



ONE TREND, TWO WAYS

COOL JEWELS

Channel your inner queen with regal eyeshadows

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LIGHTEN UP

Ditch the down and call it quits with the cold cream: Spring is finally here. And it's not just the evenings that are brighter—our guide to protecting your skin in the city will have you skipping out of work with the freshest of faces

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Yasmin Sewell at London fashion week, Spring 2015

THE KIT BEAUTY & FASHION

FASHION WEEK ISSUE



RETAIL

CONSIGNED, SEALED, DELIVERED

Second-hand is no longer about bargain bins but carefully curated designer pieces

BY INGRIE WILLIAMS

The latest trend in shopping isn't about having what's new—it's more like having what's new to you. With the ability to offer high-end goods at reduced prices, consignment and vintage shopping is enjoying a renaissance as a growing strategy among modern stylish women, thanks in part to social media.

Seema Dhillon, a B.C.-based Canadian PR specialist at Lush Fresh Handmade Cosmetics with a wardrobe that consists of 30 per cent consignment pieces, found her everyday bag, a large Phillip Lim 3.1 Pashli, via Instagram. "I actually bought it from Consign Toronto before they opened, for \$500 or \$600. [The retail is close to \$1,000.] Dag, the owner, is a friend, and when he posted it I called him right away and purchased it," she says. VSP Consignment is another East Coast go-to, while Turn About and Front and Company are her West Coast haunts.

Dhillon, who has bought and sold via consignment for the past 20 years, appreciates the value in scoring pieces she couldn't normally afford as well as the convenience it provides when cleaning out her closet. "I think the perception has changed. Back in the day it was considered thrift shopping where you would go through bins and racks of clothing. Now there are beautifully merchandised boutiques with gorgeous designer pieces." And they all have healthy social media accounts and/or online listings, so you're a tap or click away from snagging a steal any time, anywhere.

Continued on page 7



WEEKEND UPDATE

FRINGE FEST

We salute the modesty and movement of tassels

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Shorts
\$9.95

H&M

LINE WE LOVE

Well and good

Striking colour and strong performance in a green package: Our beauty prayers are answered

Shirley Pinkson, founder of Well People



When you learn your craft from François Nars himself, you develop high standards for cosmetics. New York-based makeup artist Shirley Pinkson, co-founder of the natural line Well People, spent 15 years with the makeup master, working her way up to his top team of artists. “François is truly in love with the subject,” she says. “He works toward bringing that out through cosmetics, or lack of, so that’s kind of what my mantra is as an artist.”

When she began to develop Well People, eight years ago, Pinkson noticed her clients had begun asking about the ingredients in the makeup she was putting on them, and she didn’t know the answers. “I could tell you how to apply it—I could teach you how to make your skin look fantastic, your brows look extra arched, your eyes pop—but I couldn’t tell you what was in any of the products I was using,” she says. “I started doing my research and I didn’t necessarily like what I was reading.” As a result, the line, created in 2008 with dermatolo-

gist Renee Snyder and “tree hugger” and brand developer James Walker, shuns petrochemicals, artificial preservatives, fragrance and phthalates—but because of Pinkson’s devotion to colour artistry, it doesn’t show it.

When it comes to colour, Pinkson often models her shades on mainstream staples. “If you love Orgasm blush from Nars, you’re going to love our Universalist Colorstick 1,” she says. The Bio Brightener Powder, a featherweight, translucent veil that sets foundation but doesn’t settle into pores, is her alternative to Laura Mercier’s Secret Brightening Powder. And her Nudist Colourbalm Stick 2 is a dead ringer for Clinique’s Black Honey Almost Lipstick. What Pinkson is most proud of is the Expressionist mascara, modelled on her long-time favourite, L’Oréal Voluminous; the rubber mould-injected wand is made in the same facility.

Formulation aside, making women look gorgeous is Pinkson’s first love;

she preps clients for the red carpet including *Selma* director Ava DuVernay (“She does not need a lot of makeup at all”) and supermodel Naomi Campbell (“She taught me so much—I mean the girl knows her face inside out”). “The last thing I say to my clients is that we are 100 per cent natural and ingredient-driven,” says Pinkson. “The first thing I say is, ‘You’re going to love how this works.’”

