at www.katespade.com.

Rachel Stichbury: Magnolia Trading Company, PO Box 19-024, 113 Tory Street, Wellington, New Zealand, telephone and fax 64 4 801-8661.

Shoe Connection: 55 Cuba Street, Wellington, New Zealand, telephone 64 4 499-8963; 228-38 Lambton Quay, Wellington, New Zealand, telephone 64 4 473-1955.

TechnoMarine: Australia: call 1800 002 911.

The Ascent of Helen Talbot

Helen Talbot: 176 Jervois Road, Herne Bay, Auckland, New Zealand, telephone 64 9 361-3366, fax 64 9 361-3362. See www.helentalbot.com.

Re-creation Time

Jean Jacques Hair Design: Lambton House, 160 Lambton Quay, Wellington, New Zealand, telephone 64 4 499-9627.

Lancôme: www.lancome.com; drugstore.com; at leading retailers worldwide.

L'Oréal Paris and Féria, internationally from quality pharmacies, variety and department stores and some supermarkets. L'Oréal Advisory Bureau in New Zealand, (0800) 655-444. Web site www.lorealparis.com.

L'Oréal Professionnel: www.lorealprofessionnel.com and selected leading salons worldwide.

Making Scents

Curious By Britney Spears: Burdines-Macy's.

Giorgio Armani: Saks Fifth Avenue, Ulta, Sephora, Burdines-Macy's.

Dior: Burdines-Macys; Nordstrom, Saks Fifth Avenue, Sephora.com.

Michael Kors: Nordstrom, Saks Fifth Avenue, Burdines-Macy's, Neiman Marcus.

Victoria's Secret: Victoria Secret Stores, Victoria Secret catalogue and online.

Prada: Neiman Marcus, Prada stores.

Moschino: Macy's, Bloomingdale's, DirectCosmetics.com, Escentual.

Marc Jacobs: Nordstrom, Saks Fifth Avenue, Neiman Marcus, Sephora,

Emanuel Ungaro: Saks Fifth Avenue, Sephora.com, Neiman Marcus, Nordstrom, Bloomingdale's.

Fresh: Fresh stores, Fresh.com, Barneys,

Sephora, Sephora.com, Neiman Marcus stores.

Malie Kauai: www.maliekauai.com.

Frederic Malle: Barneys New York.

Maria Santa Novella: Maria Santa Novella, 285 Lafayette Street, New York, NY, 1 212 925-0001; 8411 Melrose Place, Los Angeles, Calif., 1 323 651-3754.

Creed: Barney's, Creed stores; Neiman Marcus, Saks Fifth Avenue.

Bond No. 9 New York: Saks Fifth Avenue; Bond No. 9 store, NYC; beautycafe.com

Comptoir Sud Pacifique: beautycafe.com,

Beautyhabit.com, beauty.com, select Nordstrom stores, Sephora, Four Seasons Delray Beach.

Elizabeth Arden: Australia: www.elizabetharden.com.au/storelocator. Stockists worldwide.

Ralph Lauren: at leading retailers worldwide. Online at www.ralphlauren.com.

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Baxter of California: www.baxterofcalifornia.com, 1 800 421-3614.

MD formulations: www.mdformulations.com, www.sephora.com, 1 800 MD-FORMULA.

Jurlique: Jurlique stores, major department stores, spas and drugstores, www.jurlique.com. au.

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Old Spice High Endurance Shaving and Face Care Products: Available at supermarkets, drug stores and mass-market retailers.

MaleFace: MaleFace Skin Care, 400 S. Beverly Blvd., Suite 214, Beverly Hills, CA 90212, USA; available at www.MaleFace.com or 1 866 625-3322 (1-866-MALEFACE) Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Aubrey Organics' Men's Stock (all-natural skin care line for men): www.aubrey-organics.com.

A Beautiful Life

Kebyn Aucoin: online at www.kevynaucoin.com.

Brushing up on Beauty

Stockists listed at article.

Poring Details

Stockists listed at article.

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Crabtree & Evelyn: Australia: www.crabtree-evelyn.com.au/stores; UK: 44 1235 864-824.

Pevonia: www.pevonia.com.

Philosophy: UK: telephone 44 870 990-8452 for stockists; philosophy.com, Beauty.com, Sephora, Sephora.com.

Weleda: see www.weleda.co.nz/stockist_12-17.cfm for stockists.

Towards the Cure

Stockists listed at article.

