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Un après-midi de ch
Paris

by Elyse Glickman

people's liberation jeans



Freeing yourself from the ordinary

Although the Emmy suites, as expected, offered a myriad of denim delights, it was the offerings from thriving LA-based **People's Liberation** that caught our attention at the **HBO Luxury Lounge** at the Peninsula Hotel. Needless to say, **Britt Johnson** and **Jeff Respers** as picky about who gets to show their wares as they are about who will get (press-wise) to see the goods... and rightfully so. They know they need to have the very best of what's out there for HBO's star studded, serious A-list talent.

So how and why did People's Liberation Jeans make the grade? Face it—these jeans have it all: numerous styles and offerings for men and women, a wide range of washes and shades, and naturally, really cool pocket stitching treatments. They literally offer something for every body, from the super straight leg pants that are just so perfect on toned young things, more forgiving boot legs for the curvier among us, and practically everything in between. Oh yes, and some of the denims have cashmere blended into the fabric for those who insist on luxe such as celebrities including **Lindsay Lohan**, **Cameron Diaz**, **Nicole Richie**, **Jessica Simpson**, **Jessica Alba**.

You can see this brand in action at their web site, www.peoplesliberation.com, or on the racks of **Fred Segal**, **Kitson** and **M. Fredric**.

This week, **one lucky reader** will feel free him/herself from the ordinary with a brand new pair of People's Liberation jeans.

Click here
and just send a blank email
for your chance to win.

