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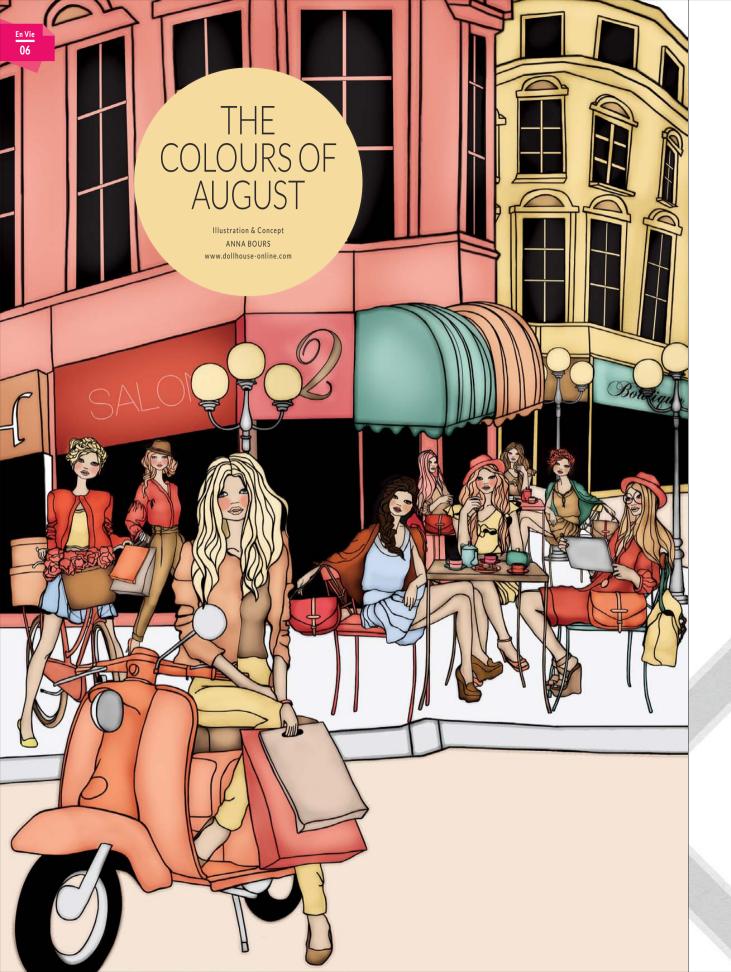
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News 07

# **AUGUST 2012**

**ONDON OLYMPICS** 

Olympics. To commemorate the

event, London-based Cath Kidston

has released a collection of Olympic-

themed products including everything

from tea towels to iPhone cases to

umbrellas. The limited line, entitled

"Be a Good Sport," features nostalgic

designs depicting athletes and London

landmarks.

London is full of excitement

over the start of 2012 Summer

xt / AYA IGARASHI

MAISON MARTIN MARGIELA AND H&M

H&M has announced a collaboration with influential French fashion house Maison Martin

Margiela for the Fall/Winter 2012 season. The innovative combination may be H&M's most highly anticipated yet and will no doubt sell out quickly.

TEDDY BEAR SNEAKERS

Jeremy Scott for Adidas has released a pop floral version of the teddy bear high

tops that shocked sneaker aficionados last year as a part of the Fall 2012/13 collection. The outrageous collection also includes a new hooded parka with stuffed teddy bear sleeves. Fans won't be able to resist the cuteness!

**KATIE HOLMES FASHION LINE** Katie Holmes will debut her new fashion label Holmes & Yang with partner Jeanne Yang at this September's New York Fashion Week. The brand, which was especially created for "working moms," will present their Spring/Summer 2013 collection at the event. Despite dealing with the turmoil of her divorce from actor Tom Cruise, Holmes has remained focused on her new role as a

designer.

VERSACE JEWELLERY COLLECTION
Atelier Versace will release a new collection of jewellery for Fall/Winter 2012/13. All 16 pieces are hand-crafted using a variety of precious gemstones, including yellow diamonds, emeralds, sapphires, and amethysts. Like with any new collection from Versace, demand will be high. And since the jewellery is for sale

by reservation only, you'd better hurry up and get in line!

LOUIS VUITTON COLLABORATION
WITH ARTIST YAYOI KUSAMA

Louis Vuitton has released the first part of a collection inspired by artist Yayoi Kusama and her signature polka-dot motif. The collection includes everything from trench coats to pyjamas, all covered in Kusama's whimsical dots. The second part of the collection is due in October and will feature both Vuitton's signature leather goods and Kusama's dots.

French designer Sophie Theallet was selected as the winner of the International Woolmark Prize USA Award by the not-forprofit company Australian Wool Innovation after the award was re-established this year as a gateway for outstanding new designers. Following a global selection of representatives from each of the five regions across Europe, China, USA, India and Australia, the winner of the international prize will be named in February 2013 and allowed to show a capsule collection of Australian Merino wool at London

**SOPHIE THEALLET** 

FERRAGAMO'S NEW MODEL
Ferragamo's Fall/Winter
2012/13 video campaign

features Kate Moss strutting her undeniable feminine intrigue around a fairy tale palace. She joins models Karmen Pedaru and Sean O'Pry in a visually-stunning video piece depicting a story about the three of them crossing paths, perhaps by fate. The gorgeous mansion is the perfect backdrop to complement Ferragamo's elegant designs.

Fashion Week.











When a new season comes around, there are some items of clothing that just beg to be worn; something that screams out "it's summer" or "winter is here" and there's nothing you can do about it!

Summer is a time for loose dresses, wide open collars and hems, and a light wrap of flowing material ideal for cooling off in the smouldering heat, right? Well, you might think so, but there is more than one way to be cool.

When you hear the word "cool," you can't help but think of classic fashion from a bygone era: Hollywood's Golden Age, the Rat Pack and the dinner party swank of James Bond all come to mind. The timeless fashion of divas and "hip cats" mingle together in our imaginations. Everything from the 1930's to the 1960's adds to the modern classic style, with only your personal taste as your guide. You are free to pick and choose the elements that make up your outfit from a seemingly neverending range of features; long cuts, short cuts, flowing or straight, high backed, low backed are all examples to draw inspiration from. But, remember, you are not limited to just classic female styles.

