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NOVEMBER
ISSUE

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EDITOR'S DESK



I've mentioned my apprehension around the coming cold weather in past issues but, this year, I'm determined to embrace (and not simply brace for) winter! Fortunately, this issue of *VITA* is chock-full of ways to help us all do just that.

Up first are my personal top "tea cosy" picks (right) to keep things hot and steamy through the season, followed by a winter-themed roundup of items worth chilling out for (page 4). Our fashion feature (page 8) covers ski-inspired style and our interview with the founder of Vancouver-based *Coco Cake Land* (page 9) is guaranteed to get you in the mood for some from-scratch baking.

Also on topic: our wine editor's "dark and stormy" selections (page 11) and a winter getaway to heavenly Haida Gwaii (page 10). Enjoy!

Noa Nichol

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

P.S. As usual, we've included several great giveaways among these pages, including prizes from Kusmi Tea, KitchenAid and Coco Cake Land. For details on how to enter them all, visit us online at Vitadaily.ca/contests.



MY MUG

VITA décor columnist Isabel Ong turned me onto Vancouver-based *Lindsey Hampton's* incredible ceramics—including her bestselling Ad Hoc mug (\$50). Made from speckled stoneware, with a matte exterior, gloss interior and unique "circle-in-a-square" handle, it makes every cup of tea a true pottery pleasure. Lindseyhampton.com



BAKED GOODS

Tea, for me, isn't complete without a sweet accompanying treat. Perfectly fitting the bill: our very own featured baker Lyndsay Sung's (read our Q&A with her on page 9, and find out how you could win a copy of her coco-cute cookbook) marvelous Milk Tea Donuts, made with an instant milk tea powder found in many local Asian supermarkets (psst: we're sharing her recipe on our site, too). Cocokakeland.com



PRIME TEA TIME

Besides being a beauty of a drink, tea is fast gaining a good reputation as a worthy skin-care ingredient. Case in point: *Nude by Nature's* Perfecting Primer (\$32 at *Shoppers Drug Mart*), boasting an untinted formula that blends seamlessly into the skin, restoring freshness and helping to fight visible signs of aging thanks to ingredients like vitamins A and E and green tea. *Beauty.shoppersdrugmart.ca*



STEEP & SPRITZ

Fragrance-maker *Jo Malone* offers a range of scents inspired by rare teas, with Jade Leaf, Oolong, Silver Needle, Darjeeling, Midnight Black and Golden Needle varieties (each \$325 for 75 ml or \$460 for 175 ml at *Holt Renfrew*). So, it's fitting the brand has teamed with *Colette Grand Café* (also in *Holts*) on an afternoon tea service that includes a selection of specialty *Sloane Tea* alongside delicate finger sandwiches and petit fours and sees every guest go home with a gift from JM (not necessarily those tea-based fragrances, but something certainly as sweet). *737 Dunsmuir St., 604-681-3121. Holtrenfrew.com*