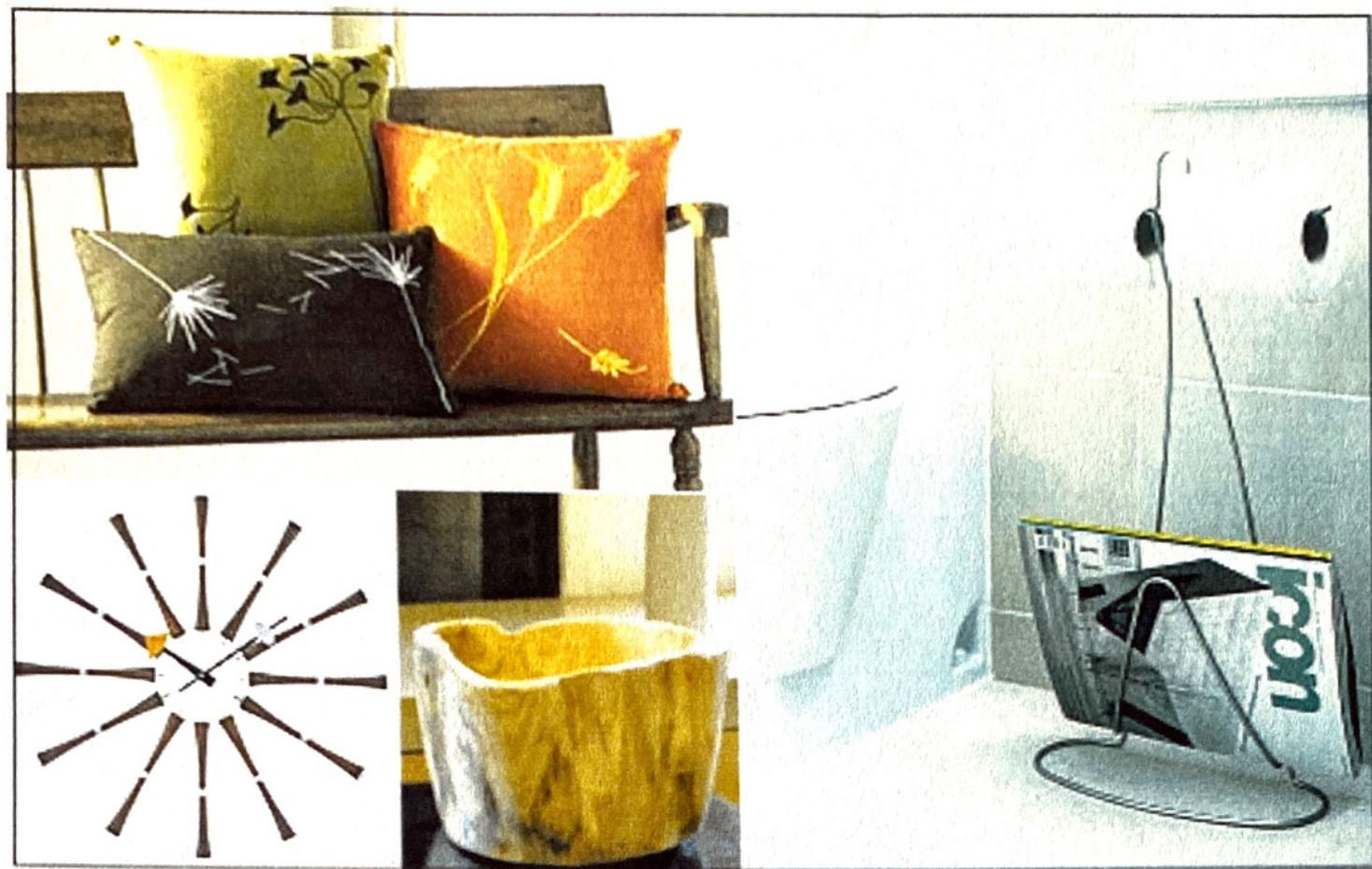
GIVE AWAYS

Winners will be randomly selected and notified Nov. 13, 2006. US only. [Rules](#)

by Elyse Glickman

pick of the week

WellDressedHome.com



There's No Place like...

When it comes to home design, decorating seemed to be somewhat of a black and white issue or more to the point, high end designer gear on one end and chain store standards on the other (Ikea, Crate & Barrel, Pottery Barn). While both ends of the spectrum do offer a lot of options, **WellDressedHome.com** offers a great middle ground for anybody interested in giving his or her home an identity of its own at great prices.

Since its inception in 2002, founder/CEO **Jim Burkhart** (fresh from a successful high profile turn at RedEnvelope.com) and his keen-eyed team have focused on offering genuinely fashion-forward home accents in photographic contexts that really provide insight on how they can brighten any shoppers home. Today, there are nearly 150 products from top name designers such as **Jonathan Adler, Karim Rashid, Tord Boontje** and **Supon Phornirunlit** as well as eye catching accessories from **Seda France, Umbra, Soho Spices** and many others you know and love as well as a few you may not.

With Burkhart being a veteran of the Computer Sciences industry, he really believes in the notion that what you see is what you should get. All items are unpacked and checked before shipping to ensure that they are sent in perfect condition. Recycled packing materials are used whenever possible as they support efforts to protect the environment. Better still, they offer flat rate shipping - purchase one item, or many, and pay just one basic rate.

In 2006, The Well Dressed Home has emerged as **one of the Internet's busiest stores**, with prominent appearances in Metropolitan Home, Lucky Magazine, Marie Claire, Shop Etc., Desert Living and a host of other publications. They've also had product featured on The Today Show and Soap Talk.

www.WellDressedHome.com

by Elyse Glickman

pick of the week

the philips digital photo display



The Ultimate Moving Picture Show

They say that every picture tells a thousand words. Thanks to the **Philips Digital Photo Display**, a sleek digital frame that can turn any digital memory card into an elaborate slide show, you can share highlights from your family history or travels around the world without lifting a finger or even opening your mouth. Not surprisingly, this genius item was the talk of the **Extra! Emmy Suite**, especially with celebrities such as **Allyson Hannigan** and **Jason Segal** (*How I Met Your Mother*), **Greg Grunberg** (*Heroes*), **Chris Jericho** (*Best Week Ever*), **George Stults** (*7th Heaven*), **Tia Carrere** and **Jai Rodriguez** (*Queer Eye For The Straight Guy*) already finding novel ways to integrate it into their home décor.

"This product is going to be great so I can bring along memories that make my hotel feel more like home," Rodriguez noted while *Extreme Home Makeover*'s Ed Sanders declared, "This is great and simple to use... I already know what photos I'm going to put on it." Proud parents Grunberg and Carrere, meanwhile, plan to load their new frames with photos of their newborn children. When you get down to it, the Philips Digital Photo Display is **the best of new technology and old-fashioned story telling**, thanks to a high pixel density, full color display to show photos in print-like quality, adjustable brightness to match ambient light conditions, the ability to project photos directly from memory cards (no bulky PC required), customized slide show capabilities, smart storage space (allowing for several albums worth of photos), the ability to read photos from cameras or download them from a PC, and simple, intuitive operation - no programming needed!

The Philips Digital Photo Display retails for \$199.99 and is available at such store as **Best Buy**, **Circuit City** or via www.store.philips.com.

by Elyse Glickman

pick of the week

donald j pliner shoes



Stepping into The Donald's Shoe—Donald J Pliner, that is!

If you had tickets to the main **ESPY Awards game** or the "the Locker Room" (that is, the A-List Celebrity Locker Room at THE Mansion, adorned by The Book L.A. Coverboy **Hef and his Playmates**) in July, a stop at the **Donald J Pliner** suite at the **ESPY Style Lounge** was a must. While celebrities such as **Kevin Dillon**, **Stacy Keibler**, Olympic skier **Bode Miller**, NASCAR driver **Danica Patrick**, and **Lindsay Lohan** were getting fitted (kind of like Cinderella, but before the ball), with current on the shelf styles, they could also get an advance look at the fantastic things that awaited them at the Donald J Pliner flagship store in the fall.