—Rani Sheen

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: WELL PEOPLE BIO EXTREME EXPRESSIONIST MASCARA, \$26, BIO BRIGHTENER STICK, \$39, AND REALIST MINERAL SETTING POWDER, \$27, ALL THEDETOXMARKET.CA



TWEET OF THE WEEK

“On the lot for an audition. Forgot my damn flats. Longest walk ever!! #HeelsSuck”

@Vandiekins22, Laura Vandervoort, March 17, 2015

BEAUTY MATH

Glossy waves and strong brows add up to a polished look we love

AN EYEBROW-DEFINING PALETTE LIKE QUO COSMETICS BROW PALETTE, \$12, SHOPPERS DRUG MART



+

A CLAMP-FREE AUTOMATIC CURLER LIKE KISS INSTAWAVE CURLING IRON, \$79, WALMART



=



Actor Allison Williams looked like *The Blue Lagoon*-era Brooke Shields at PaleyFest for HBO’s *Girls* at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles. With an angled brush, shade in sparse areas with brow powder using short, upward strokes and set in place with a colourless wax. Starting mid-shaft, curl two-inch sections of hair away from the face, then brush them out to soften the curls into loose waves.

—Natasha Bruno

TALKING POINT

The Hudson’s Bay flagship store



RETAIL REVAMP

Almost two years after Hudson’s Bay’s US\$2.9 billion acquisition of Saks Fifth Avenue, construction is under way at the Bay’s Toronto flagship location to house both retailers in 2016, creating a new shopping experience. The four-level Saks will include a 5,500-square-foot restaurant and a food hall run by Pusateri’s, featuring a variety of fine foods and sit-down options where shoppers can refuel. The third floor is divided up so that the Room will focus on younger and emerging designers in an open space, while Saks will carry more traditional labels in in-store shops. Once completed, the destination will be a huge draw for Mink Mile shoppers to head south—especially with Nordstrom replacing Sears in the Eaton Centre in 2016.—*Veronica Saroli*

BEACHY KEEN
TO CREATE THE PERFECT BEACH WAVES, VISIT THEKIT.CA/GLAM-WAVES/



JOHN GALLIANO SPRING 2015

ONE TREND, TWO WAYS BEJEWELLED EYES

Leave your neutral palettes behind. Smoky eyes in rich, dynamic shades are a great option when going for after-dark drama.

Jungle green at John Galliano
To echo the glint and shape of a tropical beetle’s shell, makeup artist Pat McGrath created an exaggerated cat-eye by layering an iridescent emerald green cream shadow along the curve of the upper lid and crease, before extending the wing to the end of the brow. A gold highlighter was added to the inner corner for depth.

Purple haze at Vera Wang
For a grunge-gone-glam effect, makeup lead Lucia Pieroni applied a dark mauve powder shadow using a domed brush from the lash line to the browbone. She then swept the pigment down to the lower lid, forming an oval outline around the eyes. —*Natasha Bruno*



VERA WANG SPRING 2015



MAYBELLINE NEW YORK EYE STUDIO COLOR MOLTEN IN TEAL TWIST, \$10, DRUGSTORES. CLÉ DE PEAU EYE COLOR QUAD IN FAIRY DUST, \$60, HOLT RENFREW.



Rihanna

Starring in Dior’s Secret Garden videos, RiRi will shine bright like a diamond as the first black woman to front a campaign for the house.

Romona Keveza

The Canadian designer is rumoured to be creating wedding dresses for Lady Gaga and Sofia Vergara.

Joe Fresh

Joe Mimran announced he is leaving the company he founded, but the brand plans to open in 25 countries over the next four years.

Reed Krakoff

The designer is putting his production and design on hold while the company looks for an investor.

Dolce & Gabbana

Elton John and many others are boycotting the designers, who said in an interview they’re against gay marriage and IVF.





ONE-MINUTE MIRACLE

Dear Nivea In-Shower Body Lotion: It's been an epic battle between skin and the polar vortex (or Arctic freeze, or El Niño or whatever's to blame for the too-fresh hell nature hath wrought this winter). *Skin. Must. Prevail.* You: You are the red wine to my Cersei Lannister; the direwolf to my Jon Snow. Which is to say that you are my best weapon in the war against flaky, ashy legs. I mean, who'd have thought: a wash-off, in-shower body lotion? Your name lacks flash, yet you succeed where many others fail, giving me smooth, but not greasy, hydrated skin for a full 24 hours. *Loyally,*
Christine Louriero

NIVEA IN-SHOWER BODY LOTION, \$8, DRUGSTORES



FASHION WEEK HUB
CATCH UP ON OUR FAVOURITE MOMENTS OF TORONTO FASHION WEEK AT [THEKIT.CA](#)

FASHION FACEOFF

SID VS. DAVID

What do a Toronto fashion week rising star and a veteran have in common? To find out, we asked Sid Neigum, the winner of the 2014 Mercedes-Benz Start Up competition, and David Dixon, who celebrates his line's 20th anniversary this season, a round of quick-fire questions