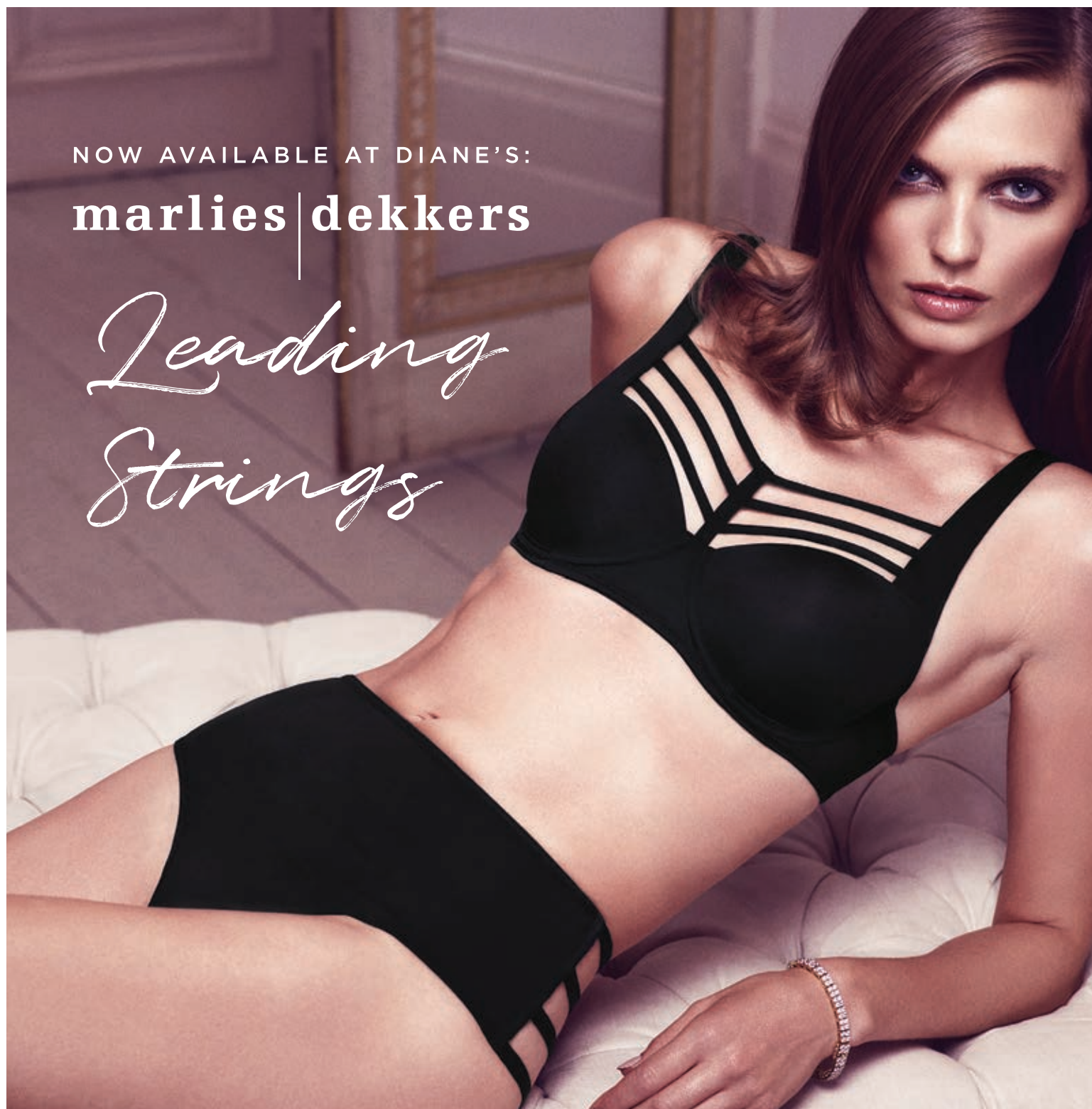
WIN THIS!
Vitadaily.ca/contests

TEA FOR NOT-TOO-LONG

Always on the hunt for a new flavour, I recently came across a limited-edition release by historical tea-maker *Kusmi* that I love. *Tsarevna* (\$40), a black tea singing with the warm scents of winter-holiday spices like cinnamon, cardamom and aniseed, softened by delicate notes of orange peel, vanilla and almond and enhanced with a touch of licorice, has become a fast favourite, and I'm stocking up while it's available—and giving a tin away, along with several other goodies courtesy of *Kusmi*, to one lucky reader! Ca-en.kusmitea.com

VITA

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FASHION & SHOPPING

Chill OUT

OUR TOP PICKS TO
EMBRACE—NOT JUST BRACE
FOR—WINTER



Alicia Winnett

@ALICIAFASHIONISTA



COLD CREAM

Don't let dry skin define your seasonal experience. A must-have accessory, Chanel's La Crème Main now comes in a new, more comforting and enveloping rich texture (\$70 at **Holt Renfrew**) that promises eight hours of soft moisturization—the perfect ally for dry and delicate winter hands. **737 Dunsmuir St., 604-681-3121. Holtrenfrew.com**



INFLUENCER PICK

"I love making our home as cosy as possible, and one of my favourite fall-winter traditions is lighting a Nest Birchwood Pine candle (\$42). It's such a delicious seasonal and nostalgic scent—perfect for this time of year!" **Nestfragrances.com**

READ MORE!

Vitadaily.ca/lifestyle



BAKING BLUES

Cold weather calls for baking up a storm, and KitchenAid's Heritage Artisan Series Model K 5-Quart Tilt-Head Stand Mixer in a limited-edition Misty Blue finish (\$470)—reminiscent of one of the first KitchenAid Stand Mixer colours ever introduced, to celebrate the brand's upcoming 100th anniversary—is the perfect pastry assistant. **Kitchenaid.ca**

WIN THIS!