The great thing about modern fashion is that, not only are you free to adopt or adapt any style or image from the past, but if you so desire, you can pick and choose from the entire history of men's style as well.

Slim suits and ornamented shirts are very stylish, whilst keeping the look from becoming too masculine. Neckwear is a must: bow ties, neckties (especially on the skinny side), even an American bolo will keep the look more formal and a step above the usual office wear. For tips and ideas on how to flaunt it, see musician Janelle Monae for her incredible use of this style.

Classic style will stay with us forever, and it's not going anywhere soon. Every generation has tried, adapted and updated the style with exciting results. 2012's take on it is playful and sharp and all the elements are there to construct your own unique look; remember, you want manly chic, not macho masculine!

STAY FORMAL AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY, STAY COOL!







## "EVERY COIN HAS TWO SIDES, FASHION IS NO EXCEPTION."

What is "sustainable fashion?"
Cropping up in fashion everywhere in recent years, the term has been overused, yet its explanation has been few and far between.

Sustainability is about being eco-conscious, being aware that by maintaining a certain level of something, in this case fashion and its resources, we are able to conserve an ecological balance by avoiding the depletion of natural resources.

Christina Dean, founder and CEO of the Hong Kongbased Redress charity foundation has been committed to unflinching dedication in educating society about pollution and sustainability in fashion by way of exhibitions, competitions, seminars, research, media outreach and fashion shows. This year's competition for the EcoChic Design Award China has brought together 12 promising designers that utilise theories and techniques relevant to sustainable fashion, including zero-waste, up-cycling (the recycling of a material into a higher quality product) and reconstruction (making new clothes from previously worn garments).

Redress welcomes an expert panel of judges which includes designers Dorian Ho and Vega Wang, to name a

few, and Chinese celebrity and actress Zhu Zhu as the event's Celebrity Ambassador. A significant aspect of the event is the inclusion of the public, whose votes contribute to the outcome of the competition.

August opens up to a public exhibition that will display one of each of the 12 designers' minimal waste designs, following which they will showcase their entire six-piece collection at Shanghai Fashion Week in October. Executed in textile waste personally selected by the designers themselves, we can look forward to being utterly amazed. The Design Award, one of three fantastic prizes, includes an opportunity to design a capsule collection for international retailer Esprit.

En Vie magazine was determined to discover more about the exciting possibilities that this event foresees and talked to both Christina Dean and Zhu Zhu about the project.

We asked Christina Dean what inspired her to start the Redress Charity Organisation:

"Having written many differing articles about environmental sustainability, and combined with my move to China from the UK, I became increasingly interested in the role that the fashion industry - so significant here in China - played in creating pollution."



Christina believes that engaging and educating fashion designers about sustainable issues over a long period of time will best influence their awareness.

"We felt that the best way to do this was via a competition that would draw in emerging fashion design talent and bring them on an educational journey and, in doing so, change the pattern of fashion."

However, her main interest lies in the matter of how the Mainland Chinese translate the interest in sustainable fashion into action. This is where Esprit comes into play. "What will happen when a competitively priced, environmentally-sustainable product-offering, such as Esprit's future sustainable collection, later becomes available to them? This is the big question."

Talking to Zhu Zhu about her role as the event Ambassador, we discovered her intimate insights on the matter of sustainability and how education can make a positive change.

"Education here is the key to making people choose better lifestyle habits. A key in the fashion industry, many fashion designers don't realise how influential they are in making the fashion industry more sustainable and so we need to educate – and inspire – the next generation of fashion designers, so that they CAN break the pattern of fashion. Few designers may know that an estimated 80% of the environmental impact of a product is influenced by the designer. Thinking in reverse – this is great news because it puts so much positive power into the hands of the designer to improve this."

The event press launch saw her wear a one-off reconstructed dress by renowned designer Dorian Ho, using left over pieces of luxurious fabric and garment samples. "I'm becoming increasingly aware of the impact that the fashion industry has on the environment and, so, I'm

increasingly looking out for sustainable fashion clothing to wear. As we know, this isn't always that easy. But this is beginning to change and I'm so excited about finding more sustainable garments in the future."

As for Christina, a sneak peek into her personal wardrobe reveals the possibilities and actualities of sustainable fashion.

"I would love to say that my entire wardrobe is a walking, talking example of sustainable fashion. However, it is not. My wardrobe includes an eclectic mix of second-hand, vintage, pass-me-downs, new, some designer and some mass market. However, I can honestly say that I am extremely cautious in what I buy, how I care for it, how long I keep it and how I dispose of it. This means that I am essentially very conscious of my shopping and wardrobe management, even though my wardrobe may not have the halo that it ought to have, given my career!"

It is certainly difficult to acquire a solely sustainable wardrobe but, for the benefit of our natural resources and our planet, it would be an admirable feat just to work our way up the ladder in the hope to further support a more eco-conscious wardrobe.

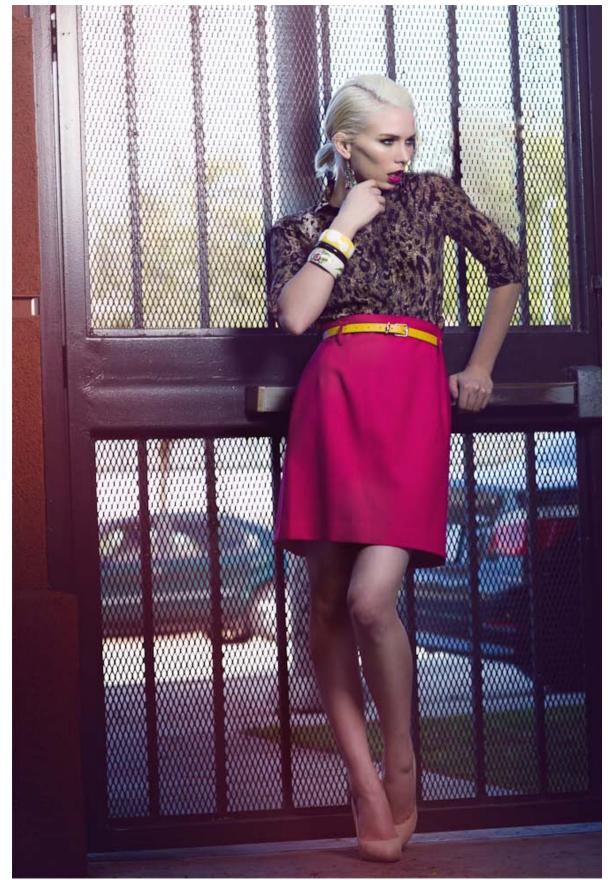
On a final note, we asked the two judges how they would sum up the event in five words:

Dr. Christina Dean: Creative, ambitious, fearless, sincere, authoritative.