BY VERONICA SAROLI		
SID NEIGUM <i>Showing his eighth collection, Mar. 23, 7:00 p.m.</i>	DAVID DIXON <i>Showing his 40th collection, Mar. 24, 9:00 p.m.</i>	
"My collection is inspired by modular origami and packaging design, themes that I have drawn from in the past, but was able to expand on."	<i>What was your inspiration for Fall 2015?</i>	"Joan of Arc. I am inspired by women of courage and distinction. She is quoted as saying, 'I am not afraid. I was born to do this.' In my own way I feel the same."
"No makeup, confidence and intelligence."	<i>What epitomizes glamour to you?</i>	"Being yourself and loving it."
"The Beaufille triple-strap backpack!"	<i>What is the greatest accessory of all time?</i>	"A great smile—it goes with everything."
"Spending every waking moment working. The hardest thing I've ever experienced is starting a business. It's also been the most rewarding."	<i>How do you define hard work?</i>	"I define hard work as a new challenge where, it tests your boundaries, abilities and the familiar."
"I'm usually having fun with my work. If it's not keeping me entertained, I'm onto the next idea."	<i>When do you have the most fun?</i>	"The most fun for me is at the end of the day with a cup of tea in hand, channel surfing on the couch, getting ready to go to bed."
"I prefer books for inspiration. I don't read fiction—mostly design books. I also like books on science, philosophy and religion: Sam Harris, Richard Dawkins, Michael Shermer and the gang, but these don't play too much into my work."	<i>Do you prefer books or movies to gather inspiration?</i>	"I watch movies primarily for entertainment or learning. I read books to escape. I love watching people in their surroundings and how they move, interact and play. With all of these influences combined, inspiration comes knocking."
"Morimoto in New York is a stand out favourite, and there is one coming to Toronto."	<i>Where is your favourite place to eat?</i>	"At home. I love it when my family gets together and breaks bread. No restaurant has that on the menu."
"My MacBook!"	<i>What is the most indispensable tool?</i>	"A pencil: I am constantly writing, drawing and doodling. It is a habit I cannot break."
"I'm most excited to see my friends and family, and celebrate the end of a successful season!"	<i>What are you looking forward to about Toronto fashion week?</i>	"Reconnecting and thanking all the people who joined me on this journey, supported me, pushed me to do better than I thought I could, and who have helped me achieve my goals."

BEAUTY TREND

Press mute

Retire the statement lip (for now) and take a harmonious detour into the new neutrals: dusty rose, muted mauve and earthy brown

BY RANI SHEEN



Clockwise from above: Keira Knightley at the Golden Globes; Anna Kendrick at the Golden Globes; Julia Roberts at the Screen Actors Guild Awards.



For the past few years, a slick of hothouse fuchsia or vibrant orange lipstick on an otherwise minimally made-up face has enjoyed the spotlight on runways, on red carpets and at after-work cocktails alike. But this awards season, something funny has happened: What suddenly looks fresh is a soft, overall application of earthy shades that offer equal opportunity to all of the face's features. Keira Knightley, much nominated for her role in *The Imitation Game* and benefitting from a natural pregnancy glow, has trotted out a variety of harmonious beauty looks in which soft, brownish-rose tones are artfully blended everywhere on the face. Kate Lee, the L.A.-based makeup artist responsible, used the words "soft, pink flush" and "tawny lip" to

describe Knightley's look at the Screen Actors Guild Awards in January; the muted mauve stain she wore to the Oscars the next month should cause a wait-list-only stampede on Chanel's Rouge Coco lipstick in Légende. At January's Golden Globes, Anna Kendrick's lips, cheeks and eyes were awash in similarly diffused berry tones that called to mind Pantone's colour of the year, marsala, while Julia Roberts's famous features were enhanced with warm, rosy brown at the Screen Actors Guild Awards. Mind you, for Roberts this was nothing new. "This is a favourite of Julia; she loves to be in neutrals," said makeup artist and entrepreneur Laura Mercier, who visited Toronto's Holt Renfrew in February and has often worked

with Roberts. "She is particularly self-conscious of her mouth. She thinks, 'My smile is too big, my lips are too big.'" Having started her career in Paris at the end of the 1970s, Mercier has seen many a trend come and go, and she found her sweet spot while working with Madonna and photographer Steven Meisel in the 1990s, when beige, brown and brick shades came to the fore. For Mercier, the current monochromatic look is a welcome re-emergence of that trend, proof that as with so many other hot things right now, the Nineties are back. But this isn't M.A.C Spice lipliner 2.0. "You see a progression," says Mercier. "These are neutrals that are sensual and alive."

