

The Fashionable A-Z of London

Aquascutum and the blue hue that forms the foundation of its S/S 09 presentation on Tuesday. Inspired by the Rothko exhibition opening later this month at the Tate Modern, Aquascutum's latest offering of urban utilitarian pieces comes in varying shades of sky, sapphire teal and cobalt.

Next up, artist Lucy Butler creates a window installation inspired by The Attack of the 50ft Woman, in Matches' Notting Hill. Finally, cult film director John Waters' standup show This Filthy World hits London this Thursday. Brilliant.

^Dorothy

Channeling the Wizard of Oz's ruby-slipped heroine, Gareth Pugh's a/w 08 collection paid homage to Dorothy meets er, Predator while Luella teamed winter party dresses with Wicked Witch of the West hats. Not just a style obsession, Amy Winehouse's new album samples the theme song of The Wizard of Oz. Her favorite character? The Wicked Witch of the West.

<Complimentary

Grab an afternoon tea this week at Aubaine on Brompton Road and receive a complimentary Bliss 'Manicure In A Bag' voucher worth £81. The bag, redeemable at the Bliss Spa on Sloane Avenue contains: Glamour Gloves; Glamour Glove Gel; a nail-nourishing cream and an Essie nail polish. Tea starts at £22.

<Massive

Mulberry is on a roll thanks to its new designer Emma Hill. Her signature? Supersizing design details. Think magnified rivets normally found on jeans, now displaced onto bags such as the Joelle; blown up popper fastenings on leather jackets and oversized squishy clutch purses.

M

<Nadja

Every season, Nadja Swarovski sprinkles her sparkling fairy dust over some of the hottest collections. To celebrate ten seasons working with Giles, and issue two of Swarovski's bi-annual magazine ROCKS, Nadja is hosting R=ROCKS, this Tuesday. Never one to do things in half measures, ROCKS comes in the form of a hefty coffee table magazine full of fashion images belonging to Swarovski-sponsored designers. www.swarovskisparkles.com

^Top floor

Iconic London tower Centreport is about to become a snazzy hangout thanks to this week's hard hat opening of members club Paramount. Housed on the top three floors and boasting toptastic views of the capital, the Tom Dixon-designed interior will feature a top floor wrap-around champagne bar.

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<OMG

You heard it here first. M.A.C.'s latest product range, 'Overrich' anticipates the 80s revival M.A.C.'s UK director of make-up artistry, Terry Barber is predicting for S/S 09. "It's a response to the return of the supermodel," says Barber of the oxidized-metal hued eyeshadows. "They're very inspired by the meticulous beauty aesthetic that 80s supermodels encapsulated." www.maccosmetics.co.uk

<Sip

There's nothing like a cocktail to lift the spirits after hours of catwalk-gazing. Depending on where you end up post show, allow us to wet your appetite: the Amber, created by Bistrottheque's genius cocktail specialist Vilius Kadunas. The Fashionista, created by the May Fair in celebration of its status as the official place to stay during LFW. Finally, an entire cocktail menu reflecting the collections of Basso & Brooke, Charles Anastase, Marios Schwab and Louise Goldin has been crafted at St Martins Lane's Light Bar. Pace yourselves people.

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<QUIFF

Attention hair crisis sufferers: super-duper hairdresser James Brown will be based in Topshop Oxford Circus offering consultations and a choice of A/W styles for this week only. "The messed up chignon with a middle parting is my favourite. It is effortlessly chic and cool without looking like you've tried too hard," says the man responsible for Kate Moss's mane. www.topshop.com

<Personality

Fun, friendly, mates with supermodels, now on the telly, fashion's most charming Henry Holland is fast becoming a personality. This week, his big champions are Levi's for whom he has customised six pairs of 501s launching as part of his House of Holland show. Post-show, Hen's making a personal appearance at Selfridges on Wednesday. Autographs, anyone?