The men's and women's shoes were a hot, and highly appreciated item, not only for their luxe Italian materials, craftsmanship and superior comfort, but also the innovative styles that keep them on top of the fashion charts with savvy industry people, on and off the field—After all, L.A. is the kind of town that keeps people on its toes.

Donald J Pliner men's and women's shoes are known for their stylish comfort with a classic approach to living the good life. Donald J Pliner also features a wonderful collection of handbags, accessories and Friends of BabyDoll Pliner (dog accessories for dogs up to 20 pounds).

<http://www.donaldjpliner.com>

Donald J Pliner 341 N Camden Dr Beverly Hills CA 90210 /310.246.2700

by Elyse Glickman

style

pick of the week

eccentric symphony



Music for your Wardrobe

Nearly a year ago at the **Silver Spoon Hollywood Emmy Buffet**, we made the acquaintance of rock musician **Nikki Lund** and professional surfer **Maikai Makena**. Although, like other rising stars, they were there for the networking, they were also there to introduce the young, beautiful and style conscious to their new clothing line **Eccentric Symphony**. Though the nascent collection was quite simple, it was the clean style of embroidery and subtle tailored details that caught our attention. It also caught the attention of most of the celebrities—and others—clamoring for the stylish thermal tops and hoodies.

Fast forward to late Summer 2006, where Lund and Makena are now enjoying rock star status in the world of casual fashion. Since their splashy entrance, **Brad Pitt, Angelina Jolie, Molly Simms, Kate Beckinsale, Drew Barrymore, Cameron Diaz, Natalie Portman** and some of Brillstein-Grey's top clients have purchased countless items from their ever expanding collection. Beyond that, nearly 100 stores around the US and the UK are stocking their stores with Eccentric Symphony's latest compositions. Adding to their good fortune is the fact that several contestants from **So You Think You Can Dance** (ABC's #1 Summer series) were caught on tape wearing the clothing.

Eccentric Symphony dares to be different by expanding their line intelligently. The base colors for the garments are warm, earthy neutrals this fall, and **embroidery and silk screens make a statement** and genuinely look "rock and roll" without screaming too loud. Plus, the clothes feel soft and comfortable on. While some surfer influences are apparent in the lines for men and women (especially with panels that are sporty and slimming), Lund is infusing an extra bonus into the experience of falling in love with something from the line—all the hang tags include CD samplers of songs from **Secret Mind**, the band she fronts with her younger brother.

It's been wonderful to see how this line has grown and evolved since our introduction to this dynamic duo, and we look forward to great things in 2007. As they say on the radio, stay tuned!

Retailers hearing their song include **M. Frederic, Belle Gray, Horn, Planet Blue, Gizia**

by Elyse Glickman

pick of the week

goorin hats



Tipping our hats to Goorin

Even in sunny California, there is always an excuse or an occasion to wear a hat. It keeps you warm while you ski, saves your skin at the beach, helps you safe face on a bad hair day, or simply screams out that you've got a unique personality and are not afraid to accent it. And then there are those people who say they wear many hats... figuratively and literally. No matter what your tastes and lifestyle, **Goorin** has you covered.

In a world where "new" is always essential for getting people's attention, Goorin has been putting out new takes on old classic headgear **since 1895**. Keeping the fire burning and the styles and marketing fresh is **Ben Goorin**, great-grandson of founder **Cassel Goorin** (note the company's distinctive logo), the fourth generation to lead the company. "The hat is definitely back, and with renewed vigor and purpose," says the younger Goorin. "The classic styles my great-grandfather helped popularize such as fedoras, ivys, newsboy caps are being brought into the 21st century with innovative uses and combinations of fabrics, colors, finishes, and details."

Last year, the 1940's fedora silhouette was delightfully updated for men and women, with everything from vintage Hawaiian prints to unconventional uses of menswear fabrics and pinstripes. This year, caps are showing up everywhere, and with the same kind of imagination and innovation. Goorin continues to make old new again, with a new couture line honoring Cassel Goorin. This collection features one-of-a-kind custom pieces adorned with special packaging, satin-tipped stickers, unusual fabrics and linings and intricate details. Prices for Goorin hats range from **\$20-60** and prices for the Cassel Goorin line range from **\$40-200**.

