

THE KIT

The Luxury Issue: High-roller gifts, swish fragrances and a very Posh encounter



“We have a lot of super-talented designers in Montreal who deserve to be put on a different platform,” says Cary Tauben, who styled himself wearing hats exclusively from Montreal designers.

FUMILE HAT, \$450, FUMILE.CA. JENNY BIRD EARRINGS, \$135, JENNY-BIRD.CA. ALL CLOTHING, STYLIST'S OWN

Head in the clouds

Dream a little dream with Montreal mega-stylist Cary Tauben, as he showcases the power and glory of the season's essential accessory: the hat

PHOTOGRAPHY BY WILLIAM ARCAND

“No matter where I go, I always have a hat on me,” says Cary Tauben, adding that he's a “very big believer in accessories in general.” The Montreal fashion star cites a black wide-brim Dior as one of his first hat purchases: “I like hats that are very structured, not flimsy.” Snap-backs are a current favourite: Tauben estimates that he owns 40 of them in an array of solid colours that he matches to his outfits. “I might look super glam with my hair down, but if I add a backwards cap, my look becomes more streetwear.”

In his own off-duty looks, Tauben favours embellished pieces sourced from vintage stores around the globe. Colour is a necessity: “I'm a very colourful person in general. When I was 18, my palette was very grey and black—I wore black skinny jeans and Rick Owens tank tops. Now,” he says, with a laugh, “I only wear black if I'm tired.”

Tauben could be forgiven for a certain amount of exhaustion. A few recent highlights from his whirlwind schedule: He won the

coveted Stylist of the Year trophy at the 2019 Canadian Arts & Fashion Awards and he just wrapped styling the global campaign for Aldo. As we chat by phone, he's currently on the road to Quebec City, where he's working with the innovative Canadian retailer Simons.

Tauben seeks inspiration everywhere, from travel (he was recently in Ibiza) to movies. “Have you seen *Don't Tell Mom the Babysitter's Dead*? I'm so into that movie right now. That blunt bob! And the styling is totally off the chain.”

As wide-ranging as Tauben's influences may be, his advice for mastering an outfit is simple: “Confidence is the number one rule. The dress may be amazing, but the whole look can fall apart if you don't feel great in it.” This holiday, take style inspiration from Tauben, who clearly has confidence to burn.

PHOTO SHOOT CONTINUES ON PAGE 4



THIS IS
GIVING
NORDSTROM

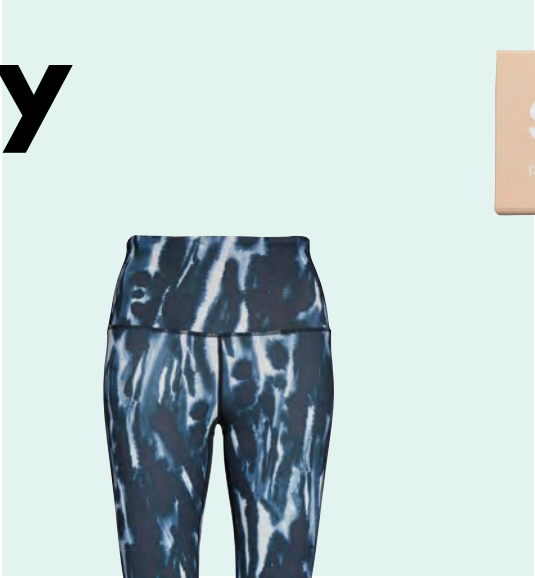


FREE GIFT WRAPPING
AND SILVER BOXES

THE KIT X NORDSTROM

A very
stylish
holiday

Let's be honest, our most fashionable friends and family are extra fun to shop for. This season, head to one-stop gifting destination Nordstrom to find gems for everyone on your list, especially the trendsetters. Here, our picks of the most stylish presents to slip under their tree.



Athleisure has never looked so good. These watercolour leggings are a style standout and supremely giftable.

ZELLA LEGGINGS, \$85, NORDSTROM



Metallic slippers: what's not to love? Whether you go for rose gold or mermaid purple, they'll add some spark to holiday lounging.

NORDSTROM SLIPPERS, \$35, NORDSTROM



Cute and colourful, these undies are the ultimate stocking stuffer.

MADEWELL UNDERWEAR, \$65, NORDSTROM



The softest silk isn't reserved for slip dresses. This sleep mask will ensure a great night's rest.

SLIP SLEEP MASK, \$70, NORDSTROM



A cozy knit hat—with a jaunty pom-pom—is the gift that keeps on giving all winter long.

PATAGONIA BEANIE, \$49, NORDSTROM



Foxy leopard print adds a touch of glamour to wear-anywhere kicks. Pair with a cocktail dress for an unexpected party look.

CONVERSE SNEAKERS, \$70, NORDSTROM



Calling all French-girl-style lovers! This classic beret is the fashion equivalent of a ticket to Paris.

HALOGEN BERET, \$39, NORDSTROM



A shiny clutch is a festive must-have. Bonus: this one is filled with party-essential lipsticks.

NARS POWERMATTE LIP PIGMENT AND CLUTCH SET, \$65, NORDSTROM



These chunky fleece-lined knit socks belong beside the fireplace, hot chocolate in hand.

UGG SOCKS, \$60, NORDSTROM



TIFFANY & CO.
TIFFANY & LOVE FOR
HER, \$115 (50 ML),
\$160 (90 ML),
TIFFANY & LOVE
FOR HIM, \$90 (50
ML), \$120 (90 ML),
TIFFANY.CA

Happy together

Liz Guber meets the new power couple of fragrances

PHOTOGRAPHY BY DANIEL HARRISON

The old truism “opposites attract” is an apt description of Tiffany & Co.’s new his-and-her fragrances. The companion scents, called Tiffany & Love, are like an enviably, almost annoyingly great couple—a finely calibrated balance of two distinct personalities. And that was exactly what Tiffany & Co. chief artistic officer Reed Krakoff wanted for the brand’s first dual fragrance launch. “The idea of the fragrance is the relationship between two people and the two poles of masculinity and femininity,” Krakoff tells me at the company’s Manhattan HQ. “I wanted [the perfumers] to create two fragrances that can live side by side but also have their own aspects; scents that have a sensuality, an emotional quality and a complexity.”