Avon: US: 1 800 500-AVON or www.avon.com; New Zealand: (0508) 777-007 or www.avon.co.nz.

Awfully Rouge

Stockists listed at article.

Benefit: www.benefitcosmetics.com, Macy's, Sephora, Sephora.com, ShopNBC, Nordstrom.

Estée Lauder and Clinique products in New Zealand—Auckland: Centre Pharmacy, Downtown Pharmacy, Farmers Botany, selected Life Pharmacy stores, Pharmacy Shop, Smith & Caughey, St Helier's Bay Pharmacy; Blenheim: Mortimers & Frasers Pharmacy; Christchurch: Arthur Barnett, J. Ballentyne & Co., Bush Inn Pharmacy, Dodds Pharmacy, Farmers Colombo Street, selected Life Pharmacy stores, Life Northlands; Dunedin: Arthur Barnett; Gisborne: Sun City Pharmacy; Hamilton: Farmers Hamilton, selected Life Pharmacy stores; Hastings: Hughes & Smyth; Invercargill: H. & J. Smith; Masterton: The Chemists; Mt Maunganui: Bayfair Pharmacy; Napier: Gahagans Pharmacy; Nelson: Prices Pharmacy; New Plymouth: Lenise Young; Orewa: Orewa Care Chemists; Palmerston North: Balfours; Papakura: Guys Pharmacy; Paraparaumu: Kapiti Coast Pharmacy; Porirua: North City Pharmacy; Queenstown: H. & J. Smith; Rotorua: Allisons Pharmacy; Taupo: Stewarts Pharmacy; Tauranga: Sinel Francis; Timaru: J. Ballentyne & Co.; Wanganui: Farmers Wanganui; Wellington: Farmers Lambton Quay; Kirkcaldie & Stain's; selected Life Pharmacy stores; Whakatane: Atmores Pharmacy; Whangaparaoa: Hibiscus Coast Pharmacy; Whangarei: Sargents Pharmacy. See www.estelauder.com. Stockists worldwide.

Lancôme: www.lancome.com; drugstore.com; at leading retailers worldwide.

Beauty Cabinet

Dr Hauschka: Hardy's Healthy Living.

ModelCo: www.modelco.com.au, 61 2 8354-6700.

SugarBaby: www.sugarbaby.com.au.

True Style

Ann Taylor: boutiques across the US; store locator at www.annataylor.com.

Giorgio Armani: at Giorgio Armani boutiques, giorgioarmani.com.

Laundry by Shelli Segal: Macy's, macys.com, edressme.com, Neiman Marcus, neimanmarcus.com, Nordstrom, nordstrom.com.

That Girl at Tiffany's

Francka Butinar: 513A New North Road, Kingsland, Auckland, New Zealand; BSN Brands Spanking New, 104 Hurstmere Road, Takapuna, New Zealand; Dandy Lion, 206 Left Bank Arcade, Cuba Mall, Wellington, New Zealand. See www.franckabutinar.com.

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Keith Matheson: see www.keithmatheson.co.nz.

Liz Mitchell: Level 1, 280 Parnell Road, Parnell, Auckland, New Zealand, telephone 64 9 358-1778, email lizmitchelldesign@xtra.co.nz, web www.lizmitchell.co.nz.

Marilyn Sainty: Scotties, Auckland and Wellington, New Zealand. Boutiques listed below under 'Scotties'.

Scotties: 3 Lorne Street, Auckland, New Zealand, 64 9 366-1664; 2 Blake Street, Ponsonby, Auckland, New Zealand, 64 9 379-6617; 4 Blair Street, Wellington, New Zealand, 64 4 384-3805.

Halo

Numerous items from Hamilton & Murray, currently shifting to Featherston Street, Wellington, New Zealand.

Deborah Sweeney: telephone 64 4 972-5961.

Helen Cherry: telephone 64 9 303-9290.

Life/Style

BoConcept: www.boconcept.com. New Zealand store at 20 Normanby Road, Mt Eden, Auckland, New Zealand, telephone 64 9 630-0557, fax 64 9 630-0775, email sales@boconcept.co.nz.

Tissot: www.tissot.ch.

The Scene

Soup Fashion Recovery: 8 Blair Street, Wellington, New Zealand, telephone 64 4 385-4722, fax 64 4 385-4724, email contact@soup.net.nz.

Sterling Style Council: www.sterlingstylecouncil.com.

Working Style: head office at 4 Gundry Street, Newton, Auckland, New Zealand, telephone 64 9 309-7920.

