# BEAUTY & FASHION

# BEAUTY IN A BEAT FASHION HEAD TO TOE

# 

Celebrities brought their fashion A-game to the Oscars, and once again the clothes took centre stage. With millions of viewers, this is the largest—and most watched—runway in the world. Relive the night with our special Oscar coverage.

BY VANESSA TAYLOR

Michelle Williams in Louis Vuitton

please see story, page 4

OSCAR WILD!

Visit **MURALE.CA** to get 5 sexy looks inspired by the best movies of the year. 1. Inspired by The Artist

2. beach beauty Inspired by The Descendants

3. blonde bombshell Inspired by My Week With Marilyn

4. Inspired by The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo

6. '60s chic Inspired by The Help





Fresh Looks

sporty cheeks

bold lips

Clarins Blush Prodige, \$32, clarins.ca. Elizabeth Arden Ceramide Cream Blush, \$30, shop. elizabetharden.com



Lise Watier Haute Couleur High Coverage Lip Laquer, \$22, lisewatier.com. **Smashbox** Be Legendary Lipstick, \$22, smashbox.com. **Benefit** Silky Finish Lipstick, \$23, benefitcosmetics.com

100150US

sparkle and shine



Benefit Prrrowl Mascara & Lip Gloss, \$32, benefitcosmetics.com. Stila Sparkle Waterproof Liquid Eye Liner, \$29, stilacosmetics. com. Lise Watier Duo Shadow & Glitter, \$25, lisewaiter.com



**Bourjois Paris** Little Round Pot Eyeshadow, \$17, bourjois.com. **Lise Watier** Quatour Eyeshadow Quartet, \$32, lisewatier.com. **Smashbox** Photo Op Eyeshadow Trio, \$36, smashbox.com

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#### **3 THEKIT.CA** WEEKLY FEATURE

WHAT WE WANT THIS WEEK

# ask jeanne GREAT STYLE IS AGELESS

ear Jeanne,

"There have been so many beautiful older women on red-carpets this year, looking as good as they did years ago. What's the key to formal dressing for the 50-something crowd?"

There's a naughty part of me that longs for yesteryear's red carpets, where starlets and divas committed countless fashion crimes. But with stylists and style information in such abundance these days, those in the limelight are more likely to hit than miss when stepping out. Most important, there's a universal

realization that age is really just a number, and dressing in what suits us physically and spiritually is a much more satisfying route to go than fretting about old-fashioned notions like "age appropriateness."

No matter what our age, we all have to take long, hard looks in the mirror and be honest about what our best physical assets are. Unless you're in pretty impeccable shape, if you're of a certain vintage, your favourite body parts may no longer be conventional features like your butt or your boobs or your upper arms. But if you've learned to love yourself-as we all must do in order to have the confidence necessary to be true women of style-you've likely learned to appreciate some of your other attributes. Maybe you've got seductive eyes or wonderfully expressive hands. Maybe it's about the way your feet look in a drop-dead pair of shoes. It can be something that simple. Once you understand which features to celebrate and which ones to play down, the battle is half over. Comfort is key when it comes to great style-and by that I mean not only being comfortable in one's style choices, but being comfortable in one's own skin.

Cases in point: Tilda Swinton. While not everybody loves her often out-of-the-box approach to red-carpet dressing, she's earned the respect of the fashion crowd by marching to the beat of her own drum and invariably making choices that not only suit her tall, slender frame, but speak volumes of her artistic sensibility. Dame Helen Mirren is another classic beauty. She's got a strong point of view when it comes to fashion and the way it can enhance a woman's natural grace. And she never looks like she's trying too hard. The same goes for the elegant Glenn Close, whose Zac Posen tuxedo dress on awards night suited her understated style.

Meryl Streep consciously put herself in a leag ue that's "beyond fashion." Even her gold Lanvin Oscar dress had a comfortable feel to it. Linda Gray's recent "Curse of the Grandmummy" look at the SAG awards may have been an attempt at showing how much punch a svelte 70-something can pack into a glam white gown, but I felt she came off looking like she was trying too hard. In this age of HD television, showing a lot of skin doesn't always make for a pretty picture.

Meanwhile, Madonna is always, well, Madonna. Whatever she puts on her back has a stamp that's unmistakably Miss Thing—and that is the mark of a bonafide superstar. It's a lesson we should all take to heart. And with more and more 50-plus fashion femmes to look up to, the inspiration they're providing isn't only good for our wardrobes: it's great for our souls.—Jeanne

Send questions to askjeanne@thekit.ca. Follow @Jeanne\_Beker on Twitter.