Tasked with this brief, perfumers Honorine Blanc and Nicolas Beaulieu worked to create strong, memorable scents that emphasize and respond to one another. Working on the women’s scent, Blanc tinkered with blue basil from Kenya and combined the spicy-floral herb with winter lemon to capture that butterflies-in-the-stomach feeling of first love. Then she added white neroli from Morocco to bring a dewy freshness. “We wanted to capture an effervescent energy,” explains Blanc. “You enter

the fragrance on a bright, energetic note, then it becomes floral, then woody. That’s modern.”

For the men’s fragrance, Beaulieu sourced Guatemalan cardamom to evoke the electrifying energy of love at first sight and vetiver to represent long-lasting love. Both scents have something in common: blue sequoia. This never-before-used ingredient acts as a minty, woody “pillow” for both scents and bonds them together.

Ultimately, both noses took a less-is-more approach. “It’s about creating an addictive scent melody. It’s easy to shock in perfumery, but to create a melody is really difficult. I prefer to create a new rhythm. That’s when you know you have something good,” says Blanc.

It goes without saying that the old rules of perfume have gone out the window—just ask Krakoff. “The way we wear fragrance today is really about self-expression. Women wear men’s and vice versa. It’s about conveying something optimistic, unexpected and unique.” Here’s to (modern) love.

Travel and accomodation for Liz Guber were provided by Tiffany & Co. Tiffany & Co. did not review or approve this copy.

You’re worth it

Renée Tse curates an obsession-worthy holiday list



THE STATEMENT COAT

There’s truly no better antidote to a case of winter blahs than a colourful, textured statement coat. That Céline Dion recently stepped out in the very same one is just a bonus.

MAX MARA COAT, \$4,290, MAX MARA BOUTIQUE



THE ON-TREND HEELS

The iconic F logo print makes a subtle appearance on Fendi’s edgy slingbacks, which are inspired by sneaker design and Italian futurism. At last, a true desk-to-dancing shoe.

FENDI SHOES, \$1,190, FENDI.COM



THE NOTICE-ME BAG

Meet the latest IT bag anointed by the street-style set. You can remove the small compartment for a simpler look, wear the bag cross-body, or tuck it under your arm, early-aughts style.

LOUIS VUITTON BAG, \$2,130, LOUISVUITTON.CA



THE VANITY UPGRADE

The cult Australian bodycare brand collaborated with Dutch couturier Iris Van Herpen on a seriously coveted holiday set that includes a much-loved mouthwash and a room spray.

AESOP X IRIS VAN HERPEN THE FAMILIAR HORIZON SET, \$120, AESOP.COM



THE DREAMY FRAGRANCE

Not only will this blend of pink pepper and mandarin orange momentarily whisk you away to the Mediterranean, the artful pastel bottle will seriously beautify your bathroom counter.

BVLGARI LE GEMME CORALIE EAU DE PARFUM, \$416, HOLTRENFREW.COM



THE OPULENT CANDLE

Designed in collaboration with storied porcelain maker Virebent, this five-wick candle is the closest thing to a campfire. The hat-box-style packaging is worth keeping long after the candle burns out.

DIPTYQUE LIMITED EDITION FEU DE BOIS CANDLE, \$655, DIPTYQUEPARIS.COM



THE INDULGENT EYE ELIXIR

There are eye creams, and then there are eye elixirs—like this nourishing formula infused with black orchid and illuminating 24-karat gold particles to protect, hydrate and brighten.

GUERLAIN ORCHIDÉE IMPÉRIALE BLACK THE EYE AND LIP CONTOUR CREAM, \$815, HOLTRENFREW



THE ULTIMATE LIP KIT

Follow Tom Ford’s lead (he named each buttery lipstick in this 25-piece set after a woman he admires) and gift one to all the important ladies in your life—and keep one for yourself.

TOM FORD BOYS AND GIRLS LIPSTICK SET, \$1,060, HOLTRENFREW.COM

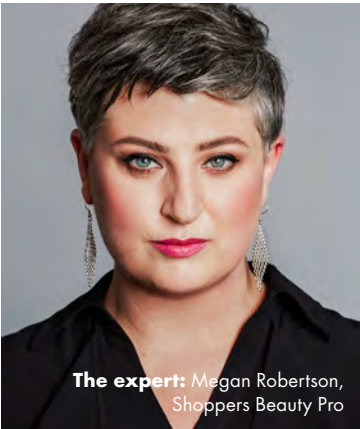


THE CLASSIC BRACELET

Stacking lots of bracelets—a.k.a. the arm party—is back. Make this graphic number the focal point, or, if you’re more of a minimalist, wear it solo. There are no wrong answers here.

TIFFANY BRACELET, \$2,300, TIFFANY.CA

THE KIT X SHOPPERS DRUG MART



The expert: Megan Robertson, Shoppers Beauty Pro

The gift of beauty

Slip a sumptuous scent or gorgeous gloss under the tree to make the holidays extra beautiful



What are your favourites from the Boscia skincare set?

“The Luminizing Black Mask is my top pick. I use this twice a month to detoxify my skin, mainly in my T-zone. I also love the MakeUp-BreakUp Cool Cleansing Oil because it’s a great daily cleanse that removes makeup.”

BOSCIA’S BOTANICAL BESTIES, \$49, SHOPPERSDRUGMART.CA



What do you love about the Dyson hairdryer?

“I love that the Dyson Supersonic offers temperature control to avoid heat damage. My hair is left feeling beautifully sleek with a healthy shine every time. You can also use the attachments to achieve a variety of styles, whether you’re looking for sleek and straight, or a more defined curl.”