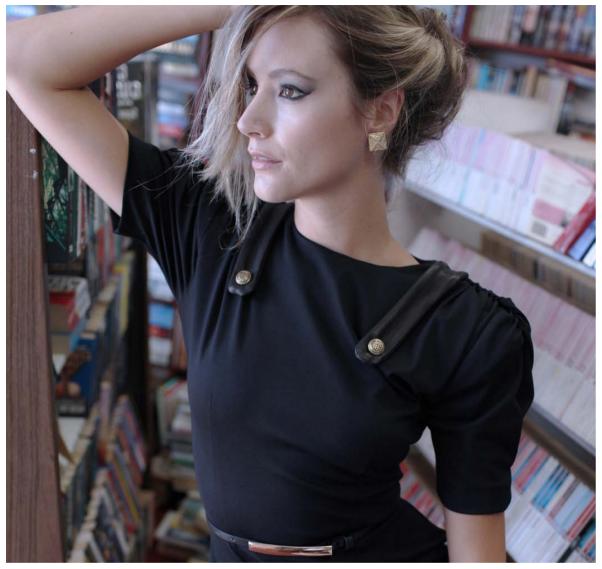
Zhu Zhu: Passionate, generous, educating, brave and successful.

Public voting opens on August 8th. Visit the EcoChic China website for details and for more information on sustainable fashion and the EcoChic Design Award: ecochicdesignaward.com









# live for the city. I work 9 to 5 in the city. I dress smart and speak well and stand tall in the city.

From the minute my commute starts, I'm ready for where the day may take me. Who will I see? Where will I go? What will the weather be like? What should I wear? Am I suitable for after work drinks or a chance meeting with a stranger?

As the wind from the tube breezes past me, I begin my stride. Quickly and elegantly I ascend the steps into daylight and I'm met with a feeling of hope and opportunity.

I treat myself to a pastry for breakfast as I plan out my day. I take out my phone and read two texts from fellow city-goers asking for lunch. As we plan the logistics, I get a sense of excitement; we always have fun at lunch, we bump into old friends and old flames and the occasional celebrity.

I must remain immaculate all day in the city.

The final few hours roll on and I enjoy talking to colleagues and strangers. I look forward to a quick jaunt to the shops for another sleek and sophisticated outfit, for another day in the city.

As I wait in the park, I see my friends walking towards me for après work drinks. Their smiling faces are full of hope and opportunity.

I re-apply my lipstick, change my earrings and head towards them, looking sleek and sophisticated, ready to hit the city.

I greet my friends and the stranger who is with them, a new friend, a handsome face, a hot child in the city.

I LIVE FOR THE CITY.
I WORK 9 TO 5 IN THE CITY.
I DRESS SMART AND SPEAK WELL
AND STAND TALL IN THE CITY.



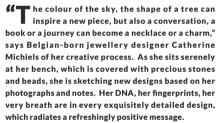












These messages of truth, love, and passion have resonated with admirers and loyal customers of Michiels' work, including Julia Roberts, Johnny Depp, Lenny Kravitz, Scarlett Johansson and Brad Pitt. The biggest stars on the planet wear them, they are featured in the most renowned international publications and they are sold at the most sophisticated establishments, yet she is most proud that her sons love and choose to wear her designs.

She began making enamel pendants in 1973 and has never stopped creating. Having studied gemology and diamond grading at the prestigious High Council for Diamonds in Antwerp, the trained Reiki master draws from her colourful journey, her global travels, and her freedom of spirit when creating. Inspired by her desire to wear sophisticated yet unique jewellery every day, whether practicing yoga, working or traveling, Michiels created the Stardust collection — her signature — almost a decade ago. These intricate bracelets, which are meant to be worn in multiples, are made from precious gems, stones, ebony and bone.

Her graceful, effortless and full-of-flair designs are beautiful visual reminders that life should be lived to the fullest.

"I would like to be a musician when I grow up," says the self-proclaimed "visionaire." As thoughtful, inspiring and beautiful as her unique jewellery is, surely her music would follow suit.

Available in Japan at these retailers:

AYIN 1-2-5, Saiwai-cho Naniwa-ku 556-0021 Osaka +81 (0) 16 6624 9011 www.ayin.co.jp

ESTNATION GINZA-NAMIKI BLD 2-3-6, Ginza Chuo-ku 104-0061 Tokyo +81 (0) 3 5159 7800 www.estnation.co.jp

















Text / DEB OLDS
Pictures / stylepalace.com.au













O ver the last ten years, the history of online shopping has been shaped. Whilst online shopping is commonplace now, it hasn't been around forever. Chances are that as an avid reader of En Vie, you are already a convert to online shopping.

Customers are attracted to online shopping not only because of the high level of convenience, but also because of the broader selection, competitive pricing, and greater access to information.

America's GAP, England's Top Shop and Japan's UniQlo were available to the world long before the companies expanded into every corner of the globe.

Business organisations seek to offer online shopping, because the cost is much lower compared to brick and mortar stores, it offers access to a worldwide market, it increases customer value and it builds sustainable capabilities.

#### HISTORY

The World Wide Web became popular around 1990 and has since seen an e-commerce explosion. The second important step in the history of online shopping, beyond the invention of the Internet itself, was online banking. It was created and developed in 1994, making online transactions possible.

It wasn't long before all sorts of product lines were being sold online, from travel to beauty to books.

Believe it or not, Pizza Hut became the first online retailer in 1994!