Personalities keeping the Goorin name a-head in today's world include **Will Smith, Jay Z, The Black Eyed Peas, Britney Spears, Pink, Carlos Santana, Lucy Liu, Dustin Hoffman, Hayley Duff, Jason Alexander, Nicollette Sheridan** and **Tom Cruise** — proof positive there is a Goorin's hat out there for everybody. Goorin's hats can be found at **Fred Segal Santa Monica, Lisa Kline Los Angeles** and via <http://www.goorin.com>

style

by Elyse Glickman

pick of the week

tokidoki



Turning Giapponese

Though the aesthetics of **Italian and Japanese design** couldn't be more different in many cases, the two countries share a definitive impact on global design and iconic appeal among people from all walks of life.

With that in mind, it is likely that many style connoisseurs who as adults embrace Dolce & Gabbana, Versace and Armani were probably charmed by Sanrio goodies (Hello Kitty and friends) or Japanese Anime as kids. It is also a safe bet that many of them are still into all of that today! Leave it to **Simone Legno**, one very enterprising Italian graphic artist, and his savvy husband and wife business partners **Ivan Arnold** and **Pooneh Mohajer-Arnold** to fuse sleek Italian futurism and bold, wide-eyed Japanese pop culture into something nobody can seem to resist. The result is **tokidoki**, and its loyal devotees include **Fergie and the Black Eyed Peas** and **Terence Howard** to name a few.

tokidoki (which means "sometimes" in Japanese) began its charmed existence when Pooneh, the co-creator of **Hard Candy Cosmetics** and her husband Ivan, discovered and fell in love with Legno's vision on his web site. Soon thereafter they sent him a plane ticket to visit LA and just hours after he landed in early 2003, he was invited to start a brand that got all kinds of second looks when it appeared at the **Mercedes-Benz Los Angeles Fashion Week Design Suites** at the Beverly Hills Hotel. Less than a year later, the Legno/Arnold troika formed a successful alliance with **LeSportsac** and tokidoki's Legno was tapped to provide graphic inspiration for the **2006 Spring Mercedes-Benz Los Angeles Fashion Week** shows. Soon after, tokidoki's LeSportsac bags gave new meaning to "Limited Edition" and the programs from that season's fashion week became collectors' items in less than 2 weeks.

According to Arnold, the team has similar high hopes for the expanding range of apparel as well as accessories that include **watches, hats, belts, skateboard decks, toys, pins, sterling silver jewelry, stationery** and other goods. What makes everything so must have? Could it be the successful blend of adorable characters, envelope pushing anime influences and Italian sleekness? This team believes that to be true, and nothing confirms that more



THEBOOK_{LA.com}

by Elyse Glickman

style

pick of the week

pure radiance



Hydra-Pure Intense Moisture Cream

When the brand **MD Skincare®** came to our attention in 2004, it was introduced to us through ground-breaking **Alpha Beta® Daily Face Peel** and **Body Peel**. However, it did strike us as unusual that these anti-aging products were generating a big buzz via The Silver Spoon Hollywood Buffet, which in many ways couldn't be more "Young Hollywood." However, for creator **Dr. Dennis Gross**, a leading New York dermatologist whose patients include A-list celebrities, beauty experts and editors, this clever placement was probably no accident.

"Our products are multi-functional providing dermatologist results without a prescription which saves you both time and money" says Dr. Gross. **"We aim to deliver immediate results for all ages and skin types by combining the best of what nature and science have to offer."** And what better time to reach this kind of market—when they are young enough to think proactively about their skin and health.

In 2006, Dr. Gross has put his name and reputation back into the limelight with the newly launched **Hydra-Pure Intense Moisture Cream**. This advanced formula prevents damage by pulling water impurities (including heavy metals such as iron, copper, magnesium, lead and zinc) off the skin, while simultaneously soothing and hydrating it with essential oils and humectants maximizing available environmental moisture. A proprietary **Hydra-Pure Chelating Complex**, meanwhile, removes harmful impurities left on skin by water, and a cocktail of antioxidants fights free radicals and promote collagen.

Other great MD Skincare products include **Anti-Aging Vitamin C Gel**, **All-In-One Tinted Moisturizer Sunscreen SPF 15**, **All-In-One Facial Cleanser with Toner and Firming Body Lotion with Vitamin C Sunscreen SPF 8**. Hydra-Pure Intense Moisture Cream and other MD Skincare® products are available locally at **Nordstrom**, **Sephora**, **Beauty Collection Apothecary** and select spas nationwide. Products are also available by

by Elyse Glickman

pick of the week

jill reno collection



Find a Gold and Silver Mine in Reno!

Although **Kari Feinstein's 2006 Golden Globes Style Lounge** was a very tranquil affair with a very refined roster of VIP offerings, ambitious jewelry designer **Jill Reno** brought life and color into the proceedings with her Jill Reno Collection as well as her cheerful demeanor and all-American good looks. Her line, which features bracelets, earrings and necklaces ranging in price from \$175 to \$2000+, blends together delicate and exotic shapes and metals with an unusual array and creative uses of semi precious stones.