Jeanne is a contributing style editor to the Toronto Star. FashionTelevision airs Sundays at 5:30 p.m. ET on CTV.

ILLUSTRATION, FREDERICK WATSON



## CLOTHING KIT

Inspired by the dark tones we saw on the red carpet, this frock boasts all the intricate detail of a formal gown, but the short length gives it a party-ready feel. **Brose** polyester Philip dress, \$500, Holt Renfrew



### FACE KIT

With a gorgeous, sheer pink and shimmery golden undertones, the **Chanel** Brompton Road Poudre Tissée (part of Chanel's Knightsbridge Collection, created for Harrods) leaves a radiant finish. \$70, department stores

#### SHOE KIT

SUEDE PUMPS If we had gone to the Oscars, we'd want to represent Canadian fashion. These David Dixon peep-toe pumps aren't just fabulous, they're also affordable. Suede pumps, \$150, townshoes.com

#### TEXTURIZER We love how this texturizing cream gives a satiny feel yet matte finish to hair, making it look perfectly undone—like you didn't try too hard. You're just this naturally gorgeous. **Redken** Tousle Whip 04,

# one-minute miracle GILT TRIP

For all of us who want our own red-carpet moments, here are five ways to be golden BY JANINE FALCON



Benefit Sun Beam Golden Bronze Complexion

2. Clé de Peau Beauté Luminizing Face Enhancer in Gold,

5. Gosh Precious Powder Pearls in Glow, \$22, Shoppers Drug Mart

3. Guerlain Météorites Illuminating Iridescent Powder

Highlighter, \$30, Shoppers Drug Mart

\$92 (refill \$58) Holt Renfrew, Ogilvy

in Cruel Gardénia, \$76, Guerlain counters 4. Josie Maran Argan Illuminizer, \$36, Sephora



hair kit

#### HANDBAG KIT SPARKLY PURSE

Square-cut or pearshaped, crystals are a girl's best friend. Turn heads with this stunning crystal shoulder bag by Swarovski. Eat your heart out, Marilyn. Swarovski Allegro Silver crystal pavé evening bag, \$1,400, swarovski.com





#### LUXE FRAGRANCE To live the part of your inner starlet, one must smell like Hollywood. Armani Privé's Bois

inner starlet, one must smell like Hollywood. Armani Privé's Bois D'Encens, with its rich wood and incense, lets you play the part: luxurious and silverscreen elegant. EDP, \$240 (100 ml), holtrenfrew.com

BODY KIT

## ACCESSORIES KIT

Embrace your inner princess with this fun and fabulously affordable knuckle-duster ring. **Mark** Walk the Line ring, \$18, avon.ca

PRODUCTS: GEOFFREY ROSS. OFF-FIGURE STYLING: BREANNE GOW/JUDY INC. LOPEZ: GETTY IMAGES

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# THE RED CARPET

The bold colours! The body-hugging silhouettes! The jewellery! The chignons! Like usual, Academy Awards night didn't disappoint fashion-wise. As young newbie starlets and iconic actresses made their entrances, the one guestion on everyone's mind—what were they wearing? From the classic confections to the fearless risks, here's a decade by decade look at the most-talked-about styles of the evening.

BY VANESSA TAYLOR

## 20-30 something



## 40 fabulous











#### STYLE I Modern Mermaid

USUALLY WEARS: Oscar de la Renta,

#### Versace, L'Wren Scott OUR TAKE

Sticking with her favourite silhouettethe mermaid, Fey gives this classic navy gown a modern update with a peplum detail.

## 50+ forecast



#### **GLENN CLOSE** WEARING: Zac Posen VIE Fit'n'Flair USUALLY WEARS: Armani Prive, Zac Posen, Bibhu Mohapatra

OUR TAKE The beautiful bodice, dramatic fishtail and deep emerald colour-Close's look is flawless



Meister Signature Classic with a twist USUALLY WEARS: Jovani

#### OUR TAKE

Sticking with an elegant silhouette, McTeer goes with a plunging neckline, but the winning element? This striking colour



OUR TAKE The liquid gold fabric is incredible on Streep, but the heavy draping looked just a tad messy.



# I FADING LADIES

The Kit covers the style evolution of three of today's most glamorous silver-screen stars—Rooney Mara, Michelle Williams and Viola Davis. Who are you watching? BY DEBORAH FULSANG

Rooney Mara's edgy, red-carpet style includes plunging necklines, severe hairstyles and a penchant for dramatic black-and now white-silhouettes.