DYSON SUPERSONIC HAIR DRYER, \$499.99, SHOPPERSDRUGMART.CA



Who are the fragrance sampler sets perfect for?

“The fragrance sampler set is a great gift for someone who loves to try something new. It comes with 10 scent samples plus a certificate for a full-size bottle of your favourite fragrance. My personal favourites this year are Diesel Spirit Of The Brave for him, and Carolina Herrera Good Girl Légère for her.”

FRAGRANCE SAMPLERS, \$90 EACH, SHOPPERSDRUGMART.CA



What’s a great beauty stocking stuffer?

“Who doesn’t love a great lip gloss in cute packaging? The Quo Lip Gloss Ornament is perfect for a faithful lip gloss fan. It’s also a pretty gift topper.”

QUO LIP GLOSS ORNAMENT, \$6, SHOPPERSDRUGMART.CA



What are your tips for the perfect cat eye?

“To get the best wing for your cat eye, use the outside edge of your lower lash line as a guide for your angle. It’s important to start with small strokes on the lash line. I love using Lise Watier eyeliner because it’s creamy, glides on easily and is waterproof. Mascara completes any makeup look, but especially the cat eye. Too Faced Better Than Sex mascara thickens, lengthens and curls lashes to make your eyes look bigger and brighter. It’s a mascara must-have.”

LISE WATIER INTENSE WATERPROOF EYELINER IN BLACKEST BLACK, \$24, TOO FACED BETTER THAN SEX MASCARA, \$32, SHOPPERSDRUGMART.CA

Head in the clouds

Montreal fashion star Cary Tauben styles himself in the season's most exciting *chapeaux*



LEFT: **NATALIA BAQUERO MILLINERY** HAT, \$550, DENIS GAGNON BOUTIQUE. **COS** EARRINGS, \$45, COSSTORES.COM. RIGHT: **HEIRLOOM HATS** HAT, \$200, HEIRLOOMHATS.COM. ALL CLOTHING AND OTHER ACCESSORIES, STYLIST'S OWN



LEFT: **HEIRLOOM HATS** HAT, \$300, HEIRLOOMHATS.COM. RIGHT: **FUMILE** BERET, \$350, FUMILE.CA. **KENNETH JAY LANE** EARRINGS, \$150, KENNETHJAYLANE.COM. ALL CLOTHING AND OTHER ACCESSORIES, STYLIST'S OWN



LEFT: **NATALIA BAQUERO MILLINERY** HAT, \$550, DENIS GAGNON BOUTIQUE. **JENNY BIRD** EARRINGS, \$115, JENNY-BIRD.CA. **PAR ICI JEWELLERY** NECKLACE, \$599, PARICIJEWELLERY.COM. RIGHT: **FUMILE** HAT, \$450, FUMILE.CA. **JENNY BIRD** EARRINGS, \$135, JENNY-BIRD.CA. ALL CLOTHING AND OTHER ACCESSORIES, STYLIST'S OWN



Dress
\$29.99



Enjoy every little moment.
Happy Holidays!

THE KIT X H&M

There’s nothing quite like spending the holidays with the ones you love—that’s why we’ve partnered with H&M to showcase cool looks for the festive season on real life BFFs. First up, we asked two stylish friends, Izien and Sarah, to show us how to step out of the fashion comfort zone in on-trend pieces from H&M’s holiday collection.

The BFFs: Izien, a student and photographer, and Sarah, a social media and e-commerce manager

How did you two meet?

Sarah: “We met at a job we worked at together. I was sent to Izien’s section to clean and we were both really annoyed so we started talking, and that’s how we became friends!”
Izien: “We just clicked. After that, we went to one of the little beaches by Long Branch and stayed there talking for a good six hours.”

How would you describe your approach to holiday fashion?

Sarah: “During the holidays, my more feminine side comes out. I love long gowns and classic pieces, paired with a bold lip, fancy jewellery and a nice bag.”
Izien: “I’m very colourful. I wear shimmer, gold sequins and embroidered dresses—my fashion icons are Dorothy Dandridge and Coretta Scott King.”

What do you love about your H&M holiday look today?

Sarah: “I don’t wear a lot of colour, but I love the bright orange colour of my dress. I also love the cut, with the high neck, long sleeves and slit up the side. The earrings gave me ’70s vibes, which I’m really into.”
Izien: “I never wear anything this neutral, so I’m stepping out of my comfort zone with this look, and I love it! This slip dress is super classy but I love how I can make it more casual by wearing a turtleneck or top underneath it.”



ON IZIEN: DRESS \$29.99, TOP \$29.99, AVAILABLE IN-STORE AND ONLINE AT HM.COM.
ON SARAH: DRESS, \$39.99, AVAILABLE IN-STORE AND ONLINE AT HM.COM

OUR H&M WISH LIST



H&M FINE-KNIT TURTLENECK SWEATER, \$29.99; H&M THROW, \$99.99; H&M LONG EARRINGS, \$12.99; H&M SHIMMERING LEATHER BOOTS, \$169; H&M FAUX FUR JACKET, \$129; H&M GLITTERY TOP, \$19.99. ALL AVAILABLE IN-STORE AND ONLINE AT HM.COM



Victoria Beckham in her atelier; Spring 2020 looks: “Loose, fluid dresses with a ruffle story.”

The phenom

Leanne Delap sits down with Victoria Beckham, fashion’s most misunderstood star

Victoria Beckham’s unsmiling visage is so ubiquitous in pop culture after 25 years of paparazzi pictures that a pervasive ice-queen myth has grown to encase her. But it’s all a front: the Girl Power pop icon turned mother-of-four football WAG turned serious fashion player is warm, funny and engaging, to a fault.

Today, Beckham is just off a transatlantic flight but daisy fresh. The scalding power of her fame is intense. She sits with her legs crossed at the ankle like a duchess, and her eye contact never falters. Her mellifluous voice with the (yes, quite posh) accent carries along conversation in such a way that she deftly presents her full business positioning messages and positivity mantras with no more encouragement than an inquiring nod. “You need to have fun, you need to laugh, you need to smile, you need to have humour in what you do,” she counsels.