The Texas-bred granddaughter of famed bronze sculptor, **Jim Reno** (www.jimreno.com) showed that from an early age she was intent on following in his footsteps but on her own terms. Seeing her grandfather gain recognition and notoriety, particularly through work exhibited at **The White House** and the entrance of the **Kentucky Derby** park was a driving force that inspired her to make her own imprint on the world. Her unusual path brought her Magna Cum Laude status from Schriener University with a degree in business and inspiring international stint as a flight attendant. Seeing a world of cultures first hand inspired her first necklaces, and in term, as her name and reputation spread, she was able to devote her full-time attention to crafting jewelry that has won raves with her free time she began making necklaces enabling her to earn enough to leave the airline and dedicate time to apprenticing with her grandfather in Texas and attending the Belles Artes Art School in Mexico to refine her craft.

Celebrities who have traveled to Reno, via her appearance in Hollywood, web site (www.jillrenocollection.com) and word of mouth include **Tiffani Theissen, Jessica Simpson, Marcia Cross, Faith Ford, Rachel Leigh Cook, Avril Lavigne, Lauren Holly, Jessica Alba, Natasha Henstridge, Anne Heche, Katie Couric** and **Marlee Matlin**.

And this week, **1 lucky reader** will bask in the glow of her creativity and skill with a necklace similar to the ones VIPs received at Kari Feinstein's event!

by Elyse Glickman

pick of the week

city cosmetics



Urban Renewal

Given Hollywood's obsession with eternal youth and flawless skin, it was no surprise that **CITY Cosmetics'** first best seller—the **CITY Lips lip gloss**—was a runaway smash at several editions of **The Silver Spoon Hollywood Buffet**, **Teri Hatcher's** much-publicized birthday party parting gift and most recently, **On3's 2006 Critics Choice VIP Lounge**. Although pouts all over America and, later, the world were subsequently pretty-fied, CITY Cosmetics, under the leadership of founder and president **Marie Taylor**, did not stop there.

"CITY Cosmetics recognized the need for pain-free, long term and affordable alternative to injections and cosmetic surgery because we ourselves had been searching for a miracle," said Senior VP Amy Jones. "As card-carrying lipstick and lip-gloss devotees, we recognized that women who wanted full beautiful lips had very few alternatives - they either had to suffer through injections or endure stinging and burning of competing lip plumpers containing cinnamon, menthol or spices. **CITY Cosmetics and our team of experts set out to create the perfect lip treatment that would produce results without pain.** From there, we branched out into the search for other solutions to common problems for men and women. CITY Cosmetics will never release a product unless we truly feel that it offers unique benefits, lives up to its promises and claims, and provides only the best with no compromises."

While new packaging that's being launched is keeping the still-hot line as fresh as can be, **the Skin Refinisher, Skin Remodeler, Wrinkle Reverser**, and of course, those great lip glosses (sold singly or in sets), will still accomplish what they promise... produce results safely and in the comfort of your own bathroom. Celebrities that have declared themselves real "CITY" girls include **Penelope Cruz, Jamie King, Tyra Banks, Fergie, Angela Basset, Lake Bell** and **Carolina Bacardi**.

This week, **5 lucky readers** will have their day in the City with a special gift set of CITY Cosmetics, which are available at **Sephora, Fred Segal, Nordstrom** and **Lord & Taylor**.

by Elyse Glickman

pick of the week

575 jeans



The Spring of '575

Recently we had the pleasure of catching up with our old friend Christian Audigier, who evolved from being lead designer of Von Dutch into his own man as the creator the Don Ed Hardy clothing revolution. It now appears as if one of our other alumni, **Frank Mechaly** (we introduced you to him nearly two years ago via his solid work on **Sacred Blue jeans**), has graduated to a new level of success in the denim world.

Currently **575 Denim** is blowing off the shelves of destination boutiques locally and nationally that synonymous with cutting edge fashion (**Barney's New York, Kitson, M Fredric, Ron Herman** and **Fred Segal**). With this new brand, launched this past January with former Sacred Blue sales team executive **Shaun Hurley**, the focus continues to be on the subtle details that make a pair of jeans special in the finishing process. Wear and tear is painstakingly accomplished with sanding, grinding, open-ended seams, and simple-but-solid vintage hardware that holds the whole thing together. Models like "**The Painter**" and "**The Farmer**" have all the right kinds of distressing, but its never overdone or obvious.

575, with collections for both **men and women**, has already attracted a following with such denim aficionados as **Hilary Duff, Haylie Duff, Jennifer Lopez, Cameron Diaz, Rachel Bilson, Felicity Huffman, Lenny Kravitz, William H Macy, David Duchovny, Wilmer Valderrama** and **Constantine Maroulis**.