Vitadaily.ca/contests

ARCTIC ASPIRATION

Tiffany & Co.'s Blue Book Collection includes pieces to match each season, including winter. This necklace, for one, boasts uniquely cut diamonds—totalling more than 91 carats—meant to mimic an iceberg landscape adrift on a delicate sea of platinum (\$1,599,500). **723 Burrard St., 604-630-1300. Tiffany.ca**



PHOTO: GRANT CORNETT

BE COOL

Make a bold winter statement with Michael Kors' Mott large crossbody (pictured, \$428), Bellamie clutch (\$278) or Rhea backpack (\$428). **650 W. 41st Ave., 604-629-0286. Michaelkors.ca**



WINTER WRAP

It doesn't get cold-weather cosier than Max Mara's iconic Teddy Coat (\$4,350). Oversized in fur-effect camel-wool fabric on a silk base with lapels, low set-in sleeves and welt pockets, this perfect piece comes in colour options to suit your winter wardrobe. **3025 Granville St., 604-257-2350; 701 W. Georgia St., 604-257-2370; 650 W. 41st Ave., 604-257-2340. Ca.maxmara.com**



FIERY FRAGRANCE

What better way to warm up than with a winter-perfect perfume? From November 5th, bottles of Chanel's N°5 L'EAU (\$198 at **Holt Renfrew**) will present in limited-edition red—a spot of heat in an otherwise dark and stormy month. **737 Dunsmuir St., 604-681-3121. Holtrenfrew.com**

TREE TOPS

As beautiful as a winter walk in the woods, Korres' Black Pine range (at **Shoppers Drug Mart**) includes skin serums, oils, facials and creams containing pinus nigra bud/needle extract, with powerful anti-oxidant and anti-aging properties, to reduce the appearance of wrinkles, improve facial architecture, promote plumping and more. **2888 Granville St., 604-738-3107. Beauty.shoppersdrugmart.ca**



PUDDLE PLAY

The best way to deal with stormy weather? Have some fun! New to the Hunter family, the Original Play collection features tall rain boots (\$140 at **Browns**) in fresh, youthful designs and bold colourways that encourage play, forecast aside. **650 W. 41st Ave., 604-261-3071. Brownsshoes.com**



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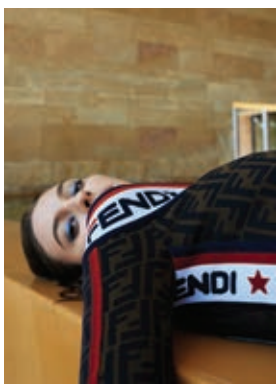
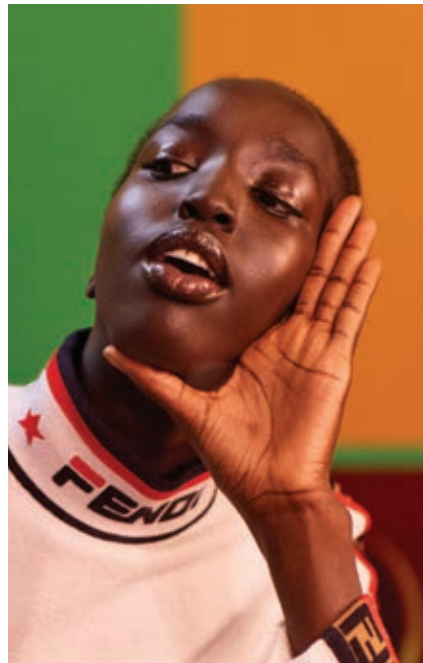
Hot Shops

VANCOUVER'S GREATEST AND LATEST RETAILERS



SPIRIT LIFT

Want a workout for your heart and soul? Look no further than **Spirit Lift**, a new general therapeutic counselling space that takes “talking it out” to a whole new (healthy) level. Founded by RTC Bianca Wellwood, this beautiful studio aims to mimic a spin or yoga facility in making therapy something clients can access affordably and on the regular (consider a class card at the gym—so-called “spirit lifters” can purchase packages of three, six or nine counselling sessions that let them book online to see a therapist of their choice when the mood strikes). Also special to this space: a dedicated “breathing room” where soft candlelight, healing crystals and customized guided affirmations and meditations piped in via speakers help you make a smoother transition back to “real life” after your 60 minutes of soul work is up. **201 1682 W. 7th Ave., 604-732-7957. Spiritlift.ca** NOA NICHOL