AT THE OSCARS Mara solidified her position as the fashionista favourite in her turn at the 84th Academy Awards in a plungingback, snow-white, fishtailing Givenchy couture gown.

TIP: Learn from Mara's beauty-balancing wisdom. Head-to-toe white benefits from classically rouged lips, while dramatic black calls for delicate, neutral blush and smoky eyes

Tattoo star looked the perfect picture of French cocktailparty elegance in black and gold Lanvin

**GOLDEN GLOBES** 

The 26-year-old wore floor-skimming, neckline-plunging Nina Ricci and precision-styled, slicked-back hair to match

# AVANT-GARDE AUDREY-ESQUE

Michelle Williams's retro-inspired colour preferences, hourglass-loving choices and megawatt smile establish her as our girl-next-door starlet.



AT THE OSCARS Williams managed to look both classic and contemporary in coralcoloured Louis Vuitton with her chicly clashing ballerina-pink Bottega Veneta clutch.

TIP: Follow Williams's elegant way with a manicure: her wellgroomed (often scarlet) nails always look ready for the spotlight holding a sleek evening handbag.

# GODDESS

Viola Davis's form-fitting Grecian-style gowns, fearless love of colour and gilded hues lend her iconic Hollywood-style status.



AT THE OSCARS Davis's emerald green Vera Wang column created a stir on the red carpet, it being the glamorous counterpoint to her au naturel hair.

TIP: Take Davis's lead and embrace glam when accessorizing for the night: glittering bracelets, chandelier earrings and sparkling minaudières make the look

pixie cut.



Davis's penchant for sweeping gowns means she always looks the part of the statuesque star She wore godde style white with gold Marchesa.

Ever wonder how Hollywood goddesses slip out of their limos on their way to the red carpet looking perfectly glossy and wrinklefree? You know Los Angeles is the home of constant gridlock and that they've been on their way to the Oscars for at least an hour. Civilians would arrive looking like a wrung out dishrag. And when I say civilians I mean me. Given the importance of the arrival at any big-ticket award show (what, you were watching for the best song medley?), a savvy celeb knows we'll be picking apart her look for days. So what was going on in the back of those cars? It had to be more than Angelina assuring Brad that she didn't care if he won or lost. What's the secret? And how can real women show up to a big night out looking just as gorgeous?

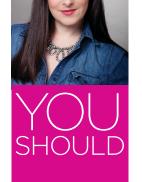
I called celebrity stylist Sima Kumar for the inside track. "Every single celebrity does some primping in the backseat of the car en route," says Kumar. "To keep dresses rumple free, I always GPS the route to the event and pre-plan accordingly. A lot of these events take place in 40C weather-stay away from satin! It is the most unforgiving fabric. Currently, Sofia Vergara is the only starlet who can pull off satin. And it's because she is so vivacious and voluptuous no one notices the wrinkles on her dress. Pick a monochromatic look to hide any wrinkles."

And if we're running late, can we

do a little makeup touch-up from the backseat, too? The Kit's Face Kiteditor, Janine Falcon says, "Absolutely. If you've got only 15 minutes-and a car with good shocks-you've got enough time to feel polished."

Yes, the leading ladies probably have makeup artists arrive at their homes hours before they have to hit the red carpet, but if your event involves heading out straight from the office, you can still arrive with your game face on. "I love BB creams-beauty balms. They're multi-tasking combo products that have skincare, foundation and SPF. Estée Lauder has a great one. So does Smashbox," says Falcon. "They give a semi-sheer coverage that you can build up a little. It has silicone in it so, it's also primer. And it has a nice natural-looking finish." Dab a tiny bit of concealer under your eyes and around your nose. Wait for a stoplight to apply mascara and eyeliner. Add a bright lipstick. "It's a makeup simplifier and you'll look sophisticated."

But by far the hardest part of arriving in style is making a lady-like exit from the backseat. Says Kumar, "Shimmy to the curbside door and always swing from the hips and place both feet out of the car at the same time for best result. Use your core to lift yourself out of the car rather than falling over, and sometimes out of the vehicle, if not your dress. And remember to have fun or you won't!"