Then again, it should come as no surprise that Mechaly seamlessly (pun intended) moved from one major boutique denim label to the creation of a new one. His dad is none other than **David Mechaly** who created the hugely successful Blue Cult jeans. However, Frank makes it clear personally and professionally, he is very much his own man.

style

by Elyse Glickman

pick of the week

keurig premium coffee systems



The Perks of the Business...

If you have ever wondered what it would be like to have a trendy, high-end coffee and tea bar in your own home, **Keurig Premium Coffee Systems** is the company that's going to provide you with the answers, as well as the goods you'll need to turn your kitchen, patio or living room into a real hotspot. Better still, no worries about long lines, empty cream dispensers, stale muffins, set-up, clean-up or the barking dog at the next table!

Your office's drippy coffee maker this ain't! Keurig's range of coffee makers for both home and office bring together high tech, sleek design and great taste. At **On3's VIP Lounge** for the **2006 Critic's Choice Awards** (and they will be back next month to warm the hearts of the music community at **Distinctive Assets' Grammy Lounge**), host **Dennis Miller** and fellow celebrities **Brendan Fraser**, **David Strathairn** and **Eric Benet** fell in love with the **Special Edition B60** (\$199), a perfect model for home use with a 48oz. water reservoir, three brew sizes (5.25oz, 7.25oz. and 9.25oz.) and a Backlit Programmable LCD. Better still, the patented **K-Cups®** portion system not only enables you to make a perfect cup each and every time, but really does bring the coffee bar experience home, with brands as **Timothy's**, **Diedrich's**, **Gloria Jean**, **Green Mountain**, **Van Houtte**, **Bigelow** and **Celestial Seasonings**.

The company name "Keurig" is derived from the Dutch word for excellence, and true to its name, it has emerged as the leading single-cup brewing system in the workplace in North America. Keurig Premium Coffee Systems are available in Los Angeles at **Bed, Bath & Beyond**, **Robinson's-May**, **Williams-Sonoma**, **Macy's** and **Bloomingdale's**. To read more about Keurig coffee systems and accessories, please go to www.keurig.com.

compartes chocolatier



Compartes
chocolatier

Jonathan Grahm mixes it with love and makes L.A. taste good!

There are two kinds of success stories in the candy world. One involves the old school style chocolate shop that, even with updated packaging, makes same kinds of truffles your parents and grandparents enjoyed through the years. The other involves ultra-modern, foodie-oriented operations that endeavor to create gorgeous architectural marvels forged from cocoa and sugar.

If you are a chocoholic, there is truthfully nothing wrong with either strain of upmarket chocolate. However, 21 year-old **Jonathan Grahm** is boldly stirring things up through his total reinvention of **Compertes Chocolatier** as an artisan destination for chocolate lovers. While Compartes has been a respected local name in chocolate for more than 50 years (especially as his family, owners of the **Bonny Doon vineyards**, purchased the store 7 years ago), Jonathan had his own idea about how to introduce Compartes to a new generation of chocolate connoisseurs and keep veteran customers coming back for more. Also embracing the company's fresh new direction are such taste-makers as **Nicole Kidman, Bruce Springsteen, Teri Hatcher, Marcia Cross, Christian Bale, Rob Reiner** and **Dustin Hoffman**.

"My grandmother is a foodie, and it directly rubbed off on me," says Grahm, recognized as the youngest chocolatier in America. **"Since age 14, I have devoted myself to the art of making fine chocolate, and to this day, I am still learning and experimenting.** I began by decorating the chocolates, and around the time I turned 19, my experiments lead to the invention of Love Nuts. I live and breathe chocolate and will take practically any opportunity to develop something new. If I eat in a fancy restaurant, I take mental note of divergent flavors and ingredients that taste great together. Over this past holiday season, when we ran low on some of our flavors, I found opportunities to experiment in the kitchen and develop new ones such as a truffle incorporating honeydew melon and jalapeno."

Doing things the slow, time-honored way (with a copper kettle and a giant wooden spoon among the things in his arsenal), Jonathan has created such original flavor sensations such as **Spicy Chilli Pepper, Lemon Citron, Sesame Seed, Raspberry Peppercorn, Australian Ginger, Lemongrass, Mango**

Basil Masterpiece, Chai Spice Tea and Rose Petal. As he has recently mastered the art of making marshmallows and toffee on premises, he is now developing a collection of **five exotic flavored marshmallows** and **five exotic toffee flavors** to be sold in special sets. He is also especially proud of his **new spin on peanut butter cups, filled with honey-sweetened peanut butter made on the premises.** Of course, Jonathan still offers up Comparte's "**bread and butter**" classics, including **traditional truffle flavors, signature stuffed fruits, chocolate dipped dried fruits, turtles, English toffee** and **Chocolate covered pretzels, grahams and Oreo cookies.**

"I make every effort to know every customer on a personal basis," affirms Jonathan. "While some gourmet stores in Brentwood and West L.A. have a chichi air, it is more important to me to connect with individuals, learn about their favorites and get them excited about the new things I have in the works."