FENDI MANIA

One of our all-time fashion faves is currently, as they say, “having a moment”—and you’re invited to personally take part by visiting **Holt Renfrew** this month. The corresponding label’s boutique features clothing and accessories brandishing a reappropriated **Fendi/Fila** logo created by Instagram artist *@hey_reilly*, in addition to a women-men-kids capsule collection called **Fendi Mania** that includes everything from sweaters and leggings to bikinis, one-piece suits, padded vests, reversible bombers,

pattern-splashed pleated skirts, boxy leather jackets (and matching miniskirts), ’gram-friendly sock sneakers, a plethora of Peekaboo bags, pouches and small leather goods, and denim blazers matched with Wonder Woman-inspired hot pants. Look for Western-feeling fringe details (plus, the coolest cowboy boots ever), sporty and pop accents and the bold **Fendi Mania** logo in two colour combinations: red with blue and yellow with white. Decisions, decisions! **737 Dunsmuir St., 604-681-3121. Holtrenfrew.com** NOA NICHOL



JONATHAN+OLIVIA

After a successful decade in The Six, fashion emporium **Jonathan+Olivia** has shuttered its Toronto store and swished over to Whistler, where a boutique housed in side-by-side spots—a flagship stocked with street-style and après-ski items and a second space focusing on luxury ready-to-wear fashions for women and men, plus handbags, footwear and lifestyle products—will serve resort locals and visitors alike. Among the much-sought-after designer brands included in the carefully curated (by owners Jackie O’Brien-Jones and Nic Jones) mix: **Isabel Marant, Alexander Wang, Yohji Yamamoto and Sacai**. Our visit to this gorgeous boutique (gallery-like, with white walls, exposed pipes and polished cement floors) also yielded an avalanche of new arrivals for ski season (mountain-speak for fall/winter), with styles by **James Perse, Yeezy Calabasas, Arc'teryx Veilance and Maison Margiela**. Runway to ski run, indeed! **114 4293 Mountain Sq., Whistler, 604-227-7626. jonathanandolivia.com** LYNDI BARRETT

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WHERE AND WHAT TO EAT THIS MONTH



PHOTOS: GLASFURD & WALKER / IAN LANTERMAN

CAFFÈ LATANA

We hinted last month at the opening of **Caffè La Tana**, adjacent to **Pepino's** on Commercial Drive. Well, the time has come, and the place is every bit as beautiful (and bountiful) as we were promised. Bedecked with deep-green marble, antique shelving and custom woodwork, classic tiled flooring and hand-drawn wallpaper, La Tana is styled after the Italian *alimentari*: a small, neighbourhood gathering place serving pastries and simple meals, brewing strong Italian-style espresso and stocking locally sourced organic produce and fine imported Italian meats, cheeses and dry goods. In addition to groceries and coffee, an exposed “pasta fresca” table shows off fresh pastas—hand-cut everyday egg noodles, special seasonal stuffed pasta and lesser-known harder-to-find shapes like *trofie*, *tajarin* and *orecchiette*—made on the premises daily and available uncooked for purchase or prepped in-house for lunch. Additionally, small meals like “eggs in purgatory,” panettone French toast and *bombolini* with vanilla cream are available all day. Looking ahead, La Tana will host evening events centred around Italian wines and *cicchetti*—presto, we hope! **635 Commercial Dr. Caffelatana.ca** NOA NICHOL

ENCHANTED FOREST AFTERNOON TEA

The perfect (we think) activity for a chilly November day? Afternoon tea at the **Fairmont Hotel Vancouver**. But not just any tea—an enchanted forest-themed service in the **Notch8** private dining room that includes woodland décor, fairy lights, vintage storybooks, moss table runners and, most magically of all, decadent topical fare served on a tier crafted from tree trunks. On tap: your choice of **Lot 35** tea (the Creamy Earl Grey—a black tea with cornflower petals—is a fave among servers and guests alike), a “fairy ring” tartlet featuring wild mushrooms, herb **Boursin**, chestnut and truffle, a “mossy log” of smoked salmon, trout caviar, cream cheese and chive powder, and “butterfly wings” with curry spiced chicken salad, stone fruit, almond, bee pollen and flower petals. That's not all: sweet treats from the in-house pastry shop include “toadstool” chocolate-glazed meringue, Black Forest cake, a profiterole “pinecone” with white chocolate raspberry pastry cream and almonds, and a “beehive” tartlet dripping with honey lemon curd and a passion fruit foam. Talk about a sweet tree-t! **900 W. Georgia St., 604-662-1900. Notch8-dining.com** NOA NICHOL