In 1995, Amazon launched as an online bookstore. Once the company realised that other goods were also in high demand, they expanded to offer a wider selection of merchandise.

The online auction site, eBay, also began in 1995 and quickly grew in popularity. To this day, Amazon and eBay are the biggest online retailers.

Today, most brick-and-mortar stores have an online counterpart. With faster connections and better technology, the online shopping sector has been able to grow and gain popularity. Many people favour shopping online over going to the store for convenience and price comparison opportunities. And, as mentioned above, some famous and coveted brands and products may not be available in your country, let alone your city.

Style Palace is one of Australia's top online sites for go-to cutting edge labels with over 50 labels featured on the e-Boutique, such as Amore & Sorvette Swimwear, Ae'lkemi, Samantha Wills, Story By Tang and Poppy Lissiman. Established in 2008, Style Palace also offers a wardrobe styling service and holds an annual search for their "Style Palace Princess."

Gorgeous and stylish founder, Darlene Gianolli, chatted with En Vie about her inspiration to start the site, her own loves and what the future holds for this great business venture.

#### Why did you decide to go into ONLINE shopping?

Leading up to going online with Style Palace in October 2008, online shopping was just starting to be talked about more and more amongst diehard shoppers and fashionistas. I could see this was going to be the way of the future for shopping and that things were going to change quickly; I was intrigued. I had always wanted a retail shop and decided that this was the time and that it was going to be online - now, everyone is shopping online! I also wanted to promote and stock Australian designer labels as I have a strong belief that Australian fashion and designs are some of the best in the world - what better way to introduce our wonderful style to international shoppers was there but to go online? Australian and international fashionistas can now enjoy shopping Aussie designers from the comfort of their own home.

#### Who/where are your customers?

Our customers are predominantly from all over Australia, but we do have many international shoppers from countries such as Japan, Singapore, UAE, France, Italy, Croatia, USA and Canada, amongst others. Our customer is a girl who loves current trends and styles and loves following fashion reports in magazines. We have a wide demographic of customer from teenagers to 60-year-old women, though our main customer is probably 20-45.

#### How do you choose the labels for Style Palace?

When we choose our labels we look at current trends, popular designers, product quality and what our customer loves to wear. We like to have a mix of current trends and classic pieces to cater to all tastes.

## What item from your wardrobe could you not bear to part with?

My YSL Tribute heels and my stage costumes!

How many pairs of shoes do you own?

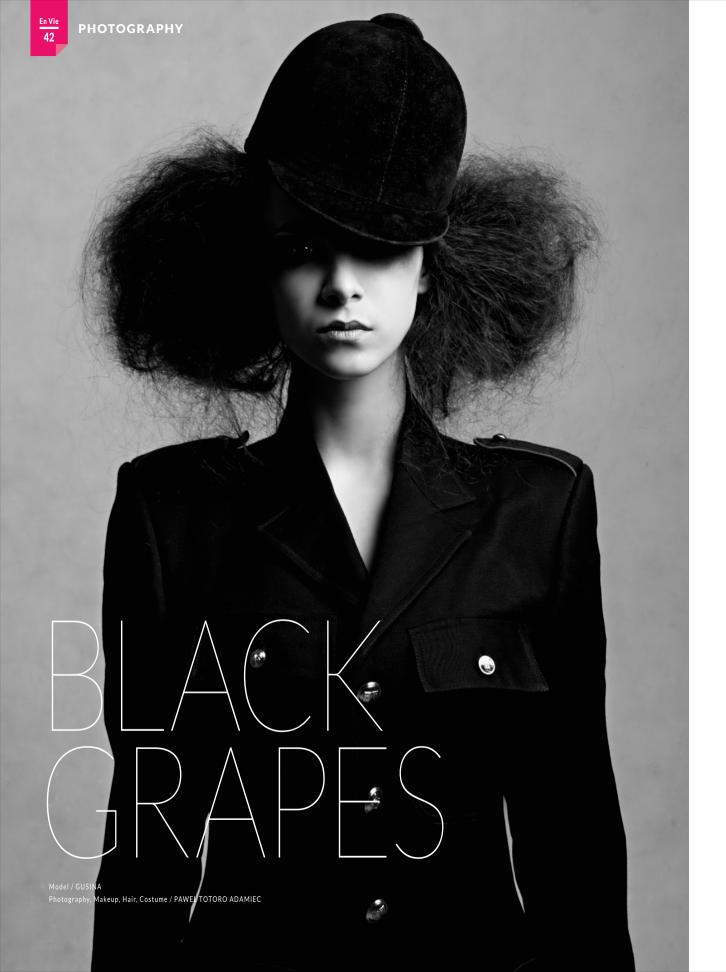
#### Where can you be found on your (rare) days off?

Yoga, followed by a long breakfast, shopping, then off to the beach with my poodle, Romeo.

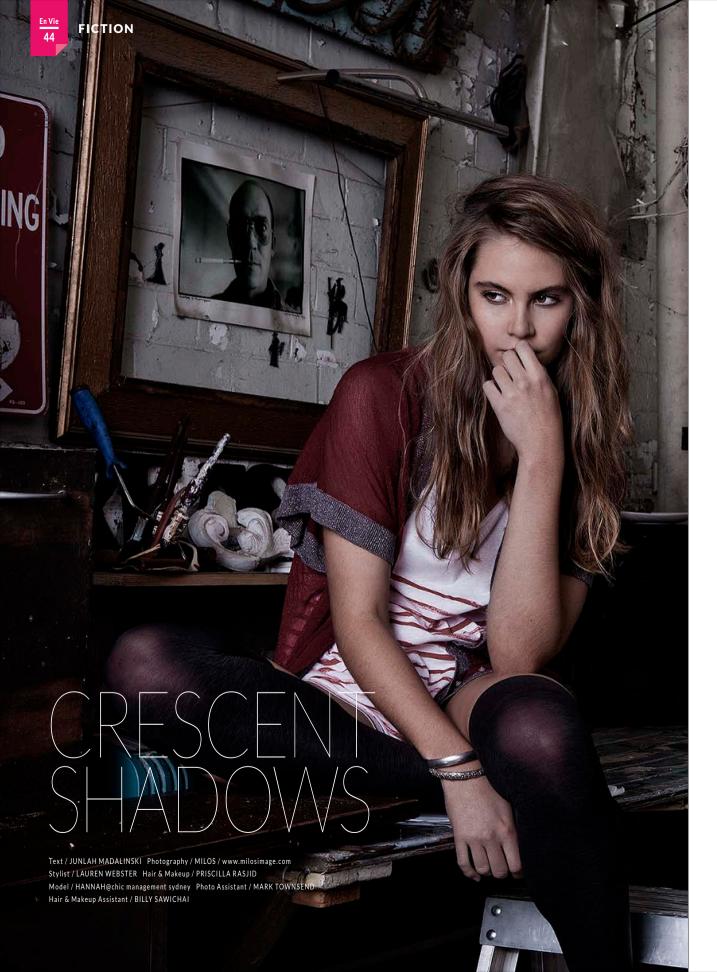
#### What are your plans going forward?