PLUMP IT UP
LEARN HOW TO CREATE FULL NEUTRAL LIPS AT [THEKIT.CA/FULLER-DEFINED-LIPS/](#)

UNDER \$25

GEL LIPSTICKS

Free of heavy waxes that dry out lips and dull pigment, new gel-based lipsticks are less chalky, delivering moisture and colour

BY NATASHA BRUNO

- 1. Plump It Up Rose**
Infused with hyaluronic acid and mango butter, this volume-enhancing rosy stick moisturizes dry lips.
HARD CANDY PLUMPING SERUM GEL STICK IN INFAMOUS, \$5, WALMART
- 2. Just-Bitten Kiss**
For a subtle soft-blush lip, try this sheer formula made with pomegranate essence for added shine.
MAYBELLINE NEW YORK COLOR WHISPER BY COLORSENSATIONAL IN LUST FOR BLUSH, \$10, MAYBELLINE.CA
- 3. Berry Delight**
Coat lips in moisture with this long-lasting lip colour enriched with vitamin E, primrose and avocado oil.
INGLOT COSMETICS SLIM GEL LIPSTICK IN 61, \$17, INGLOTCOSMETICS.CA
- 4. Sunny Terracotta**
This semi-sheer lipstick in warm brownish pink is free of parabens, rich in antioxidants and the perfect middle ground between glossy and matte.
CARGO COSMETICS LIMITED EDITION GEL LIP COLOR IN SOHO, \$22, MURALE.CA
- 5. Pretty in Pink**
This medium-coverage lipstick in classic rose is formulated with a patented clear base, which means the colour you see in the tube is the colour you'll get on your lips.
AVON ULTRA COLOR INDULGENCE LIPSTICK IN PETAL PINK, \$12, AVON.CA (AVAILABLE IN APRIL)
- 6. Must-Have Mauve**
This pigment-packed formula delivers true cool-mauve colour in one smooth swipe.
REVLON ULTRA HD LIPSTICK IN MAGNOLIA, \$12, DRUGSTORES



PHOTOGRAPHY: GETTY IMAGES (ROBERTS, KENDRICK)



1. NUDESTIX LIP AND CHEEK DUAL PENCIL IN MYSTIC/WHISPER, \$28, SEPHORA.CA. 2. YSL BEAUTE COUTURE VARIATION EYE COMPACT IN NO 1 NU, \$80, DEPARTMENT STORES. 3. LAURA MERCIER PAINT WASH LIQUID LIP COLOUR IN NUDE ROSE, \$34, HOLT RENFREW. 4. BARE MINERALS COMPLEXION RESCUE TINTED HYDRATING GEL CREAM, \$36, SEPHORA.CA. 5. BOBBI BROWN HOT NUDES EYE PALETTE, \$76, BOBBI BROWN COUNTERS. 6. CHANEL ROUGE COCO IN LÉGENDE, \$42, CHANEL COUNTERS. 7. BOURJOIS COLORBAND EYESHADOW & LINER IN MAUVE BAROQUE, AVAILABLE IN APRIL, \$19, SHOPPERS DRUG MART.

RIGHT LOOK, RIGHT AGE

Protection program

There are bad beauty habits we're all familiar with (going to bed with makeup on), and then there are the skin saboteurs of the modern age that put you on the fast track to aging. Here, your everyday enemies and how to shut them down

BY JILL DUNN

20s

SKIN SABOTEUR TECH TIME

Screen-obsessed millennials: Whenever you talk, text, FaceTime or Snapchat, you could cause skin irritations, breakouts and premature neck wrinkles. "There has been evidence linking skin allergies, like contact dermatitis, to the nickel and chromium in cellphone casings," says Dr. Jason Rivers, a dermatologist at Pacific Dermaesthetics in Vancouver. If you're constantly looking down at your phone or tablet, you're at risk of "tech neck," the term given to premature creasing and aging of the neck. "Lines are appearing on the neck at a younger age than we normally anticipate," says Rivers. Your phone can also cause breakouts, since you're constantly transferring dirt, makeup and oil from your face to your phone and back again.

THE RX
The first line of defence is a phone case that puts a



physical barrier between your cell and your skin. To prevent the contamination of your skin by your cellphone, Rivers advises washing your hands often and cleaning your phone screen with an alcohol wipe. To combat tech neck, keep your head up while using your devices—and always apply your face moisturizer south of the jawline.

SHU UEMURA TSUYA SKIN YOUTHFUL BOUNCY-FINE CREAM, \$90, SHUUEMURA.CA. **TARTE** MARACUJA NECK TREATMENT, \$59, SEPHORA.CA. **WHOOSH!** SCREEN SHINE POCKET, \$6, SHOPPERS DRUG MART.



Natalie Joos, 40, Paris fashion week, Spring 2015.

40s

SKIN SABOTEUR POLLUTION

We bet that by the time you hit 40, you've long since shunned wrinkle-inducing sins like smoking and sunbathing. But now we're learning about how another invisible threat—poor air quality from smog and stale indoor air—can accelerate premature aging. City grime settles on the skin and can set off a chain reac-

tion of free-radical-caused damage in the body, leading to a breakdown of collagen and elastin and the ensuing wrinkles and sagging.