COLONY NORTHWOODS

North Van continues to flourish with the opening of **Colony's** third location in Northwoods Village. Drawing on its lush natural surroundings, the 4,000-square-foot space wows with vaulted beams, plaid accents and an in-outdoor bar that already has us itching for summer (we know, it'll be a bit of a wait). Beverage wise, go for the cherry cola cocktail with **Pimm's**, gin and cherry bitters, or opt for a pint from one of several local breweries on tap including **Parallel 49**, **Strathcona** and **Red Truck**. A locally forward menu offers nourishing eats (we loved the **Rainbow Glory Bowl** packed with spinach, quinoa, pumpkin seeds and tahini) but also find traditional pub food and nostalgic nibbles like tater tots and corn dogs. Open till midnight all week, this is a trip across the bridge we're more than happy to make! **2100 Dollarton Hwy., North Vancouver, 604-770-4980. Colony-bars.com** RACHEL JOHNSTON



BLUBIRD



LOT 185

A single bite into one of executive pastry chef **Maurizio Persichino's** delightful creations and the **Vancouver Convention Centre's** world-class reputation makes perfect sense. Locals will now have access to the culinary team's magic Monday to Saturday at **Lot 185**. Looking out onto Jack Poole Plaza, the elegant two-level space is a café by day and wine bar by night, featuring cobalt velvet banquettes and gold statement lighting with a wood-dominated West Coast flair. Early bird it with java sourced from North Vancouver roasters **Moja Coffee** and a scrumptious lemon blueberry scone or head in for after-office B.C. vino (we sipped the **See Ya Later Ranch** Chardonnay) and feast on local seasonal tapas. Our top picks: Dungeness crab *sunomono* with daikon and yuzu, seared weathervane scallops with chorizo butter and Serrano ham with olives. **78 1055 Canada Pl., 778-331-7785. Lot185.com** RACHEL JOHNSTON



THE SAUCE PASTA CAFÉ

As this itty-bitty Italian takeaway spot's name indicates, it's all about the toppings! Whipped up by **The Sauce Pasta Café** owner **Kathy Koresok** (and gobbled up at break-neck speeds by hungry patrons), they're made in-house daily with fresh, quality ingredients and served atop your choice of a locally made pasta base. A few combos we devoured: *Nonna's* meat sauce on spaghetti dusted with Parmesan cheese, creamy mushroom poured over cavetelli and, our new fall-winter fixation, golden *gnocchi nuggets* topped with a vodka cream rosé and crisp pea shoots. Secret's in the sauce, indeed! **861 Denman St., 604-681-7180. TheSaucePastaCafe.ca** RACHEL JOHNSTON

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Eyes on the Prize

WE'RE LOOKING TO LUXURY FASHION
FOR SHOW-STOPPING LASHES
BY RACHEL JOHNSTON

E

Ever since a perfumer's son developed the original formula in the 1830s, mascara has, for many of us, become a won't-leave-home-without-it-on staple. Today, French fashion and beauty house Givenchy is taking our lashes to a new lengths with its line of high-performing mascaras featuring revolutionary brushes and formulas that are curated according to desired effect.

"Our founder, Hubert de Givenchy, was a man who broke tradition to create garments that were luxurious and unique," explains Kristy Noga, Givenchy's national makeup artist in North America. "Today, Givenchy men and women love to break the rules, cross lines, assert their true personalities. Givenchy Le Makeup strives to reinforce fun and luxury into all of our cosmetic offerings—including our masacaras."

In fact, with no less than six unique iterations (plus one nourishing, volume-building primer) in its range, Givenchy has positioned itself as a perpetual pioneer in the field of eyelash cosmetics, creating formulas of hydrating and strengthening ingredients like keratin, rice peptides and vitamin C-rich black

rose oil that work to achieve results and provide essential lash care.

If you've ever popped a tube of Givenchy, though, you know that the real showstopper could very well be the brush. From perfect spheres to multi-coloured fibres to 90-degree tilt action, these aren't your ordinary

applicators. According Noga, there's a pointed method to what some purists may see as mascara madness.