Her sour reputation is actually her secret weapon. “People are always pleasantly surprised when they meet me,” Beckham later says from the stage at Suzanne Rogers Presents, a biennial series that brings international fashion giants to Toronto. This year’s fashion show and lunch raised \$725,000 for children’s charities Camp Ooch and the Penelope Neuroblastoma Foundation. Previous events, with guests Oscar de la Renta, Marchesa, Zac Posen and Diane von Furstenberg, have raised \$3 million. Among the turnout were actresses Sarah Levy and Jenn Robertson of *Schitt’s Creek*, at Beckham’s behest; she is a big fan of the Canadian comedy.

Victoria Beckham is someone who does not need to work as hard as she does. But she works tirelessly on her business, on her family, on her image, on keeping fit. As she once told *Vogue*, possibly tongue-in-cheek but it rings true: “I don’t have any vices.”

We live in an age that worships reinvention, and Beckham may just be the hero we need right now. When she started her fashion line in 2008, her starry New York runway show was immediately a hot ticket. But the fashion industry, and the public, were waiting for Beckham to fail, seeing her as just another celebrity designer, moving from a jeans collab to a full line. But Beckham proved everyone wrong. The original line of fitted sheath dresses, based on the body-con style Beckham favoured, grew into a full collection, with a commercial secondary line (Victoria, Victoria Beckham), bags, shoes, glasses and last September, cosmetics, followed by a first skincare offering this month.

There is also her fledgling content site, The World of Victoria Beckham, and a YouTube channel. “I’ve picked up so many tips from working with the best stylists and makeup artists since I was young, working with the Spice Girls, and I want to share those,” she explains. “I’ll share if I’m reading a great book, or watching a great TV show, or healthy recipes. What does my workout look like? I will interview my trainer and shine the light on her and support her as a woman entrepreneur.”

She frames this content strategy as characteristic of a certain personality type. “Growing up, there were two types of women,” says Beckham. “I remember some of my mum’s friends would share beauty tips, or if they had a great item of clothing they’d tell everybody where they got it. And there was also the woman who didn’t want to tell anybody, and you know that’s a very different approach,” she says, conspiratorially. “And I’m not criticizing.” (Beckham often checks herself for echoes of negativity. “I’m not complaining,” she says, while talking about the intrusiveness of paparazzi in her life.)

Beckham has the modern tycoon lingo down. She talks about her community, her customer and about “really, really listening.” Now, she taps into her social channels for feedback, but she learned in the trenches. “I’ve always spent a lot of time with my customer. When I started 11 years ago, my wholesale partners and I would do events and I would get into the fitting room with my customer and try on clothes and really quiz her about what she likes and things that are important to her.”

Still, Beckham unapologetically starts her



design process with what she herself wants to wear. “At the back of my head, it has always been what I want in my wardrobe,” she says. “I think I have evolved, and personal style has evolved over 11 years.”

Beckham points to the “cinematic feel” of her recent collections, which critics have lauded as being more complete and nuanced. Though she isn’t classically trained as a designer (she doesn’t draw patterns or cut cloth), every detail is part of her vision, executed by a design team. She is very concerned with the balance of masculinity and femininity in her clothes. Tailoring is the backbone, with a healthy dose of *frou* or softness. For the Spring 2020 collection, that means “lots of loose, fluid dresses with a ruffle story, so it felt like the ruffles were almost dancing around the models.”

Colour is also important. “There is a strangeness in how I see colour,” says Beckham, who is today wearing a fluttering bow blouse of dusty rose with a burgundy fabric flower at the neck. “Mixing things that are a little bit odd but actually, surprisingly look good, is a signature for me. There’s personality in that.” It’s also another way Beckham stealthily shows her good humour. “I think that there are so many bad things going on in the world that if we could all wear some colour, we could spread some joy and lift spirits. I feel good when I wear colour.”

Beckham is her own best ambassador. Knowing that behind every lamppost—or airport arrivals gate—there lurks a nest of photographers, Beckham uses the pap shots as a free ad campaign, wearing her own designs from head to toe and spreading her message while going about her daily life.

And she does have fun with it. She recently launched a message T-shirt emblazoned with “The airport is my runway,” an accessible entry point into her brand and witty retort in one.

Her offices are split between New York and London, and in addition to flagship shops in London and Hong Kong, the brand is carried by more than 400 stockists in 50 countries. The company, valued at an estimated \$73 million according to Business of Fashion, accepted a \$51 million cash injection in 2017 from NEO Investment Partners in exchange for 28 per cent of the business; the rest is owned equally by Victoria Beckham, David Beckham and Simon Fuller, who was the management brains behind the Spice Girls.

Despite her now lofty fashion status, Beckham doesn’t shy away from talking about the things that made her famous, like her girl-band days, though she skipped the last reunion tour. She must also know the frisson created when she casually drops her husband into conversation. For the record, “David uses the skincare.”

She’s referring to Cell Rejuvenating Priming Moisturizer, a single product that launched late November. Beckham went to the pros to create it, like she dipped her toes in cosmetics by launching her earliest makeup products with Estée Lauder. The cream is a collaboration with cult skincare line Augustinus Bader, known for its skin-regenerative technology, specifically TFC8.

Beckham also cares about what is not in her products. “There is a real focus on clean formulas that are still active,” she says, adding that she did homework on the world of clean beauty herself. “What I’ve learned is you don’t have to compromise with regard to how perfected skincare and makeup is. This is still the best in luxury, taking sustainability into consideration with minimal plastic and 100 per cent post-consumer waste in the packaging.” She’s selling it directly to her customers on victoriabeckhambeauty.com. “Making it the only place that you can get my beauty means I can control the whole experience from start to finish.”

As our chat draws to a close, Beckham hits her marks and brings the whole message home. “I do what I do to empower women through beauty and fashion,” she says. “Just be the best version of who you are, and as women let’s stick together and let’s support each other and let’s empower each other.” It would be rude not to.