THE RX
Scientists are just starting to understand how detrimental pollution is to skin. Manufacturers are incorporating ingredients to target it, including higher SPFs and antioxidant vitamin E, which helps protect against



environmental stressors. A study published by Olay last November in Beijing—one of the most polluted places on the planet—found that women who lived in the city's downtown had drier skin and a weaker skin barrier, compared with women who lived in the cleaner suburbs. So the brand engineered its latest formulas with its highest level of barrier-boosting niacinamide (vitamin B₃) and 40 per cent more vitamins. It's not the only company focusing on protective skincare. Shiseido researchers realized that under the microscope, the skin's surface resembles peaks and valleys, which leaves "gaps" in UV protection. The company addressed this with antioxidants such as rose-apple-leaf extract to provide optimal protection for all the skin's contours.

OLAY TOTAL EFFECTS FEATHERWEIGHT MOISTURIZER SPF 15, \$33, DRUGSTORES. **SHISEIDO** URBAN ENVIRONMENT UV PROTECTION CREAM SPF 40, \$40, SHOPPERS DRUG MART.

50s

SKIN SABOTEUR SLEEP DEFICIT

Once menopause sets in, catching a successful stretch of Zs can be a big challenge, and sleeplessness can accelerate aging. Hormonal changes disrupt sleep, and in turn, skin looks duller and cell turnover is more sluggish. During menopause, levels of estrogen and progesterone plummet, which can interrupt the brain's natural sleep rhythms and cause you to wake at irregular times or experience uncomfortable night sweats. The nighttime is the body's designated time-out, and when we don't get enough quality shut-eye, skin can look sallow and rough, and imperfections are much more evident. "We do know that if you're not sleeping well, you'll get darker circles at the very least," says Rivers.



GARNIER ULTRA-LIFT MIRACLE SLEEPING NIGHT CREAM, \$25, DRUGSTORES. **REVERSA** CORRECTIVE NIGHT CREAM, \$39, DRUGSTORES.

THE RX
Make getting a good night's sleep a priority, and look for overnight creams that boost collagen and elastin. And another thing: While that glass of Cabernet Franc will seemingly lull you to sleep more quickly, alcohol has actually been shown to interfere with quality rest, so sip it with dinner but pass on a glass right before bedtime.



Left: Anna Dello Russo, 52, at Paris fashion week, Spring 2015. Above: Carine Roitfeld, 60, at London fashion week, Spring 2015.

30s

SKIN SABOTEUR

BACTERIA—OR LACK THEREOF

In your 30s, inflammation caused by bacterial imbalance is often the root of skin flare-ups, including breakouts, eczema or psoriasis. Antibacterial soaps and creams are frequently recruited to address these issues but end up eliminating the "good" bacteria with the "bad." Maintaining the right balance of bacteria on our skin helps calm inflammation (the same way we ingest probiotics to fortify our internal health). Good bacteria act like bodyguards to ward off inflammation in the skin, and excessive use of antibacterial products can rob us of this crucial built-in self-defence. So take it easy with the hand sanitizer.

THE RX

"Many things determine the bacteria that colonize your body," says Chloe McCauley, skincare educator and trainer with La Roche-Posay, "such as the places you've lived and visited, and even whether you were born via C-section

or through the birth canal." La Roche-Posay's body lotion uses Aqua Posae Filiformis, a bacterium that grows in water around the world, to help stabilize the microbiome—the ecosystem of micro-organisms that live in our body—and restore the skin's barrier.

The impact of bacteria on the skin is a relatively new field of research, so expect to see the word *probiotic* not only on your yogurt but also on more skincare products.

ÉMINENCE ORGANICS CLEAR SKIN PROBIOTIC MOISTURIZER, \$59, EMINENCEORGANICS.COM. **LA ROCHE-POSAY** LIPIKAR BAUME AP+, \$33, DRUGSTORES.



Above: Olivia Palermo, 29, London fashion week, Spring 2015. Right: Yasmin Sewell, 36, at London fashion week, Spring 2015.

60s

SKIN SABOTEUR

DRYING AGENTS

In your 60s, loss of hormones like estrogen means you need to add more moisture topically to the skin to prevent it from flaking. Plus, prescription medications can affect the efficiency of moisturizers on mature skin.