CERI MARSH

# EARRINGS You don't need a golden

statuette to justify diamond or diamond-esque chandelier earrings. Of course, they're apropos for the Oscars, but they're just as memorable paired with a white shirt, jeans and heels. BY DEBORAH FULSANG



Spencer's jewellery choice: glittering diamond earrings from Neil Lane. To get her look, splurge with Ivanka Trum Vianna Collection morganite and diamond earrings (top right), \$22,500, birks.com, or save with Carolee stone set earrings (right), \$50, thebay.com

#### 6 THEKIT.CA WEEKLY FEATURE

HAIR



# **CROWNING GLORY** Your hair can look Hollywood-gorgeous anytime—even if your name's not in lights

These tried-and-true looks are classics for a reason: they work. Nothing dresses up a nice dress better than a solid hairstyle that's both effortless and elegant at the same time.

#### LOOK 1: TEASED CHIGNON The classic chignon gets a

boost of volume and height.



#### **GET THE LOOK**

• Spritz a volumizer to damp roots to get lift. Apply a smoothing serum from mid-shaft to the ends. Blowdry with a ceramic round brush until hair is 90% dry.

• Section hair horizontally at the ear, and in sections, backcomb to create more volume. Sweep hair to the crown and secure with an elastic. Lightly run a comb spritzed with smoothing serum over top layer of hair to tame flyaways. If you have thin, fine or short hair, add a hair doughnut to your ponytail to add volume.

• Section hair into pieces and spray. Wrap a section around the elastic or doughnut. Secure with a pin, then wrap the next piece.

**TRY: Joico** Structure Finish Hairspray, \$20, joico.com. L'Oréal Professionnel Smooth Essence Weightless Smoother, \$30, lorealprofessionnel.com

# CROWNING GLORY

Take a classic pony to new heights. It's not just for the weekend anymore.



#### **GET THE LOOK**

• If you have thin or fine hair, first apply a volumizing mousse to damp hair. Blowdry hair completely then spray with a volumizing hairspray. Backcomb the top half of your hair until hair is twice as volumized.

• Smooth over the top layers using a boar-bristle brush or comb. Sweep hair back into mid-to-high ponytail, securing with a hair elastic. Wrap a small section of hair around the hair elastic to hide it, holding in place with a bobby pin.

• Run a flatiron straightener over ponytail to smooth any kinks or to add bend to the ends of hair, then spray all over with a finishing hairspray.

**TRY: Goody** Volumizing Brush, \$4, goodyhair.com. **Yves Rocher** Volumizing Hair Spray, \$9, yvesrocher.ca

#### LOOK 3: LONG WAVES Long, loose waves ruled

Long, loose waves ruled the red carpet. And It's easier than it looks.



#### **GET THE LOOK**

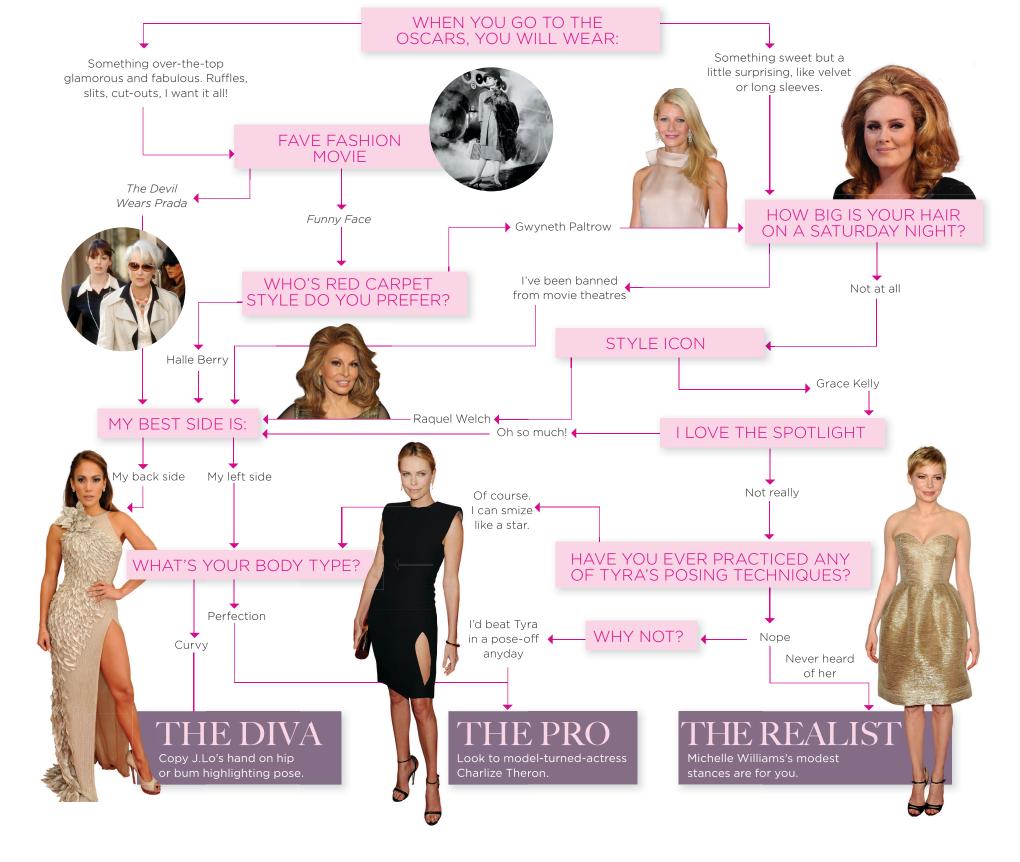
• Apply a smoothing cream to damp hair. Then, divide hair into at least six sections, using clips.