Kick off

Party season is here! Time to break out the big-ticket shoes

BY RENEE TSE



Pumps embellished with feathers—this fall's trend du jour—strut stylishly into the holiday season.

JIMMY CHOO, \$1,495, JIMMYCHOO.COM



Made out of eco-silk, these sustainable red mules are the perfect desk to dance floor shoe.

REFORMATION, \$350, THEREFORMATION.COM



These are year-round shoes: This month, wear them with tights; come spring, pair them with a fresh pedicure.

STUART WEITZMAN, \$525, STUARTWEITZMAN.COM



These chic heels are also sustainable: They're crafted from recycled plastic bottles and feature water-based glue.

CALL IT SPRING, \$60, CALLITSPRING.COM



These UV-reactive heels glow in the dark, thanks to a special type of highly technical strass embellishments

CHRISTIAN LOUBOUTIN, \$3,995, CHRISTIANLOUBOUTIN.COM



Channel your fave '80s heroine with a pair of shimmery retro-inspired polka-dot heels.

BALENCIAGA, \$1,321, NET-A-PORTER.COM



Glittery leopard print and a sleek silhouette meet in these anything-but-basic pumps.

ALDO, \$85, ALDOSHOES.CA



Maybe advances in AI will soon mean that we can all go back to Studio 54. Until then, we have these heels.

GUCCI, \$1,100, NET-A-PORTER.COM



Meet your new dancing shoes: These block-heel pumps bring the drama. Pair them with fashion-y ankle socks.

PRADA, \$1,340, HOLTRENFREW.COM



Designed by Montreal footwear sensation Jessica Bedard, these elegant pumps are handmade in Italy.

MAISON BEDARD, \$495, JESSICABEDARDSHOES.COM

THE KIT X YORKVILLE VILLAGE

Home for the holidays

Make this holiday an extraordinary one with joyous gatherings that will elicit oohs and ahhs from your friends and family. Toronto's luxury shopping destination Yorkville Village has all the entertaining essentials and hostess gifts you need to kick off a season full of precious memories. Here's our edit of the best home and hostess goodies.



1. KISMET SALT SOAKS, \$20 EACH, GOOD GODDESS



2. VASE, \$44.99, BOIS & CUIR



3. ALL PINE PRESS NOTEBOOKS, \$14 (LARGE), \$12 (SMALL), THE NORDIC POP-UP



4. TABLE LAMP, \$1,139, VALENCY



5. METIS ATASH ELEPHANT, \$2,500 USD, GALERIE DE BELLEFEUILLE



6. VELVET HEADBAND, \$124, LUXE HAIR ACCESSORIES



7. IRONWOOD GOURMET CUTTING BOARD, \$26, WHOLE FOODS MARKET



8. BOWLS, \$19.95 EACH, TEATRO VERDE

1. SUPER SOAKER
Your host or hostess has likely been on his or her feet all day preparing, so why not give them the gift of a soothing soak. These luxe bath salts will relax their muscles and mind.

2. FLOWER POWER
This modern metallic vase is the perfect addition to any home's decor and a beautiful gift that will far outlast fresh flowers.

3. THE NOTEBOOK
Your loved ones could tap reminders into their phones, but these sustainable, locally produced Norwegian notebooks will make keeping on top of tasks so much chicer.

4. LIGHT SHOW
Spoil the person who made the extra-nice list with this gilded ginkgo-leaf lamp, which beautifully walks the line between art and function.

5. OBJET D'ART
Indulge the art-loving VIP in your life with this stunning fibreglass elephant sculpture encrusted with 5,600 Swarovski crystals.

6. WITH THE BAND
If your hostess is both an amazing cook and a fashionable accessories lover, an unexpected but fabulous gift would be this embellished velvet headband. She can slip it on while she's doing the dinner prep and continue to sparkle throughout the evening.

7. BOARD GAME
Give your host or hostess a selection of fine cheeses on this maple-leaf-shaped board crafted from acacia wood. Light enough to use as a serving platter but durable enough to be a cutting board, it's a party must-have.

8. BOWLED OVER
These unique ceramic bowls make a statement atop any coffee table. The black-and-white designs with gold trim make these functional pieces feel elevated, even if they're serving up humble nuts or candies.

THE HIT LIST Take a break from shopping to refuel at these foodie hot spots

ELXR JUICE LAB
Pop into Elxr Juice Lab for cold-pressed juices, plant-based milks, booster shots and smoothies.

M'IHITO SUSHI LABORATORY
This Japanese-Mexican fusion eatery is known for its sushi burritos, tacos and poké bowls.

VINTAGE CONSERVATORY
A membership to this fine wine club would be the ultimate present for the oenophile in your life.

JACKED UP COFFEE
Coffee connoisseurs can get their espresso fix at this vintage blue Citroën truck, 7 days a week.



To tweak or not to tweak?

When it comes to cosmetic treatments, cost is a crucial part of the “Should I do it?” decision. **Wing Sze Tang** asked two dermatologists to recommend the best bang-for-your-buck treatments for three major skin concerns

PHOTOGRAPHY BY LUIS MORA

IF YOU WANT TO SPEND \$500 OR LESS

To smooth wrinkles

“Great skincare is the basis of improving or preventing wrinkles, but if you wanted to take it one step further, what I call ‘millennial-dose Botox’ could be helpful,” says Dr. Julia Carroll, dermatologist at Toronto’s Compass Dermatology. “We can use it to decrease facial expressions, but not eradicate them. So you can still raise your brows and do everything—just slightly less. This helps prevent lines from getting deeper.”

Estimated cost: \$10-\$12 per unit of Botox or \$300+ per visit, depending on dose.