Jonathan Grahm is introducing his annual **Chocolate Decadence Dinner** – a sinful event designed to spice up Valentine's Day. Comparte's Brentwood patio will be transformed into a romantic wonderland as couples enjoy Jonathan's decadent desserts by candlelight. The special dinners will be held for five consecutive nights starting **Friday, February 10th.** The series will begin with Singles Night on the 10th and Couples Night will follow starting **February 11th** up until Valentine's Day **Feb. 14.**

You can also visit Compartes at **912 S. Barrington Avenue in Brentwood (310/826-3380)** or log on to www.compartes.com to experience Jonathan's phenomenal talent in its full, expansive glory.

by Elyse Glickman

pick of the week

single clothing



A Singular Sensation

Though **Single's** silky and sensual dresses and separates have been a favorite of L.A.'s hippest boutiques since its inception seven years ago, the collection (designed by **Galina Sobolev**) celebrated a major coming-out party at the Spring 2005 L.A. Fashion Week. The well-received and well-traveled collection wowed celebrities, media folk and stylists alike with colors and shapes inspired by the Italian Riviera, Ibiza, Saint Barts and St. Tropez.

The young line already boasts an impressive fan base which include **Bai Ling** and **Carolina Bacardi** (who made cameo appearances in the runway show) as well as fellow fashionistas **Rebecca Gayheart**, **Tracy Bingham**, **Anne (Mrs. David) Carradine**, **Ashley Drane** and **Holly Cruichank**, who cheered their fellow fashionistas on in Single regalia. Others confirmed to live the "Single" life include **Rachel Hunter**, "Desperate Housewives" **Nicolette Sheridan** and **Eva Longoria**, **Paula Abdul** and **Jillian Barberie**. Notes Sobolev, "It is very exciting to get this kind of feedback after so many years in the business and 16 years in L.A. I am so inspired by the lifestyle of Los Angeles, because fashion is so much more creative here and more than ever, people are coming from around the world to see how trends start here. Anybody can look so pulled together so effortlessly, with a great top, classic shoes and a perfect-fitting pair of jeans."

Though it seems as if fashion is a part of Sobolev's genetic makeup, starting with her dressmaker grandmother back in Russia, she is focused on pushing the fashion envelope in ways that make sense for the modern woman who wants it both ways—combining feminine glamour and solid wearability. In the shadow of Odessa's Opera House, **Galina spent her youth building the foundations of her fashion philosophy learning how to sew and crochet and assisting her grandmother in making beautiful clothes for the stylish ladies and wives of diplomats and government officials.** In 1977, her family immigrated to New York and there, Galina enrolled at the Fashion Institute of Technology. She participated in the school's exchange program that enabled her to spend 18 months in London, which as a city still inspires her to this day.

After completing her education and even getting an opportunity to work as a model on New York's most prestigious runways, she ultimately gravitated back to fashion design, working for several of New York's best fashion houses (including a young **Marc Jacobs**) and allowing the great clubs of the day (**Studio 54, Xenon, Limelight** and **Danceteria**) to serve as inspirational muses. Though she was hesitant about LA's fashion scene at first, she took the plunge and began the process of establishing herself on the West Coast in 1987. In 1992, she met her future husband, Michael. With their combined business and industry experience, they built their company into what it is today—a collection uniting the best of old and new influences.

"I love to get ideas from vintage stores," notes Sobolev. **"Like London's Relic, and in Los Angeles, Decades, American Rag, Resurrection and The Way We Wore, which has some of the most amazing arrangements of merchandise I have seen.** Like some of the things I have seen in those places, my goal is to create style that is timeless, not retro."

Single is available at **Saks Fifth Avenue** and better boutiques including **American Rag, Curves** on Robertson, **Tabou, Boulmiche, Barkley Hope**, and **Gaya**.

by Elyse Glickman

style
pick of the week

hudson jeans



Los Angeles on The "Hudson"

Although Kate Hudson is no doubt one of Young Hollywood's key A-Listers, there is another **Hudson** getting into the A-List, and on a very personal level. The comprehensive jeans collection bearing that name, brought to life by an internationally experienced team assembled by **Peter Kim** (owner and also founder of the streetwear line DrunknMunky), is generating much excitement. **Ashton Kutcher, Sienna Miller, Uma Thurman, Jude Law, Teri Hatcher and Cameron Diaz** are among the famous faces helping the company's image, figuratively and literally, take shape.

