

Supporting and promoting
the art of fashion, the culture of fashion, the future of fashion

Harpers & Queen - June 2005



Style News

Brief history

FUTURE CLASSICS

When the designer Julie Wilkins (above left) gave the first catwalk show for her five-year-old label, Future Classics, she chose to keep it low-key and to serve tea, cakes and cocktails, in keeping with the very particular English sensibility of her designs. A former painter and singer-songwriter, Wilkins is effortlessly cool; this stylish nonchalance reverberates throughout her collection. As well as the main collection, there are also lines of jersey and knitwear, which include soft pieces in cashmere, cotton and silk; the artist in Wilkins likes to deconstruct and experiment. Her strength lies in creating tactile, simple separates with a very avant-garde and individual edge. Gwyneth Paltrow and Madonna are already committed fans - what are you waiting for? *Future Classics* is available at *Seltridges* (08708 377377).

Graduating class

This year's Graduate Fashion Week, from 5 June at Battersea Park in London, includes work by Graduate Fashion Competition winner Jessica Macleod (below left, with models) of Nottingham Trent University. For tickets, ring 01903 885748.



Sequined silk top, about £220; matching shorts, about £211, both Imitation of Christ

BECOME A DISCIPLE

Tara Subkoff, the designer behind the Imitation of Christ label, was the fashion world's poster girl of cool long before Phoebe Philo inherited the mantle. Pretty, talented and with friends in hip places (Chloë Sevigny was once the label's creative director), her simple but smart designs are always gorgeous, and perfect for late spring. *Imitation of Christ*, available at *Barneys, New York* (+1 212 826 8900).



Message on a bottom

Kalita knickers come inscribed with sweet, silly messages, from £69 at *Austique* (020 7376 4555).

Unlikely style icon

Remind me The spinach-swilling, pipe-smoking, Olive Oyl-loving sailor-man ('choo choo!'). But a fashion icon? Balenciaga looked to the navy for inspiration, producing strong jackets and suits with epaulette details and gold piping. **Wearability?** 8/10. Flattering, versatile and super-chic.

#26



Fashion statement

Lars Nilsson

Camilla Morton talks to the creative director of Nina Ricci

What are you wearing today? Jil Sander trousers; Prada sweater; Charvet shirt; PF Flyers sneakers.

Which labels do you like to mix together? I mix designer pieces with sport basics and traditional houses' staples - for instance, a Maro Jacobs piece with Adidas and Charvet.

What item, for you, says 'spring is here'? Anything yellow.

What is this month's style essential? Something with print on.

What is this season's hottest colour? An orchid-like, purplish magenta - to be mixed with light neutrals.

Whose mobile number would you most love to have for quick style tips on tap? If mobiles existed in heaven, Diana Vreeland's and Balthus'.

Whose closet would you most like to raid? Any sculptor's or painter's closet, for their paint-stained shirts, distressed slacks, torn sneakers and comfy sweaters... the essence of nonchalant chic.

Where should we be shopping? Svenskt Tenn in Stockholm and Barneys in New York, and John Lobb in London, for the delicious smell of leather. What's on your cultural hotlist? For art, Collier Schorr and Cy Twombly's work, and the new Museum of Modern Art in New York. For music, the Concrete.

How do you tell the time? I wear an old Omega watch from my uncle, with a 'greige' (neither grey nor beige) crocodile wrist bracelet.

Which new labels are you watching? Marcel Marongiu's new men's collection.



PHOTOGRAPHS: GARY HEARSTON; BOB FEATURING; CHRIS MOORE