To fade dark spots

Option one is to invest \$500 into skincare, including sunscreen and products with active ingredients to treat hyperpigmentation, recommends Carroll—it’s not instant gratification, but it works. Option two includes non-invasive cosmetic procedures like BroadBand Light (BBL), an intense pulsed light (IPL) device that can target excess pigmentation. “It sort of microscopically explodes it, then all those brown spots turn more brown and peel off after four to seven days,” says Carroll. “If you combine it with skincare, you can get a great result.”

Estimated cost: \$300 per session of BBL.

To curb sagging

Successfully treating sagging under \$500 is tough, cautions Carroll. At this budget you’re better off maximizing your topicals (sunscreen, retinol, peptides, hyaluronic acid), which will give you more youthful-looking skin, regardless of a little sag. If you’re dealing with mild skin laxity, you could consider in-office microneedling, says Vancouver-based dermatologist Dr. Monica Li. Multiple sessions may help by stimulating new collagen in the dermis, so the surface of your skin holds up a little better—but manage your expectations.

Estimated cost: upward of \$200 per session of in-office microneedling.

IF YOU WANT TO SPEND \$1,000 OR LESS

To smooth wrinkles

In addition to shots of a muscle-relaxing neuro-modulator (e.g. Botox, Dysport or Xeomin), you could go for a hydrating dermal filler, recommends Li. While most fillers are meant to give volume, a few (such as Restylane Skinboosters) amp up hydration, plumping up fine lines. “We can inject a small amount near the skin surface, smoothing out any rough texture or even minor depressions,” explains Li.

Estimated cost: upward of \$800 per session of Restylane Skinboosters.

To fade dark spots

“My absolute favourite combination right now is BroadBand Light with the Clear + Brilliant Laser,” says Carroll. The BBL will get your red and darker brown spots, while the laser will help with pores, lighter brown spots, fine lines and texture. It’s a go-to for her busy patients, since they can get both in the same day—then they’re done until the next treatment (typically six months or a year later). Plus, there’s “really minimal downtime, just a little bit of redness, a little bit of flaky skin,” she adds.

Estimated cost: \$300 per session of BBL; \$400 per session of Clear + Brilliant.

To curb sagging

Consider injectable dermal fillers, says Li. These can be made with various ingredients, including hyaluronic acid (temporary, lasting six to 12 months) and poly-L-lactic acid (semi-permanent, up to two years). “They can be used to re-volumize areas where collagen or fat has been lost,” she explains. They can also have a lifting effect. “You can strategically position filler to improve upper and mid-face support, and that way, there’s less sag on the bottom.”

Estimated cost: \$500 to \$1,000 per syringe of hyaluronic acid filler (which isn’t a lot—more like a starter treatment, says Li).

IF YOU WANT TO SPEND \$5,000 OR LESS

To smooth wrinkles

At this price point, says Carroll, you can afford to take a “global approach.” Beyond Botox, she suggests dermal fillers (hyaluronic-acid-based for plumping, or bio-stimulating to boost collagen), plus a laser treatment like the Sciton MicroLaser Peel, nicknamed the “weekend peel” since it typically causes mild redness.

Estimated cost: \$10-\$12 per unit of Botox or \$300+ per visit; \$500 to \$1,000 per syringe of hyaluronic acid filler; about \$800 per session of MicroLaser Peel.

To fade dark spots

Real talk: One procedure probably won’t cut it. But with \$5,000, you can afford to do a series of visits, and a full-face treatment, says Li. That will give a better overall result, since you’re not just targeting individual spots. Li suggests either a non-ablative fractional laser (which works using heat) or a picosecond laser (which shatters melanin with a “photoacoustic” effect). Both deliver energy to fragment the pigmentation, causing dark spots to lighten or slough off.

Estimated cost: upward of \$1,000 per session of non-ablative fractional laser; \$500 per session of picosecond laser.

To curb sagging

Sagging is a “big budget item”, says Carroll because it means a significant loss of elasticity and volume. Her gold-standard treatment, Ulthera, is a microfocused ultrasound that targets the skin at different depths, including “acting on the same layer that a plastic surgeon would use when they pull up on a facelift,” Carroll explains. But unlike a surgical facelift, there’s minimal downtime or recovery, only a bit of redness or tenderness afterward.

Estimated cost: \$5,000 per Ulthera (or Ultherapy) treatment; most patients repeat once every two to three years as needed.

THE KIT X MCDONALD’S

Unwrap the perfect holiday party

Treat your friends to a merry McDelivery meal

Raise your hand if you’re the type of person who loves to host the most epic holiday get-togethers—you know, the kind of warm and fuzzy nights that bring best friends together, create hilarious memories that last well after the snow melts, and carve out a cozy oasis in the midst of the way-too-hectic holiday season.

Is your hand up? Ours too. Luckily, rolling out that kind of magical night is now a whole lot simpler thanks to McDelivery, the direct-to-your-door service that caters your favourite McDonald’s meals effortlessly via the SkipTheDishes and Uber Eats apps. Whether you’ve invited a handful of besties or are hosting a houseful of family, McDelivery makes meal planning a snap.

First, craft your menu of crowd-pleasers, choosing from classics like the Big Mac and Chicken McNuggets to limited-edition must-trys like the Mini Reese’s Pieces McFlurry dessert. Then, simply place your order on Uber Eats or SkipTheDishes—hot tip, you can do this up to 7 days in advance. (Visit www4.mcdonalds.ca/mcdeliverycanada/ to find out which of the 800 participating restaurants across the country is closest to you.)

With meal prep off your plate, you can approach the rest of your party planning with the same ease. For sipping, serve holiday favourites like hot apple cider, and set out an assortment of McCafé coffees—don’t miss the Peppermint Latte, a seasonal favourite.



Holiday menu must-haves

Stock your festive buffet with these McDelivery crowd pleasers that are sure to satisfy all your guests

- Big Mac sandwiches
- Hamburgers
- McDouble sandwiches
- Chicken McNuggets
- World Famous Fries
- Baked Apple Pies



PHOTOGRAPHY: VICTORIA HUI/THELUSTLISTT

Then do away with time-consuming DIY decorations and create a festive mood by simply dimming your overheads and lighting a flickering sea of votives. Cue up a fun vintage holiday soundtrack and surprise your guests with a buffet of their favourite McDonald’s dishes, which, let’s be honest, is probably the only holiday menu that everyone in your inner circle can agree on.