At first glance, Hudson is another very high-quality brand of designer jeans turning up on trend pages (including ours, of course) and vying for the affections of fashionistas looking for the latest ways to beautifully display their assets. With the recent emergence of 80s nostalgia, some sharp eyes will even notice their pocket tags will recall a childhood favorite (**Britannia Jeans**). However, there are some very cool things that set them apart, most notably, the pocket treatments. Among the best sellers are Hudson's **"Pointy Pocket"** jeans, which not only create a more tailored look but a subtle-but-slimming effect.

Hudson's approach to design can be described as very **"process oriented."** The finest quality fabrics from the US, Asia and Europe serve as the foundation for all jeans made at their factory. Once each pair is constructed, it is hand-finished and treated with different washes and rinses to ensure no two pairs are alike. The signature cut of the pants for both men and women are cut long and lean for a sexy, "custom-made" fit. The line includes a **"supermodel"** length cut with a 36" in-seam for those girls who like to wear their jeans with 4" heels! Also, Hudson has now taken its signature look uptown with the unveiling of corduroy and velvet jean-cut pants in forgiving stretch fabrics and rich colors, available in such hues as pink, blue, orange, mustard and green. One of our favorites: **the 170SC pointy pocket corduroy jeans**, in summer pink with a vintage finish.

In Los Angeles, Hudson jeans and corduroys can be found at **Fred Segal, Kitson** and **Calypso**. On the web, the

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by Elyse Glickman

style

pick of the week

robert marc eyewear



ROBERT MARC

An artistic vision

If you were in the elite group of invited guests to this year's Silver Spoon Golden Globes Hollywood Buffet, you could score a pair of one of the most gorgeous pairs of sunglasses on the market from **Robert Marc**. Like fine diamonds at Tiffany's or Harry Winston, they sparkled in the noon-day sun and drew people to the tables just to try them on. What makes them so special? The luminescent jewel tones, two-toned frames and jewelry-grade silver signature hinges that do more than hold the glasses together. Over the

years, devotees have included **Susan Sarandon, Uma Thurman, Michael Douglas, Dustin Hoffman, Nicolas Cage, Diane Keaton, Cindy Crawford, Kate Hudson, Natasha Richardson, Liam Neeson, Mary J. Blige** (recently featured in Interview Magazine sporting the designer's sunglasses), **Julianne Moore, Jennifer Aniston** and **Matt Damon**, and at the Silver Spoon Buffet, new converts included **Usher, Jay-Z, Shannon Elizabeth, Lacey Chabert, Kelly Hu** and **Rebecca Gayheart**.

"I design eyewear for the modern man and woman with a unique and individual sense of style," affirms Marc. By combining classic and modern elements, his designs are timeless. He is known for layering contrasting and complementary colors to create depth in each frame. He has revived the art of the handmade eyewear frame and subtly brands his designs with the trademarked Robert Marc hinge. While each frame is unique, Robert Marc's seasonal collections are themed, reflecting Robert's artistic consciousness and imagination.


His most recent collection is inspired by the exotic Italian island of **Stromboli**, which is known for its ever-active volcano, grassy slopes and crystal blue seas. It is also the place where Roberto Rossellini's film *Stromboli* (1950) featuring Ingrid Bergman, and their consequent love affair was set. Though it's been more than two decades since Robert Marc opened his first namesake store (regarded as one of the very first high-end boutiques marketing designer eyewear at the couture level), his name and reputation are as up-to-the-minute as ever, thanks to his approaches to craftsmanship, innovative merchandising displays and personal service to customers. Robert Marc quickly established a strong reputation by presenting the most fashion-forward eyewear with

exquisite displays and providing personalized service to new and existing customers alike. With current collections, Marc deepens his notoriety as a jeweler among eyewear designers.

The vibrant **Stromboli Collection** converges new and classic styles, while the **Sparkle Collection** is defined by glittery crystal stones (in a choice of Peach, Olivine, Rose, Siam and Crystal hues) and silver dragées in a gorgeous pavé setting, emboldening his distinctive frame shapes. For Spring 2005, he will be unveiling the long-awaited **Kalahari Collection**, which will be infused with beautiful giraffe prints in vivid, desert-inspired colors.

Robert Marc's collections can also be found locally at **Fred Segal Eyes, Destination Sama** and **Optical Shop of Aspen** and viewed at his luxurious website, www.robertmarc.com.

This week, **1 LUCKY WINNER** will see the world through Robert Marc's gilded eyes.



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