"Backstage, Nicolas Degennes, Givenchy Le Makeup's creative director, used to trim mascara wands to make them easier to handle and gain access to the hard-to-reach

lashes in the tear-duct area," Noga explains. "He dreamt of a spherical brush that offered greater precision and was user friendly—thus, Phenomen'Eyes, with its 360-degree round ball brush that captures and enhances every lash for ultra-definition and curl, was born."

The next evolution of Phenomen'Eyes, Noir Couture, features three orbs rather than one on its brush to help curl and fan lashes out, giving short lashes an instant boost (Noga calls it "the perfect everyday mascara"), while Givenchy's latest launch, Noir Interdit, has a futuristic-looking wand that bends to a 90-degree angle to build volume at the root of each lash, as well as staggered bristles that are meant to act like a round brush.

"The staggered comb lifts the lash hairs and curls them for beautiful long lashes that aren't clumpy," she says, adding that, for a natural look, apply when the brush is straight and, when a more dramatic effect is desired, bend the brush completely to achieve "long and full lashes that will be the envy of the town."

With so many mascaras to choose from, Noga has some additional tips to make the process, well, smooth.

"I find it best to assess what type of look you want to achieve and base your mascara choice on that," she says. "Are you looking for volume? A thicker, creamier formula that gives density, such as Noir Couture Volume, is best. Do you want your lashes to appear longer? Try a lightweight gel formulation that encourages lift and separation, like Noir Interdit Mascara. I like recommending at least two mascaras to most clients—this way you can customize your own unique lash look based on the event or how you are feeling that day." Givenchy.com



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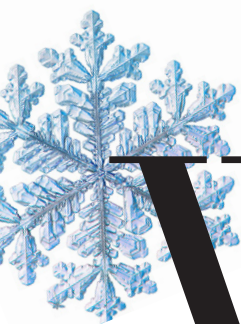
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Haute and Cold

TOP DESIGNERS HEADED SLOPE-SIDE FOR THEIR FALL-WINTER FASHION INSPIRATION
BY RACHEL JOHNSTON



W

While haute couture likely isn't your top priority when planning a ski vacay, recent runways have been bursting with ski-bunny looks sure to tempt many out of their **Gore-Tex** this winter. Case in point: after launching its own skis and snowboards years ago, **Chanel** continues its fascination with **Coco Neige**—the first collection devoted entirely to the slopes and après-ski.

Designed by Karl Lagerfeld, the range sees bold black-and-white colourways punctuated by dashes of blue and fuchsia, with luxurious satin, velvet and leather accents—and, of course, that classic Chanel tweed. Slender silhouettes allow for max movement on the hill in perfect-fit trousers and jackets that hit the lower back at just the right spot, while high-collared parkas, down jackets and water- and wind-proof materials protect from the elements.

As for accessories, suede mittens, wool berets and denim caps ooze stylish practicality (and are adorably embellished with snowflake-shaped crests and medals); mountain shoes with tweed and nylon laces and shearing booties were designed by Lagerfeld for sashaying through a luxe ski resort; bags borrow from the puffer-coat trend; and eyewear, including 18-karat white-gold lenses



SACAI FALL 18 RTW



SACAI FALL 18 RTW



SACAI FALL 18 RTW



BALENCIAGA FALL 18 RTW

and goggles, keeps to the theme with elegant simplicity and, in some cases, a Chanel-signed strap.

On other runways, with multi-hued patchwork, Nordic sweaters and wrapped puffer coats galore, Japanese luxury brand **Sacai** (carried by **Jonathan+Olivia** in Whistler) has also gone all sorts of ski-lodge cosy with its 2018 FW collection. Though camo won't be of much use on snow-white hills, designer Chitose Abe's favoured military aesthetic blends well with knits and faux-fur hats fit for chilly weather. Drawing inspo from cultures around the world, she employs everything from tartan-plaid and Australian Ugg sheepskin to Hawaiian prints and silver feathers from Japan.

Meanwhile, **Balenciaga** aimed to prove a single coat just won't do on the winter runway, layering several in '90s-esque hues over fleece and flannel. Creative director Demna Gvasalia cleverly accessorized with sleek ski goggles, high heels and furs sure to make a chic après-ski splash.