Lastly, save yourself the stress of shopping for party favours and send each of your pals home with a few cheerful festive Ginger RMHC Cookies! The delicious heart-shaped treats not only let your friends know you care, but also a portion of the proceeds from the sale of each RMHC Cookie goes towards supporting over 25,000 families each year who stay at Ronald McDonald Houses and Ronald McDonald Family Rooms across Canada.

This year, after a night spent catching up with old friends over everyone’s favourite fries, you’ll be left with the best gift of all: no dishes to wash, only memories to savour.

Share your holiday feast using #McDelivery
Instagram, Twitter and Facebook: @mcdonaldscanada



PHOTOGRAPHY: GETTY IMAGES

An enduring fashion legacy

Princess Diana is the style icon of our current moment. **Leanne Delap** breaks down the influence of a legendary dresser

Had one person in Antarctica failed to notice that Princess Diana is the most relevant fashion muse of 2019, well, Harry Styles recently took that holdout to school. He stepped out in a Lanvin sweater vest populated by sheep, and the internet sprang to point out an almost identical archival shot of a newly wedded Diana in 1981 wearing a red version. Styles even echoed Diana's shirt-collar pairing—though not her wink-wink single black sheep. He's not the only young thing following in her footsteps—*Vogue Paris* had a little fun earlier this fall dressing up Hailey Bieber in some of Diana's most iconic casual looks.

That the princess's off-duty style has endured so richly is a tribute to what she was best at with fashion: She was witty, she was cheeky, she knew how to project bold confidence even when she didn't feel it.

Contrary to Jenner/Hadid title claims, the Princess of Wales was most certainly the one who brought bike shorts to the streets on her morning gym runs, some two full decades prior to their Calabasas resurgence. She also favoured oversized message sweatshirts, boxy jackets, high-waisted khaki shorts, ball caps, prairie dresses, a great white shirt moment, a one-piece swimsuit and pale blue, high-rise, straight-leg jeans. Oh, and dorky athletic socks. The Everlane site in

2019 is basically a locker-worthy Diana poster from 1995.

That Princess Diana is so inspiring right now is no surprise. The wealth of pre-internet photos we have of her both on-duty and off somehow make sense of the current rehashed mashup of '80s and '90s trends. She defined aspirational British country style (tweed and wellies) and the Sloane Ranger preppy look (polka dots, hat bands and ruffles). Then, as she inched toward her divorce, she came to embody the sleeker, more urban-influenced 1990s. A woman freed from ornamental

status, ready to make her mark. That is the spirit of Diana that is resonating so vibrantly right now.

See, Diana was a master of sending messages with her clothing. Rendered silent by the palace machine, she was nonetheless able to use the press pack that hounded her as her voice. Those off-duty looks gave us a glimpse at who she really was under the tiara.

But the wealth of Diana-at-leisure shots we love to pillage for style inspo also have an undercurrent of tragedy. Beyond contributing to her death—conflicting reports say it was caused by a paparazzi chase or a drunk driver or some lethal combination of the two—Diana was hounded by photographers' lenses in life. In 1993, unthinkable intrusive shots surfaced of Diana taken from inside her gym. There were hidden cameras in the gym equipment. On this rare occasion, she sued for invasion of privacy.

Thereafter she took playful revenge, walking to and from the gym wearing the same Virgin Atlantic sweatshirt (a gift from Richard Branson) and peach bike shorts over and over, so that the photogs were denied a "fresh" shot. Checkmate! Her assistant sold that sweatshirt, which was gifted to her by the princess, earlier this year at auction for some \$68,000.

Diana's shadow looms so large, but she was actually in the public eye for only 15 years, from her engagement at 19 to her death at 36. Princes William and Harry both evoke their mother regularly. On his recent tour, Harry was brought to tears retracing her steps in Angola's land mine fields.

Today, we almost exclusively see the modern crop of royals at official events, carefully dressed and coiffed. It serves as a contrast to humdrum reality; the pomp and protocol make for good theatre. But it just isn't relatable, the way Diana so often was on the daily school run. You can easily imagine yourself in Diana's belted jeans or oversized T-shirts, much more so than Kate Middleton's glove-fitted coat dresses. So maybe that's why we love to look back at the People's Princess—she gives us the kind of inspiration we can bring to our everyday lives.

“Diana was a master of sending messages with her clothing.”

Princess Diana perfected off-duty chic—and inspired a new generation of stars, including Harry Styles.

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THE KIT COLLAB

Holiday Must-Haves

These are the items to count on to help you through the most wonderful (okay, and sometimes stressful) time of year

FOR HOLIDAY SEASON SURVIVAL



RISE Kombucha is your BFF when it comes to combatting all that holiday overindulgence. Packed with probiotics and antioxidants, this low-sugar, hydrating beverage is good for not only the gut, but the skin too. Cheers to that!

RISE KOMBUCHA, \$4 PER BOTTLE, SOBEYS

FOR THE HOLIDAY SHOPPING LIST



Treat yourself or your beauty-loving bestie to Juicy Couture's limited-edition colour collection, perfect for creating glam holiday looks this year. Our top picks include Bling Queen Highlighter, Bows Before Beaus Cheek Flush and Liquid Eye Velour Paint.

JUICY COUTURE GLOW BIG OR GO HOME COLOUR COLLECTION, \$21-\$31 PER PRODUCT, EXCLUSIVELY AT SHOPPERS DRUG MART

FOR HOLIDAY FEASTING



This is the perfect sweet and salty snack to munch on during your holiday movie binges, or to add to your charcuterie board for some added crunch.