THE RX

Your moisturizer needs to work overtime to keep skin hydrated—layers of serums, oils and creams help top up levels. Adding a drop of oil to your cream makes both work double time. While internal hydration is important, it won't fix the problem. "We hear a lot about drinking water and how that improves skin hydration—but it doesn't make any real difference to surface dryness," says Rivers. "Even if you drink tons of water, you can't bank it—you'll just excrete it." Also, as your doctor starts to give you more prescriptions for various conditions, your skin may pay a price. "Hypertension meds and some antibiotics can thin the skin and make you more sun sensitive," says Rivers. "So SPF is a must."

ESTÉE LAUDER RESILIENCE LIFT, \$92, ESTEELAUDER.CA. **CAUDALIE** PREMIER CRU THE ELIXIR, \$100, MURALE.



WEEKEND UPDATE

Fringe factor

Western trimming has received a high-fashion upgrade. Cropping up on the hemlines of street-style stars and red-carpet celebs, fringed skirts add instant impact and gorgeous movement

BY NATASHA BRUNO

1. Hey stud
Metallic embellishment and leather shreds give Kim Kardashian's high-waisted skirt serious edge. Teaming it with a transparent shirt, a long velvet coat and lace-up heels keeps her all-black outfit playful, chic and sultry.

2. It's a wrap
Kylie Jenner's wrap skirt with asymmetric flounce, crop top, retro sunglasses and biker boots create a stylish, boho-grunge look. The longer calf-grazing hemline helps to balance out her skin-baring halter top.

3. Lady in red
Dakota Fanning's dropped-waist suede dress has a subtle nod to the 1920s flapper era. By keeping her accessories modern, like nude pointed-toe pumps and understated gold jewellery, she lets her bold frock take centre stage.

4. Mellow neutral
It's all in the styling: With these staples—a relaxed trench coat, untucked button-down shirt and slip-on sneakers—Andreea Bogdan creates a cool, laid-back look, with her tasselled mini as the unexpected twist to her outfit.

5. The LBD 2.0
Cascading fringe to the ankle turns an otherwise mini-length dress into a sophisticated, age-appropriate number on Rene Russo and amps up a demure silhouette.

6. Elevate the basics
This New York fashion week goer has mastered the high/low mix. With a fitted floor-skimming leather skirt and studded single-sole pumps, she transforms a casual baseball T-shirt into an event-ready look.

The It item
Rich burgundy suede and side draping make this midi wrap skirt an eye-catcher. Try it with a tucked-in, neutral blouse and strappy heels for a chic style statement.



TAMARA MELLON
SUEDE FRINGE SKIRT,
\$1,171, SHOPBOP.COM



PHOTOGRAPHY: GETTY IMAGES (RUSSO, FANNING), PETER STIGTER (STREET STYLE), KEYSTONE PRESS (KARDASHIAN, JENNER)

Spring to life

Forgo heavy cold-weather fare for the fresh flavours of a sunnier season, from basic brunch to family feast. Here's our complete guide to lightening up your food

MARCH 27
in select copies of the Toronto Star

MARCH 28
with The Kit in newspapers across Canada

*FOOD NETWORK is a trademark of Television Food Network G.P., used with permission.

COOL COLLAB

ON THE RISE

Misha Nonoo's line made its debut this spring on artist Dustin Yellin, and now her Aldo Rise collaboration is in stores you can wear her style night and day

BY CARLY OSTROFF

Misha Nonoo has been setting the style pace in contemporary fashion since she debuted her eponymous label in 2011. Already a front-runner with fans including Gwyneth Paltrow, Sarah Jessica Parker and Emma Watson, Nonoo has launched a three-piece collection with the accessible shoemaker, Aldo Rise, known for its high-fashion partnerships.

In keeping with the New-York-based designer's signature sensibility of feminine themes and masculine add-ons, the new line includes shoes and a clutch in leather in shades of metallics and neutrals.

Playing on origami and contemporary art, the Council of Fashion Designers of America Incubator designer wove a theme of wrapping and tying throughout both her collection and her Aldo collaboration. She debuted both at her Spring 2015 show (where Dustin Yellin, who created prints for her spring line, also walked the catwalk for her).

Laced-up pointy flats with removable ankle ties have "a great sense of femininity and sensuality, but also a sense of purpose and strength," says Nonoo. Strappy high-heeled sandals are "sensual and feminine, but with a bold exclamation point." The handbag was conceived to be day-to-night transient with metal hardware.

"It's about creating things that I don't have in my wardrobe and I don't see elsewhere," says



Nonoo. "The sense behind creating the two shoe styles was 'I could really use these,'" she says.

The end result came together with exactly the wearable glamour that Nonoo had in mind when she began the design process. "The shoes are the ultimate expression of an outfit. They not only dot the i's and cross the t's, but can absolutely elevate your outfit."

Sitting on top of every fashion lover's list of contemporary brands and with a second fall partnership announced for Aldo Rise, Nonoo is stepping up her game—and ours.