The seasonal finale? Quirky satiny **The Duvet** boots by **Stuart Weitzman**. Mini snowsuits for your feet with suede straps, tiny bows and metal studs—there's no not making a slope-side statement in these babies! ❖



BALENCIAGA FALL 18 RTW



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DOWNRIGHT FASHIONABLE

No one knows haute winter-sports style better than our fellow northerners—as proven by Canadian designer Xiaoyi Li, whose military parka (\$1,195 exclusively at **Simons**) is sure to be a go-to statement piece for active fashionistas this winter. **1060 Park Royal S., West Vancouver, 604-925-1840. Simons.ca**

Just Desserts

COCO CAKE LAND'S LYNSDAY SUNG IS TAKING THE BAKING WORLD BY STORM
BY NOA NICHOL

A

A Vancouverite through and through (with a bit of Burnaby mixed in for good measure), Lyndsay Sung is taking the baking world by storm with her grin-inducing **Coco Cake Land** creations (near-100,000 Instagram followers can't be wrong!). We caught up with this self-taught cook (a gifted pink **KitchenAid** stand mixer initially sparked her passion) to chat all things layered, frosted and iced! Cocokakeland.com

What makes your baked creations different?

I think it's a combination of my love of bright colours, cute faces, modern takes on buttercream piping in varied uses (for example, using the grass piping tip to pipe "fur") and clean, finished design. I'm very attached to my animal cake designs and "modern" floral cakes, both of which have become my "signature" look. I also love making added crafts, like cake flags and stamped letter birthday messages on my cakes. Plus, this might be an Asian thing, but my cakes and especially the frosting recipes in my book are way less sweet than a typical recipe you might find.



WIN THIS!
Vitadaily.ca/contests

PHOTO: STEPHANIE CHAN

PHOTO: STEPHANIE CHAN

What do you consider to be your very first Coco Cake Land cake?

I would say that my cake based on Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* could be defined as the first official cake of Coco Cake Land, because it was a good example of how my current cake esthetic sort of synergized into the things I love: cuteness, old-school buttercream piping, children's illustration, colour and the minimal use of fondant.

How does Vancouver inspire you?

I think the art and design and baking community in Vancouver inspires me—also, the availability of super-cute animal faces in Asian shopping malls around here! I love finding a cute face on a Japanese character stuffie and finding a way to translate that onto a cake. I love fashion, too; colours inspire me, and texture. I've always been a nostalgic person, so I love looking through old cake and baking books from the

'60s, '70s and '80s for buttercream piping ideas or random vintage colour inspiration.

Tell us a bit about your breast cancer cakes.

While I was going through breast cancer treatment in 2015 I felt like I wanted to express how I was feeling through cake, but I wasn't quite sure how. I was woken up in the middle of the night by an idea, and I quickly wrote it down and felt an urgency to make it the very next day. I made cakes in the shape of breasts showing the various stages of my treatment, from surgery to chemo to radiation, along with an essay on what it had been like to go through breast cancer treatment. I put it on my blog for Breast Cancer Awareness Month back in October.

Is there a personal motto or philosophy you like to live (and bake) by?

I try to stay mindful of the good moments, enjoy my time here and spend it with the people who are most important to me!

Pie is considered traditional Christmas fare, but what do you suggest in terms of cake?

I like pies with non-traditional crusts, such as an oatmeal cookie crust or graham cracker crust; sometimes an all-butter pie crust can feel too rich. I think Yule-log cakes (Buche de Noel) are the cutest things ever, jazzed up with meringue mushrooms and woodland characters and piped leaves. That's what I'm going to try making this holiday season!

Finally, your fave cake flavour?

Chocolate and peanut butter anything but, also, carrot cake! 🍌

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TRIPS & SIPS

Heavenly Haida Gwaii

A STAY IN A LUXURY FLOATING LODGE
OFFERS THE COASTAL EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME
BY LISE BOULLARD

STAY

An hour-long charter flight to Sandspit airport from Vancouver and a 10-minute helicopter ride over teal-coloured lakes and emerald forests brings you to the floating **Ocean House Lodge**, nestled against the banks of Moresby Island in the quiet waters of Peel Inlet. Opened for its inaugural season in May 2018, the lodge is one of three Haida-owned-and-operated inns in the network of 150 remote islands that make up Haida Gwaii's archipelago off of B.C.'s west coast. With its friendly staff, fine-dining program and high-end amenities, this 16,000-square-foot retreat provides a comfortable and luxurious base from which to experience wild Pacific Ocean waters, a mystical temperate rainforest and ancient attractions in an area that has been occupied by the Haida people for more than 13,000 years. Oceanhouse.ca