<Rocks

Louise Gray has extended her line to embrace jewellery while Luc Kieffer, fresh from collaborating on collections for Yves Saint Laurent and Louis Vuitton, launches his eponymous collection of jewels, Resin D'etre. It debuts this month exclusively at Selfridges. Prize for the most quirky take on winter's trend for statement jewels has to go to Kate Baker. Her reworked vintage necklaces truly ROCK!

<Underground

As in on the down lo. Just over a week before LFW kicked off, it was still little more than a rumour that model Ben Grimes and former pattern cutter at Richard Nicoll, Lily Parker would be debuting their LPBG collection. Revolving around party clothes for party girls, it's inspired by the designers' first fashion purchases bought as teens back in the 90s. Watch this space. info@wearelpbg.com

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<Exclusives

London fashion stores have upped their retail USP with a host of exclusives: **Nicholas Kirkwood** and **Roland Mouret** have designed exclusive pieces for **Browns**; **Ossie Clark** has designed one of its signature dresses for **Matches**, and **Selfridges** is the exclusive stockist of **Sophie Hulme** and **Alexis Mabille**, formerly of Hedi Slimane and Galliano fame.

G

<Galleries

Whether it's **Roksanda Ilincic's** first full scale runway show in the Sir Norman Foster-built Albion gallery in Battersea, **John Rocha's** gallery-environment show [complete with Francis Bacons hanging on the walls], or the private view of 'Cut Flowers by **Robin Derrick**' at The Old Train Depot in SW8, galleries are the hot places to gather this LFW.

H

<Hatter

Hats off to the most ta week. New Gen winr presentation on Tues bar and kitchen. With and fans including Ma missed. Also look out f Mouse baseball caps

F

<Fragrant

Put the kettle on. Driven by her love of tea, perfumer **Lyn Harris** has created a fragrant range of brews. Swing by her **Miller Harris** Bruton Street store - where her **tearoom** opens on **September 20th**. If you can't wait till Saturday, nip down to **Nicole Farhi's** Bond Street store where '**Tea at Nicole's**' will be available during LFW only. www.millerharris.com

L

R

<Killer

Natacha Marro's killer heels are of the colourfully cartoon-like fetish variety. Not for shrinking violets, fans include **Goldfrapp**, **Grace Jones** and **Grayson Perry**. For those after a feisty **Betty Boop** platform heel, hotfoot it to Marro's shop or clock her designs tiptoeing down the runways at **Charles Anastase** and **Ossie Clark** this afternoon. www.natachamarro.com

J

^Jane

We've all been following what our favourite high street lady did next. Now's your chance to snap up what **Shepherdson** has been reserving for a special **Whistles** stock drop during LFW: zingy **watercolour floral shifts**; oversized duffle coats and wool crepe one shoulder cocktail dresses. Get a wiggle on or live to regret it. www.whistles.co.uk

^Lupfer

As in **Markus**, is something of a whizz when it comes to knits. He is presenting a collection crafted entirely out of jersey for his namesake **S/S09** label. To view by appointment only: 020 8525 5544. Also look out for his third season collaboration with **Armand Basi One** showing this Wednesday at noon.

V

<Vivienne

Westwood's compilation album **Catwalk Breakdown** launches in the **Selfridges Wonder Room** tomorrow. Featuring 16 of Viv's favourite tracks including **Great Balls of Fire** by **Mae West** and **Tchaikovsky's Waltz of the Flowers**, this is definitely one you'll be cranking the speakers up for.

W

<Whitening

As the US fashion fraternity has known for eons, the ultimate fashion credential is a set of sparkling pearly whites. Ensure yours are shining bright in time for LFW with the help of **Swissdent's Whitening Brush**. Resembling a chic lip-gloss, this pocket-sized whitening pen removes stains and whitens teeth. Available from **Beyond Beauty** at **Harvey Nichols**. www.harveynichols.com

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<Y

(Yummy)

Last season it was gastro pub grub. This week the **Topshop Showspace Café** at the University of Westminster is paying homage to that great British institution, the greasy spoon. Expect bubble and squeak, prawn cocktails, and beer-battered cod and chips to be chalked on the specials board. **Lovely jubbly**.