The plans going forward are to [expand] Style Palace to be THE premier online shopping site to visit for the best in Australian fashion, while keeping true to our philosophy of continuing to provide the best customer service. Style Palace was created to be an experience for our customer and we want to continue to grow while keeping these important elements, to make shopping at Style Palace unique and enjoyable.











iving my life in fear of a broken heart led me down a road of fleeting infatuations; nights filled with momentary passion, which disappeared more quickly than the sunrise. I was scattered, chaotic, and alone.

Then I saw her, Soledad.

She was barefoot and wearing an oversized white shirt, which was carelessly slung across her body as an afterthought. She sat atop a used canvas and lit the cigarette that loosely hung from her lips. She took long deep drags, staring down at the bare floorboards lost in melancholy thought.

She took her last drag.

My pulse quickened, I realised that the fear of not seeing her again was greater than the fear of a broken heart. Brazened, I reached for her hand, but before I could even touch her fingertips, she turned around and our eyes met. Without hesitating, she gently kissed my cheek, leaving a lingering scent of turpentine and cherry gloss.

Playfully, she led me through her studio, filled with oversized frames, old black and white portraits, unfinished forms, and random collections of keepsakes. She put her hands over my eyes and led me into a darkened room. Still covering my eyes, she whispered softly ...

"Loneliness is a terrible burden to carry. Facets of our differences are vast chasms that separate even the most likely lovers. However, in this world there are brave souls that understand that life is not a flat surface; it is a living breathing organism that ebbs and flows into infinity. Those people are called are soul mates. Your soul mate will be a person that vibrates with the same rhythm as your heart. Even the sun, singular in nature, finds space to embrace the moon. Together they cast crescent shadows."

She removed her hands from my eyes and revealed her latest work; a dark forest of trees, illuminated by the crescent shadows created by the eclipsed sun.





Photography / ELOUISE VAN RIET-GRAY Hair & Makeup / HOLLY FARRELL (Let's Makeup) Retouching / MONICA CHAMORRO

Dress / RACHEL GILBERTJ Jewellery / VINTAGE CZECH







# One of the highlights of Perth Fashion Week was Kitty Grace's glam and "uber-cool" Friday night show.

The stunning, Perth-born Kat Grace now bounces between the island life of Bali and the bustling city of New York. Her up-coming SS12/13 collection entitled "She's Like Crystal" has a new focus on corsetry, draping and swimwear. She was inspired by the discovery of the incredible Naica mine in Mexico.

En-Vie chatted with designer Kat, somewhere on her way to China.

#### Describe your current design direction:

My designs tend to focus on a high-waisted, femme fatale-esque silhouette that appeals to a confident, modern woman. I prefer to work with silks and chiffons in mind and am mostly drawn to create form fitting attention-to-detail pieces that flatter and accentuate the female form.

#### Inspiration:

My inspiration for the SS12/13 "She's Like Crystal" collection stems from the Naica mine in Mexico, which contains the world's largest known crystal formations. I was amazed that this environmental wonder was hidden underground from human detection until 2007 and became obsessed with images of its 12 meter long translucent beams. This concept is evident and reinforced in the range's choice of colour, digital prints and accessories.

#### What are you doing after PFW?

Well, it's funny you should ask as I am currently answering these questions on a flight to China! I am going to explore the possibility of moving my

production and sampling from Bali for next season, AW13. If I want my label to grow and achieve international success (Kat has recently signed with showrooms in LA, NYC, AUS.), I will be looking at producing much larger quantities and China is the place to do so.

## $\label{prop:continuous} What is your favourite part of putting together a show?$

The best part without question is watching the vision and hard work come together in the end. It is really quite a rush and I can't wait to do it all over again next season!

#### Who do you admire in the fashion world?

Strong, ridiculously creative and business-minded women such as Vivienne Westwood, Sonia Rykiel and Diane Von Furstenburg inspire me to aim high and have faith in my own aesthetic and instinct.

#### Describe your style:

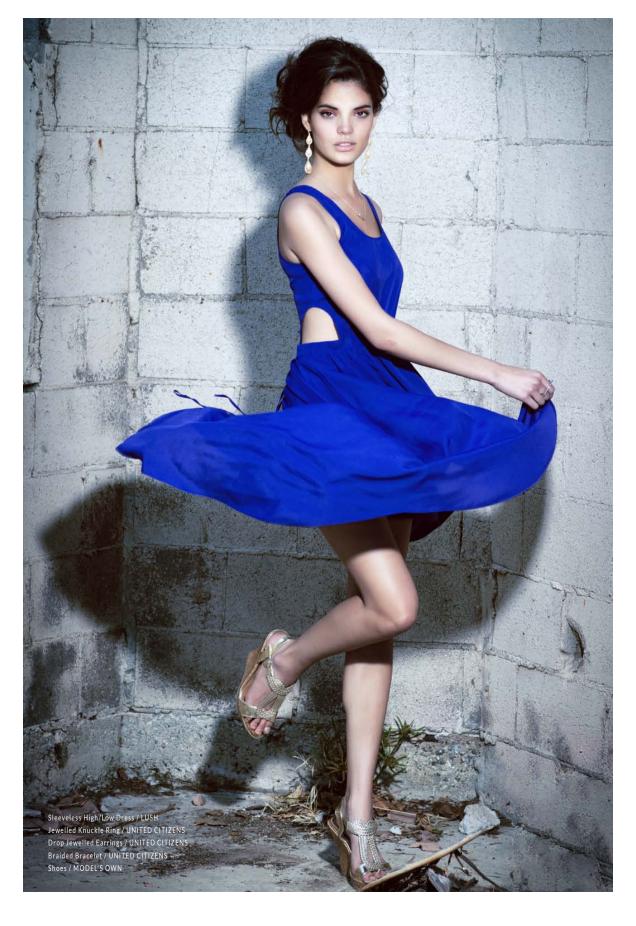
I am an avid vintage shopper and tend to mix my favourite timeless finds, particularly Gianni Versace, Gaultier, Mugler and Rykiel, with new pieces from my collection. I love an excuse to dress up for an event, but tend to look for comfort during the week. I get from A to B on a large motorbike in Bali so I have a selection of fabulous jumpsuits that never fail to serve their purpose in terms of practicality and an overall great look!

