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by Elyse Glickman

## Capelta



### Boot and Re-Boot

Reporter-turned-impresario **Anita Talbert** and veteran Hollywood publicist **Doris Bergman** brought one of the most impressive assemblages of A-list and best line-ups of products. On their invite, mention of **Capelta Couture Leather boots** no doubt got the attention of a community that truly loves its high end footwear.

Choos and Manolos notwithstanding, Los Angeles-based **Monique Capelta** is a different kind of designer. This shoe-biz upstart, like her couturier counterparts, believes in making a statement with a bold mix of texture, color and metal accents. However, her luxe line was borne out of necessity a few years ago in New York City, where the young, struggling model took her then-limited resources to create boots that turned heads on stylish city streets. Armed with some shrewd finds from Goodwill and a glue gun, she transformed basic boots into a design sensation.

On one particular occasion, a group of ladies admiring her boots in the locker room of an Upper East Side branch of the New York Sports Club, led to a spontaneous approach from a renowned high fashion designer who handed Capelta her card and inquired about buying her design for her label. However, Monique simply responded that she couldn't imagine watching women walk down the street without her name on her artwork.

Though Capelta at that time was still convinced acting and modeling was her calling, her arrival Los Angeles would lead to the inevitable—her arrival as a shoe designer. With socialites approaching her to buy the boots off her feet, she ventured into developing her concept into a full-blown line, marketed on her own terms and modeling her own designs. Today, while Capelta is a jack of all trades, having a resume that includes working actress, director of a national modeling agency, published photographer and writer, her boots—now made in Brazil with a mix of fine and recycled materials—is what has her walking tall. Speaking of which, celebrities high stepping in her boots include **Melanie Griffith, Rumer Willis, Stacy Keibler, The Pussy Cat Dolls, Cast of Sunset Tan, Tia Carrere, Christine Devine, Britney Spears, Cindy Margolis, Sofia Milos, Alice Greczyn, Menyone DeVeaux and Jodi Lyn O'Keefe**.

Capelta's collection (ranging from \$400 to \$2000), can be viewed and purchased at

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[www.capelta.com](http://www.capelta.com). Some styles can be tried on for size at **The Palms Hotel in Vegas**...however, Capelta will be stepping up their cache several notches when the fall styles hit major department stores in L.A. Later this year.

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