ORVILLE REDENBACHER SWEET AND SALTY MICROWAVE POPCORN, \$5, MAJOR GROCERY STORES, DRUGSTORES AND DISCOUNT RETAILERS



Keep your locks on point throughout the holidays with Joico's Defy Damage Home Care System, formulated to protect all hair types from the damaging effects of heat styling, UV exposure and environmental pollution.

JOICO DEFY DAMAGE HOME CARE SYSTEM, \$25-\$28 PER PRODUCT, JOICOCANADA.COM



Stuff their stockings with the ultimate tool to keep winter-static tangles at bay. The award-winning ultra-soft Intelliflex® bristles WetBrush is known for making brushing easy, gliding through tangles with less effort, pain and breakage.

WETBRUSH POLAR PALS, \$16, WALMART



Playing host this holiday season? Gardein offers over 24 delicious plant-based options for all your vegetarian or vegan guests.

GARDEIN SEVEN GRAIN CRISPY TENDERS, \$6, GROCERY STORES NATIONWIDE



Say hello to your cold weather saviour. Whether you're trekking to chop down your Christmas tree or through slushy parking lots after a day of shopping, these Ecco boots' Primaloft® lining will keep your feet warm and cozy, while the robust rubber outsole will give you a steady footing.

ECCO UKIUK 2.0 WOMEN'S BOOT, \$330, ECCO STORES



Ten Thousand Villages makes it easy to give with meaning, offering fair-trade items crafted by makers all over the world, like this necklace by silversmiths from the Mitra Bali artisan cooperative in Indonesia. Every purchase supports makers by providing a fair, stable income.

TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES GIVING TREE NECKLACE, \$99, TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES



Don't forget to fuel up before hitting the malls this holiday season. Healthy Choice Breakfast Power Bowls are tasty, quick and convenient, ready in less than five minutes.

HEALTHY CHOICE BREAKFAST POWER BOWL, \$5, GROCERY STORES NATIONWIDE



Her Intense



BURBERRY



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SWAROVSKI

The next party accessory

Forget statement necklaces this holiday. Do as style editor **Liz Guber** suggests and get yourself a blingy, glitzy, very of-the-moment chain belt

Are you tired of fashion editors hammering on about Celine yet? Thanks to the direction of divisive designer Hedi Slimane, we can credit the French heritage house for our current appetite for all things '70s and boho-bourgeoise, from the return of knee-high boots to flared denim. And guess what? This fashion editor is here to squeeze one more story out of Celine's current runway offering. The trend du jour: gold chain belts.

Draped across pleated dresses and skirts, these delicate gilded belts are the new statement necklaces. They instantly add a hint of glamour to the simplest looks, from denim to a suit. Their swishy, gleaming ease harkens back to the days of disco—never a bad thing, especially in the thick of holiday season. And yes, they are also a little, well, gaudy. But when tempered by a long hemline and a high collar, the look is anything but tacky. For further proof, look to the Chloé runway, where a chain belt was wrapped around a peachy-pink frock.

Another iconic gold chain belt moment happened not at Celine but at Chanel, all the way back on the Spring 1994 runways. The chunky gold chains, wrapped around the waists of Naomi, Cindy and Christy are still as coveted today as the itty-bitty tweed suits they accompanied.

The good news: You don't need to scour high-end vintage dealers to find one. As with most things in fashion today, options abound: from inexpensive thrills to more considered investment buys. Ditch the collar necklace for your next party and channel a little Celine—I promise you'll love it.



SHOP THE TREND

Glam
Selena Gomez is a fan of these intricate belts.
B-LOW THE BELT, \$206, [B-LOWTHEBELT.COM](#)

Western
The vibe: modern rhinestone cowboy.
ZARA, \$40, [ZARA.COM](#)

Braided
Mixed metals fans will love this two-tone look.
MANGO, \$70, [SHOP.MANGO.COM](#)

Practical
This is the chicest spot to stash your coat check ticket.
H&M, \$25, [HM.COM](#)

Silver
This belt is crafted by Toronto's Edilou Candeo.
CUCHARA, \$155, [CUCHARA.CA](#)

Vintage-Inspired
Make a simple black suit pop with this retro-looking belt.
TOPSHOP, \$41, [TOPSHOP.COM](#)



Pumps embellished with feathers—this fall's trend du jour—strut stylishly into the holiday season.
JIMMY CHOO, \$1,495, [JIMMYCHOO.COM](#)

Made out of eco-silk, these sustainable red mules are the perfect desk to dance floor shoe.
REFORMATION, \$350, [THEREFORMATION.COM](#)

These are year-round shoes: This month, wear them with tights; come spring, pair them with a fresh pedicure.
STUART WEITZMAN, \$525, [STUARTWEITZMAN.COM](#)

These chic heels are also sustainable: They're crafted from recycled plastic bottles and feature water-based glue.
CALL IT SPRING, \$60, [CALLITSPRING.COM](#)

These UV-reactive heels glow in the dark, thanks to a special type of highly technical strass embellishments.
CHRISTIAN LOUBOUTIN, \$3,995, [CHRISTIANLOUBOUTIN.COM](#)

Channel your fave '80s heroine with a pair of shimmering retro-inspired polka-dot heels.
BALENCIAGA, \$1,321, [NET-A-PORTER.COM](#)

Glittery leopard print and a sleek silhouette meet in these anything-but-basic pumps.
ALDO, \$85, [ALDOSHOES.CA](#)

Maybe advances in AI will soon mean that we can all go back to Studio 54. Until then, we have these heels.
GUCCI, \$1,100, [NET-A-PORTER.COM](#)

Meet your new dancing shoes: These block-heel pumps bring the drama. Pair them with fashion-y ankle socks.
PRADA, \$1,340, [HOLTRENFREW.COM](#)

Designed by Montreal footwear sensation Jessica Bedard, these elegant pumps are handmade in Italy.
MAISON BEDARD, \$495, [JESSICABEDARDSHOES.COM](#)

QUESTION

What are the chicest gifts for everyone on my list?

ANSWER

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CANADA'S STYLE AUTHORITY