SETTLE IN

Haida interior designer Gina Mae Schubert helped transform the former fishing barge into a home away from home in the heart of nature using modern contemporary décor touches, cedar-wood detailing, Haida motifs and photos depicting historical indigenous scenes. After days filled with exhilarating outdoor adventure (more on that below), you'll relish the lodge's many amenities, which include a library, spa, theatre, lounge, dining room and terrace—not to mention, the ridiculously comfortable beds in each of its dozen guest cabins.

SAVOUR

Chef Brodie Swanson is known for bringing upscale flair to traditional aboriginal cuisine and his talents—as well as the area's seafood, meat, game and produce—are on full display in Ocean House's culinary program. The all-inclusive package includes three daily sit-down meals served in the lodge's dining room, during which you will savour inventive Haida-inspired dishes while taking in water views (plus, depending on the angle of your chair, Moresby Island's rolling hills). Menus include creations like Haida dashi with kelp noodle, miso egg and soba, braised venison with sautéed wild mushroom, and razor clam fritters. Also: packed lunches are handed out for guests going on excursions, with a spread of happy hour charcuteries, snacks and sweets waiting upon their return.



STEP OUT

Whether you feel like curling up with a book on the L-shaped couch in the fireside lounge or want to set off on open water to visit an ancient Haida village where centuries-old totems still stand, the lodge offers an array of activities to suit every whim. Head out on one of the group adventures organized daily by the culturally knowledgeable staff (who serenaded us with traditional Haida songs while we stood breathless in ancient cedar forests on more than one occasion) or grab a kayak or stand-up paddle board and explore the quiet waters of Peel Inlet on your own. You could also pop into the on-site studio and speak with the Haida artist in residence as he or she works (and even purchase a piece to take home with you). Whatever you do, don't miss the opportunity to take the traditional cedar canoe out for a spin—preferably while singing a Haida paddling song. The highlight of the trip for many in our group!



SPA

The remote wilderness and fresh, clean air make staying at Ocean House Lodge a rejuvenating experience in and of itself. But, if you wish to take your bliss to the next level, book a service in the on-site spa. Start with a facial or massage using organic essential oils, then relax in the steam room or sauna while admiring the water views through floor-to-ceiling windows. ♡



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TRIPS & SIPS

Stormy Wines

SIPS TO SUIT THE WINTER SEASON
BY LAURA STARR

E

Electric. Tense. Nervy. Linear. Dark. Complex. These wine descriptors are of a stormy nature and, with the end of fall promising torrential rains and thunderous bolts, sipping dark-and-stormy wines seems to fit the bill. Did you know there is a word for the smell of earthy, wet pavement after a drought's first rain? Petrichor, and it is a working wine descriptor. "Wet stone" and "flint" are common descriptors for Chablis, while "electric" can accurately depict the acidity of a New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc. And don't forget the deep, dark reds: brooding and powerful. In the remarkable manner that wine can transport you, here are a few that will take you right into the eye of the storm. ♡



**BODEGA CATENA ZAPATA
"WHITE STONES" ADRIANNA
VINEYARDS CHARDONNAY**
From Argentina, an exceptional Chardonnay with remarkable tension between the austere and stony minerality, the rich, ripe fruit and the salty finish. A perfect storm. Catenavines.com

CORONICA GRAN TERAN
Coming to market soon, this Croatian wine is inky and dark but has a silver lining. Mineral-driven acidity and unpredictably fresh fruit juxtapose its deep and smoky tone, and the salty notes of the near-off Adriatic tease you back for more. Coronica.eu

**TAWSE LIMESTONE RIDGE
RIESLING "SPARK"**
The name doesn't disappoint. A citrus "zip" of electric acidity is the backbone for this Ontario gem of bubbly wine. Cosy up to a fire and sip with a fresh bowl of salty, buttery popcorn. Tawsewinery.ca

**VANESSA VINEYARD
RIGHT BANK**
A formidable Bordeaux-blend from our very own B.C. backyard. This Merlot-dominant blend boasts ripe cherries and rich chocolate, with a metallic nip of graphite—like that flash of lightning after you've heard the thunder. Vanessavineyard.com



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