RUNWAY BEAUTY

LEARN HOW TO RECREATE NONOO'S FALL 2015 HAIR LOOKS AT THEKIT.CA/MISHA-NONOO-FALL-HAIR/

VERSATILE STYLE

Misha Nonoo's tips on how to rock her pieces for night and day



DAY: Tie up flats

"These are like a sexy, modern version of the ballerina flat. It has that nice pointy toe, sexy toe cleavage and the sling back so you can see the heel. Wear them with a cute mini skirt, or with denim and a T-shirt."

MISHA NONOO X ALDO RISE FLATS, \$100, ALDO STORES

DAY TO NIGHT: Clutch

"To keep it casual, it's about how you hold it. In the show it was crunched up like a newspaper under a businessman's arm. In the evening I think it's very cool to wear this tonal head-to-toe look—it can feel dressy but also more relaxed."

MISHA NONOO X ALDO RISE CLUTCH, \$65, ALDO STORES

NIGHT: Strappy heel

"I'd wear it with a cute sexy dress or a great romper. You can wear the same thing day to night by putting on a bold red lip or putting your hair down, and you've got a little more of a dressed-up look."

MISHA NONOO X ALDO RISE HEELS \$160, ALDO STORES



Top: The LXR&CO store located inside the Hudson's Bay Queen Street store. Below: Lauren Baker's LAB Consignment private studio.



IF YOU'RE SHOPPING...

1. "Get to know the buyers and owners of the shops. It helps when you have a relationship, as they can keep an eye out for incoming items," says Dhillon. "If you are looking for a rock-bottom deal, go end of season."

2. "Do your research! There is a rich history behind each of the products and brands we sell—knowing it can really make you fall even more head over heels," says Mannella.

3. "Don't pay attention to sizes. Sizing has changed over the years—do what feels good on your body," says Baker.

IF YOU'RE SELLING...

1. "Don't bring in dirty stuff! I have seen my share of things I can't un-see," says Baker.

2. "Think a season ahead. Shops are selling resort and spring now, items brought in from last year's summer-to-fall closet flip," says Mannella.

3. "Your items are worth only as much as someone will pay for them," says Baker. "Come in open-minded about your profit expectations."

DESIGNER SCORES

Continued from cover

Going digital was big business for Lauren Baker, owner of LAB Consignment in Toronto. "When I moved from my shop on Avenue Rd. and into my studio and posted all items online, sales doubled," she says, noting that her client base has transformed too. "I try not to pigeonhole, as I think women are so dynamic these days in their style and shopping behaviours," she says. "Some of my customers want the luxe coveted items, some want the mid-range deals." Inspired by the need for a place where she and her friends could resell high-quality clothing that was too valuable to just donate, Baker's appointment-only studio and website are packed with designer gems from a variety of consignors: "I have millionaires, rock stars, tastemakers," says Baker.

Another sizable clue that second-hand goods are hot and haute is the inclusion of a vintage luxury accessories shop within an iconic non-vintage retailer. "The laid-back, high-class Hudson's Bay atmosphere married with our mantra of being a breath of fresh air in an otherwise stuffy, old-school industry perfectly," says Fred Mannella, CEO and president of LXR&CO. The result is the company's first Canadian store, with a bounty of big-name finds at the Queen St. flagship location, where shoppers may scoop up a Hermès Carré 90cm Carpe Diem scarf with original tag for \$295, rather than the \$420 retail price, for example. "We started LXR&CO to create a retail experience that made customers feel excited and comfortable when shopping luxury. To make beautiful things accessible to everyone," says Mannella.

DRESSING UP

Foxy flats

Flat shoes are a staple for casual wear, but for a flashy gala, not so much. Karen Cleveland swaps her stilettos for menswear-inspired brogues. Does she fall in love or does the look fall flat?



Karen Cleveland heads to an Icewine Gala in Niagara-on-the-Lake, January 2015.

I love a tailored menswear influence, but my shoes are strictly lady business. I wore my tartan kilt through high school with heels as high as I could muster, and from there, tended bar, sprinted for cabs and more recently sat at a desk, all in sky-high heels. I was of the mind that flats are for quitters. Then some pesky back issues had me rethinking my footwear choices.

I found salvation in the Resort 2015 looks: Both Oscar de la Renta and Chanel sent leggy models down the runway in gorgeous knee-skimming spring dresses, sporting boyish flats. Brogues, wingtips and oxfords gave the dresses a sporty, playful feel. What's more, the shoes all had some sort of punch, in either a pop of colour blocking or an interesting finish. These aren't your dad's shoes.

When you're used to seeing your silhouette (mine not being of the leggy-model variety) in heels, the move to flats is a

switch. Heels do wonders for making legs look longer and bottoms more pert, while forcing a certain sashay, but flats are, well, comfortable. And comfort is becoming a priority at my practical, sensible age. Plus, I love the freshness of a more formal, polished dress, with a cute boyish shoe.