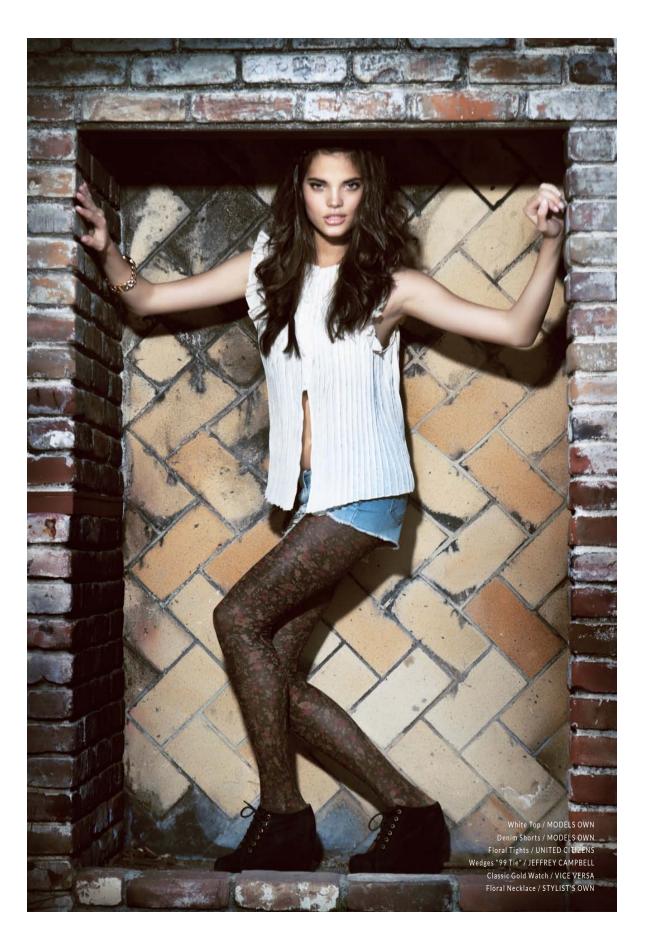
#### Any plans to open in Japan?

Of course, without question! I've been to Japan a few times and was completely mesmerised whilst walking the streets of Harajuku, and spent hours lounging in Yoyogi park observing the different fashion trends and beautiful eccentrics on show. Japan is most definitely on my hit list!

For more information: www.kittygrace.com















\$ \$13 brings the heat and sun early to Berlin, one of Europe's most captivating cities for fashion, art and music. This year's MBFWB showcases the likes of both internationally recognized brands and emerging talents. Let's see what the best of the season has to offer!

Hugo by Hugo Boss has revamped their brand image with an evermore youthful outlook. Keeping up to date with what's hot, the show opens up with a variety of modern-day brights, the satin mint green is amongst of our favourites.. Interspersed with neutral shades, the collection makes way for everyday minimal-wear. Staying true to their roots, the designs exude an aura of chic comfort that catch the eye with sheen fabrics. Yet, most interesting is the clever use of panelling that integrates playful kaleidoscope-like fabrics.

Augustin Teboul, the brainchild of Odély Teboul and Annelie Augustin, harks back to the days of postromanticism, evoking an aura of dark romance to create a collection of evening classics that are all about the details. With a meticulous eye for intricacy, fantastic lace and leather pieces are integrated with shimmering beads and sheer fabrics. A cross between ready-to-wear and haute couture, the brand works with bygone 1920s fashion together with newfangled trends of leather trousers and sleeveless biker jackets. The heart of their vision however is their love for accessories. All

about the layering, fantastic pieces include clutches and headpieces reminiscent of flapper-dress fashions.

Former junior designer of Chloé, Dietrich Emeter, stuns us with a chic collection comprised of lustrous burnt orange and cobalt blue accents in a sea of loose-fitting silhouettes. The urban pieces translate well into work items, especially with his science-like floral print.

A 2007 graduate from the Antwerp Royal Academy, Marc Philippe Coudeyre presents his 6th collection, a stunning array of party-like dresses that double as sleek workwear. Designs are flattering in muted neons, glittering fabrics and wet-looking leathers, draped to perfection for day and eveningwear. The highlight of his collection is the line of charming spring summer coats and jackets in novelty fabrics.

Light as a feather, Irina Schrotter's collection focuses very much on the silhouette. Ever elegant, the muchadored straight-seamed maxi-shift dresses shall surely become the new staple and will no doubt keep you content for seasons to come. Flowing and ethereal, her designs are silky to the touch and subtly seductive by way of sheer fabrics. Unembellished they may be, in pure whites and sumptuous ivories, beiges and pinktinted sheen fabrics, yet Schrotter never fails to offer the chicest of chic for everyday wear.







Conversing intimately with the female form, Michael Sontag's designs are presented in their rawest, most beautiful form. Much like Schrotter, Sontag's designs flow profluently along the catwalk. With masterful drapery, the luminous pieces hang just perfectly. Like a collection of weightless clothes, they will no doubt look stunning billowing in a light summer breeze. Neutral pastels have never been so chic. Presented in powdery shades of blue, whites and browns, Sontag creates ultimate lounge-like wear for every occasion, including flowing palazzo-like pants that you'll never want to step out of.