For more information, visit Lucire's Global Shopping Guide at www.lucire.com/shopping.

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Report from the real world

What we say is one thing, but what are our readers talking about? We peer into *Lucire's* StyleTalk forum at www.lucire.com/forum, making us the world's most interactive magazine. This month: there's a lot about our last issue (thank you!), a misbehaving jeweller shows a cute range, our favourite shampoo discussion continues, and life after *Sex and the City*



IT MAY SOUND self-referential, but many of the latest conversations at StyleTalk revolved around the print issue of *Lucire*. The most in-depth thought came from **Heather M.** in Richmond, Va., who wrote, 'I love it! I love the fact that it's a global magazine for the global girl. I love the tone—it's conversational without being too casual. It's the perfect mix of *Jane* and *Vogue*. And I really love the lifestyle section, with the travel reviews.'

'One thing I'd really like to see is ... one small story ... about some global issue, such as the plight of Afghanistan's women, three years after the US-led war ...'

We had discussed this internally and had a good run earlier, especially reader **Nancy Erfan's** fight with her **allergic reaction to permanent make-up tattooing**. But we'll continue to push for your wish here, Heather.

She continued, 'I love the environmental stance of the magazine. ... The layouts are terrific—minimalist but not bland. It has quite a European feel, but with a touch of the States thrown in somehow. ...'

'This could ... be my new favorite magazine. ... [W]hen are you rolling it out in the US?'

Similar thoughts were expressed by **Alexandra Roman** in Puerto Rico who said, 'Se ve fino.' She should know, being the CEO of a jewellery company, at www.rsvanity.com.

Finally, **J** at **Rant Clothing** of Brisbane, Qld. admired our ethos. On that note, on to our usual coverage, for this is your magazine as much as ours.

CLOCKWISE FROM RIGHT: Jessica Simpson in Giorgio Armani: her show with Nick Lachey is not a worthy *Sex and the City* replacement, says Terry Edwards. *Lucire's* August issue, the subject of discussions. Jewellery from Chic Moment (www.chicmoment.com).



(in the words of **Diad** of jeweller **Bittersweets New York**, www.bittersweetsny.com—which also is a nice range).

We love the way Chic Moment has combined its stone colours and its use of wiring. In the interests of our readers, you can find out more at www.chicmoment.com. One of those rare cases where naughtiness paid off, but don't hold your breath on misbehaviour getting more coverage any time soon!

THE SHAMPOO DISCUSSION has continued with *Lucire* editor **Nicola Brockie**.

After being recommended **Garnier Ultra Doux** last issue, newlywed **Lata Tokhi** of **Dot Com Women** in Nagpur, India. However, she had been put off a bit by Garnier's **Fructis**—top marks for the scent but she didn't feel her hair was as shiny as when she used Pantene.

Nicola instead recommended the range from **L'Oréal Professionnel** and the **Vitamins Colour** range for coloured hair. 'If your hair is coarse, **Oléo Relax** by **Kérastase** is a good choice. Always make sure you use a hair masque at least once a week and only

lather your shampoo at the scalp so as not to "overclean" your hair, which will increase oil production.'

DOES **Jennifer Aniston** sound better than Jennifer Anastassakis, the surname her Dad was born with, especially now that Greece is trendier than when Telly Savalas was alive? It remains unresolved at StyleTalk: *Lucire* publisher **Jack Yan** feels that 'Aniston' is catchier, but Diad at Bittersweets says her Greek name is better.

Also unresolved is what people are doing post-***Sex and the City***. After *Lucire* ran the *Sex and the City* Journal with Warner Bros. beginning last year until the final episode aired on HBO, we noticed people haven't filled the void. It could be with ***Nip/Tuck***, but emphatically **not *Newlyweds*** with Jessica Simpson, according to regular reader **Terry Edwards** in Nashville, Tenn. Watch this space—or add your thoughts. More next month.

You can contribute to *Lucire* StyleTalk as well, interact with other readers and our staff, and have a chance to be featured in this column. All who feature here will double their chances in our latest draw on the site. Surf to www.lucire.com/forum.

THERE'S an advertising section at StyleTalk and it's bad manners to stick ads in any other place, but one company did. What makes us madder is that we like its stuff.

Chic Moment of Burlingame, Calif. produced what regular reader **Joanna DeVoe** of new LA label **Koshi** (www.iluvkoshi.com, covered in August) called 'adorable[,] affordable stuff' and wound up blogging about it. The jewellery is 'super-cute'

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