What sold me on trying the trend was a beautiful pair of black patent and mint green leather oxfords, found at Gravity Pope. They have the polish of my favourite pair of black pumps with a sexy pointed toe, but in a sleek flat. I tried them on with skinny black pants and instantly loved them, but was eager to see if I could also love them for nighttime. The testing ground was the opening of the Niagara Icewine Festival—a perfect challenge: a cocktail party, meaning hours and hours of standing (while drinking delicious local icewines, I know, I know).

That night I paired my favourite new flats with a simple black lace cocktail dress (and, okay, I admit that I stashed my trusty black pumps in the hotel in case I wasn't feeling it). My dress was cut quite close to the body and hit a few inches above the knee. Had it been longer or more billowy, I would have been lost in the scale of it, but the proportions were just right with this shoe. The look was simple and elegant, but the footwear made it playful and fresh.

Normally, a few hours into such an event, my dogs would be barking and I'd be scouring the room looking for seating, but my feet were in heaven. So much so that my husband and I opted to walk to the casino to play some blackjack before the after-party. Usually, by midnight, my decisions are based on how far I need to walk in heels, but this time I could have stayed on my feet all night. And I did, in fact.

While a beautiful heel will always have a place in my closet (much to my physiotherapist's chagrin), a pair (or two) of boyish flats are unquestionably moving into the regular rotation. This is a trend I can definitely get down (a few inches) with.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: TIBI, OSCAR DE LA RENTA AND KAREN WALKER, ALL SPRING 2015



ELECTRIC EYES

READ ABOUT HOW WRITER KAREN CLEVELAND TRIED BRIGHT BLUE EYELINER AT WORK, AT THEKIT.CA/COLOURED-EYELINER/

STUART WEITZMAN THE NICEGUY FLAT, \$425, STUARTWEITZMAN.COM. ADIEU TYPE 20 OXFORD, \$840, GRAVITYPOPE.COM. FOREVER 21 FAUX PATENT LEATHER OXFORDS, \$40, FOREVER21.COM.



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NEW AT HUDSON'S BAY

THE LATEST LAUNCHES AND NEW ARRIVALS FOR SPRING



NEW IN ACTIVEWEAR

Athleisure's popularity is all about combining performance and a pretty package, so you can go to Bikram, brunch and beyond. Pairing up technical features like moisture wicking with kaleidoscopic colours and prints are Y.A.S SPORT (at left), STRUT-THIS and PRISMSPORT.

Shop select stores and thebay.com



IN THE NUDE GIORGIO ARMANI CREMA NUDA

ARMANI's Luminous Silk Foundation is a favourite of makeup pros, models and mere mortals, and the brand's new skin care-based foundation Crema Nuda (six shades, \$209) is sure to amass its own admirers. Available at Hudson's Bay Toronto Queen Street, Toronto Yorkdale, Montreal Downtown and Vancouver Downtown



WING IT ON

ANCIENT GREEK SANDALS

Known for their light and luxe leather footwear, ANCIENT GREEK SANDALS has reimagined their signature winged Ikaria style as a jelly for Resort 2015. Crafted of 100 per cent recyclable rubber, it's available in four colours (\$125).

Available at Hudson's Bay Toronto Queen Street, Vancouver Downtown and thebay.com



MEN'S FOOTWEAR

FISH 'N' CHIPS

Laid-back and lightweight, these casual kicks (\$98 each) come in contrast mesh, picnic plaids and doodled denim.

Also available at thebay.com



CAFÉ COOL

DURALEX PICARDIE

Famous for their resistance to impact, they're the preferred vessel of French cafés and Eastern European teahouses, and coveted by collectors. The glasses (set of six, from \$19.99) have been made in DURALEX's La Chapelle-Saint-Mesmin, France factory since their invention in 1945.

Shop select stores and thebay.com

SIT BACK

PALLISER

Hudson's Bay partnered with this historic company to create the Buena Vista II (\$2,999), a futuristic power recliner that swivels, glides, rocks and, of course, reclines. Made in Canada of Italian-tanned leather, it is available in 32 colours.

Shop select stores and thebay.com



LIGHT THE WAY

DISTINCTLY HOME GOURD LAMP

This shapely, interior design classic (\$299 each) gets a new spin with colours that coordinate with DISTINCTLY HOME's Cube Table.

Also available at thebay.com

BLOCK PARTY

DISTINCTLY HOME CUBE TABLE

Stack these in multiples to create a colourful shelf space, or arrange them as a coffee table or an at-hand stand (\$139 each). Also available at thebay.com



HUDSON'S BAY

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