In beautiful neutrals and crimson reds, the established sporty chic brand Escada Sport has stunned us yet again with many the ideal pieces for beachwear. From a glimpse of cheeky rainbow-coloured swimsuit bottoms under a sheer shift dress to full-length sun dresses decked out in tasteful stripes, the newest collection is all about cooling-off. With thigh-high slashes incorporated into whole piece outfits, Escada never fails to deliver and who would say "no" to those amazing broad summer straw hats.

Laurel sees the familiar face of this season's favourite "it" colour, Orange. Whether it presents itself as a vermillion red or the full-blown marmalade, you are sure to get the real deal. Dressed up with fabulous

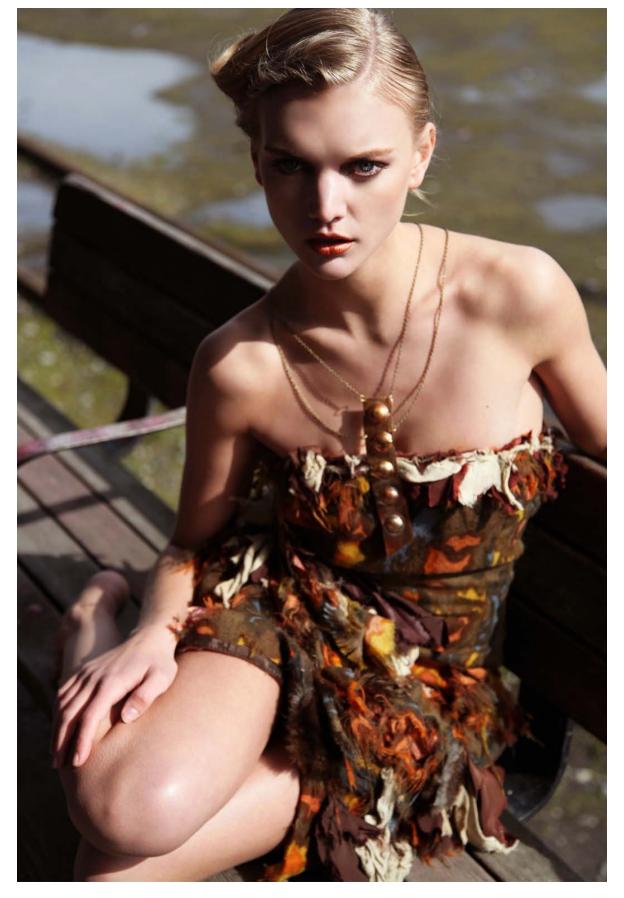
outerwear pieces, chic halter neck dresses with kick hems and gingham one-shoulder dresses catch many an eye to placate that dainty girl in us. Whether it be plain or magnificently embellished with jewels, the collection makes for amazing, understated eveningwear. And just when you think it's another minimal collection, Laurel pops out with exciting abstract painterly florals and sequined separates that will shoot straight to the top of your wish list.

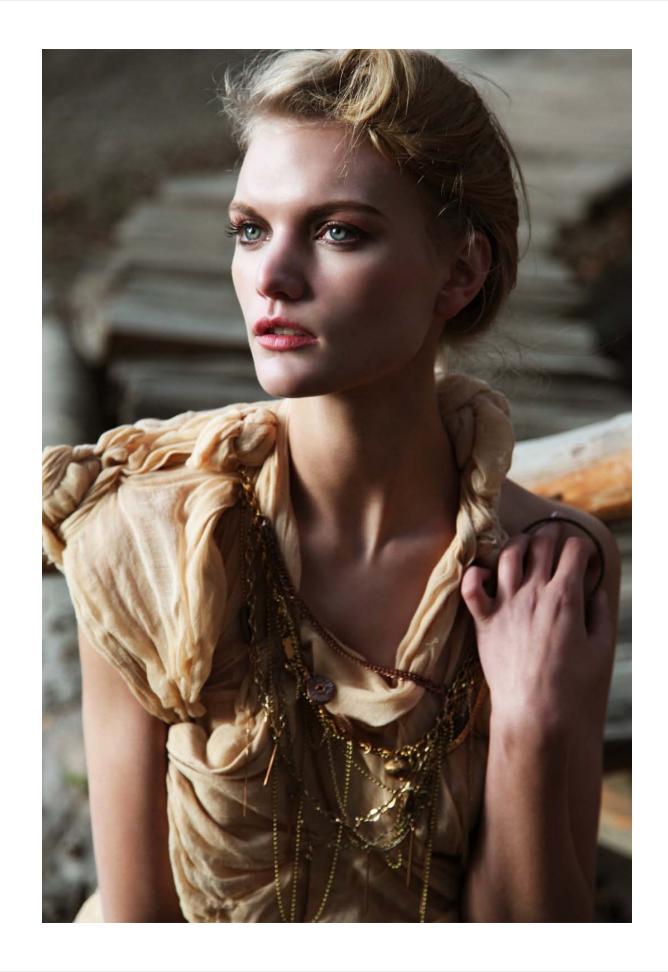
As for Rebekka Ruetz, think flower girls and Rapunzel with lace-like laser-cut leather and long braided tresses hitting the runway. Babydoll dresses have been given a new look, whereby voluminous layers of tiered silk give way to a sleek underlay of sheer fabric. Unlikely colour combinations of bold lemon yellow and pastel lavender make you melt. Leather lace remains her characteristic trademark and unique details of contrast zippers highlight the collection. But it gets better; beautiful brocades in muted golds are reminiscent of Russian luxury, creating what we like to call a homage modern bonanza.

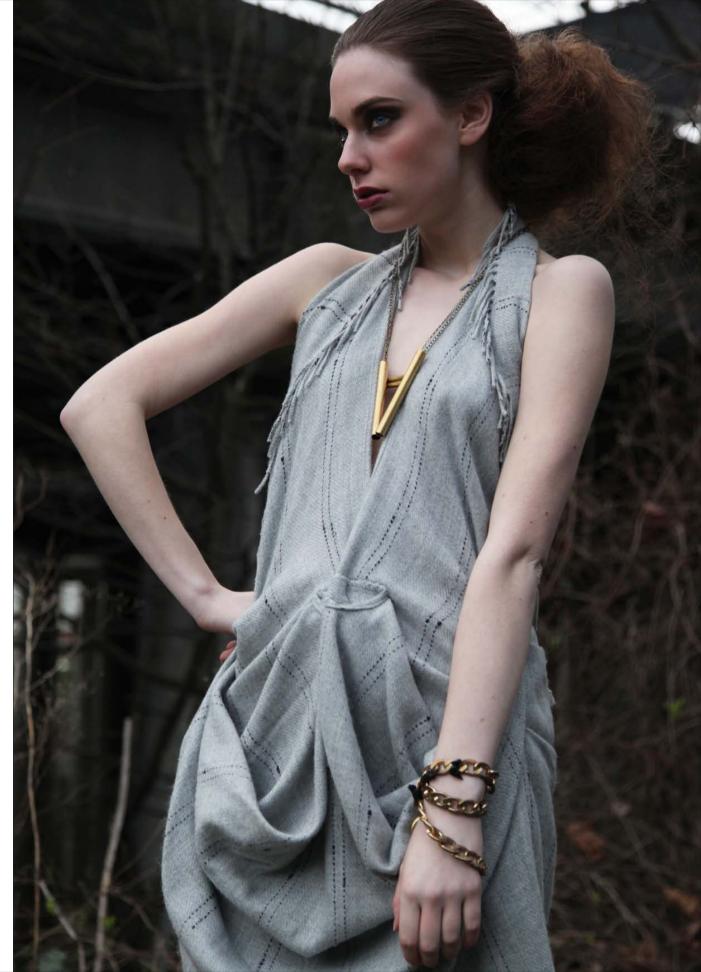
With such an all-encompassing array of designers on show this season, and with such dexterity and craftsmanship, Mercedes Benz Fashion Week Berlin is certainly more than meets the eye.

















HAL-MODE FESTIVAL 2012

# アジアの未来が、世界の未来へ

8 September, 2012 (Sat.)



# **HOROSCOPE**

BY HEPZIBAH

Illustration / ANNA JASINSKI www.annajasinski.com

ARIES 3/21 - 4/19



A ugust brings major changes in all areas of your life and for single sheep there is the possibility of finding true love. You may be drawn into mediating a conflict between close friends, but be careful that you don't get involved in problems that are not your concern. Know when to withdraw. This month you will feel like spending time at home and beautifying your surroundings.

**TAURUS 4/20 - 5/20** 



You have an urge to communicate with others, but remember that listening is just as important as talking. The conversations and encounters you experience will have a profound effect on you and may change your point of view. After the 21st, you will feel like slowing down and spending more time at home than usual. Pay attention to a health problem that has worried you for some time. The second half of the month will be good for career matters.

**GEMINI 5/21 - 6/21** 



You are feeling a need for human interaction. Whether it is meeting with friends, sending emails, writing letters, or even writing a story or poem. This is a good month for making your feelings known. Now is the time for buying and selling, for getting rid of the old and making way for the new. But take care, because there could be some opposition from your partner in the second half of the month.

CANCER 6/22 - 7/22



This is a great month for Cancerians. You'll be the center of attention in all that you do, especially any artistic endeavors. Fill your mind with new ideas and create something. After the 21st, the planets focus on your money situation; don't worry, there will be enough for that new outfit. Don't shop too much though as a dip in energy levels in the second half of the month means you will need to take care of your health a little better.

LEO 7/23 - 8/22



This is a frustrating month for emotional Leos. A crisis may occur when energy levels are low, so take some time out for inner examination and reflection. You will grow from the experience. After the 21st, things will pick up; there will be invitations to parties and happiness will be on the rise. Also, Venus could bring you luck, or even some extra cash by the end of the month.

VIRGO 8/23 - 9/22



Your hopes and dreams could come true before your very eyes this month, but only if you can learn to release the past. A feeling of urgency will prevail, but don't worry, change will come. After the 21st, there will be a chance to seek a quiet place to unwind and slow down, and a time to reflect and make plans and goals for the coming year. Take care when handling sharp utensils.

### LIBRA 9/23 - 10/22



Try not to overwork or worry too much this month. The right communication could mean a promotion will be offered. Around the middle of the month, energy levels will dip and you will be left with a sense of detachment and lethargy. You may feel that you no longer see eye-to-eye with someone you were close to, but after the 21st, the good times will return. Write down what you feel, the angels will assist you.

#### **SCORPIO 10/23 - 11/21**



The people you meet this month could have a profound influence on your thinking, teaching you things that you need to know, things that are more precious than gold. So pay attention, for what we gather in knowledge eventually becomes wisdom. Give thanks to those who helped you get to where you are in your career. At the end of the month, it is important to take care of your physical health, and remember to watch your temper.

#### **SAGITTARIUS 11/22 - 12/21**



This is a good time to free yourself from any long-standing debts you may have, so don't be too extravagant with money this August. The same goes for your emotions; holds your tongue if you want to avoid any unpleasant misunderstandings. Try to spend some time away from the computer and telephone this month; the spiritual life is calling. After the 15th, there could be some unexpected luck.

#### CAPRICORN 12/22 - 1/19



This month is a good time for parties or any social interaction with friends. There will be lots of unexpected fun. Any problems in family life will be balanced by your love relationships; they will have the Light of Heaven shining on them. It is a positive time, but pay special care to infections and pains in the head area.

#### **AQUARIUS 1/20 - 2/18**



For Aquarians, the work place will feel like a party all month long; there's an infectious joy in the air that spreads quickly to others. Your intuition will tell you what is best and any suggestions will be well received. As the month turns to the third week, you may feel like being romantic and this heralds a one-month period of love and affection for you and the love in your life.

## PISCES 2/19 - 3/20



Your subconscious, your dreams and visions are directing your life this month, giving you the need for a change of scenery. The planets are working in your favour and romance will bloom for you, if you let it. Opportunities to liven up your job will arise, but don't ignore your diet or fitness routine; you need good food and exercise to give you strength in the busy times at work. In the second half of the month, pay attention to family matters.