• Using a round brush, blowdry hair until completely dry. Section hair section again, and use a flat-iron to create large waves starting at the crown, releasing hair an inch from ends to avoid crimping hair.

**3** Loosen waves with fingers, then spray lightly with hairspray to hold.

**TRY: GS** Dual Pro Titanium Performance Iron has curved edges to reduce kinks, \$290, tradesecrets.ca. **Dove** Nutritive Therapy Nourishing Oil Care Leave-in Smoothing Cream, \$7-10, at drugstores.





#### 7 THEKIT.CA WEEKLY FEATURE



NAME SARAH GADON CITY TORONTO OCCUPATION ACTOR

DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE "INTELLIGENT, COLLEGIATE, PURPOSEFUL AND EFFORTLESS."

arah Gadon is a name you should get familiar with. Starring in three films out this year, *A Dangerous Method*, *Antiviral* and *Cosmopolis*, the 24-year-old Torontonian is storming the silver

screen and the red carpet. The Kit went shopping with her at her favourite vintage shop, The Cat's Meow on Avenue Road, where Gadon, who remains stylist-less, tried on cocktail dresses one after the other. "I had one day to prepare myself for TIFF," she says, "so I came here and got 10 dresses and wore them

for two weeks." That's a home run in ourbooks. Gadon goes for vintage because it works for her curvy, petite frame. She lives by fit—it's all about accentuating your silhouette—and the daily costume. When she's running from class to an audition, from the street to the film premiere, she has to know what works.

Always looking to her favourite silver-screen starlets for inspiration—Gina Lollobrigida, Sofia Loren and Tippi Hedren—this natural beauty is poised to wow not only theatre-goers but the best-dressed lists as well.



"I'm seasonally driven, I have my summer and winter costumes. Sometimes, my choices are school oriented, because I'll be going from class to a meeting or to an audition. But I love a very

feminine silhouette."

# screen siren

From movie premieres to film festivals and vintage shopping in between, Sarah Gadon lives her life in costumes BY STEFANIA YARHI



CLOSET STAPLE

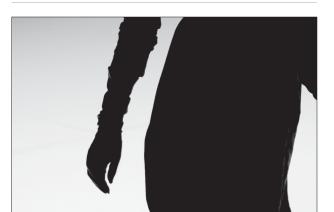


**Miu Miu** leather pumps, \$645, net-a-porter.com





We asked you to pick your red-carpet winners on Facebook and Twitter—and now we share the results. Who took home The Kit award for best dressed? Visit us at www.thekit.ca/ fashion/clothing/your-oscar-fashion-winners/

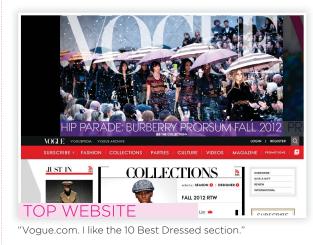


The Cat's Meow (above), Delineation in Summerhill



The Italians! Gina Lollobrigida, Sophia Loren and a lot of the Michelangelo Antonioni films. I love the idea of a wool skirt with a sweater and men's watches. Then there are the Hitchcock women: Tippi Hedren and Grace Kelly—especially in *To Catch a Thief.* 





#### FAVE DESIGNER

"Phillip Lim. I think his clothes are quirky and there's an intelligence behind them."

3.1 Phillip Lim cottonblend twill jacket, \$575, net-a-porter.com



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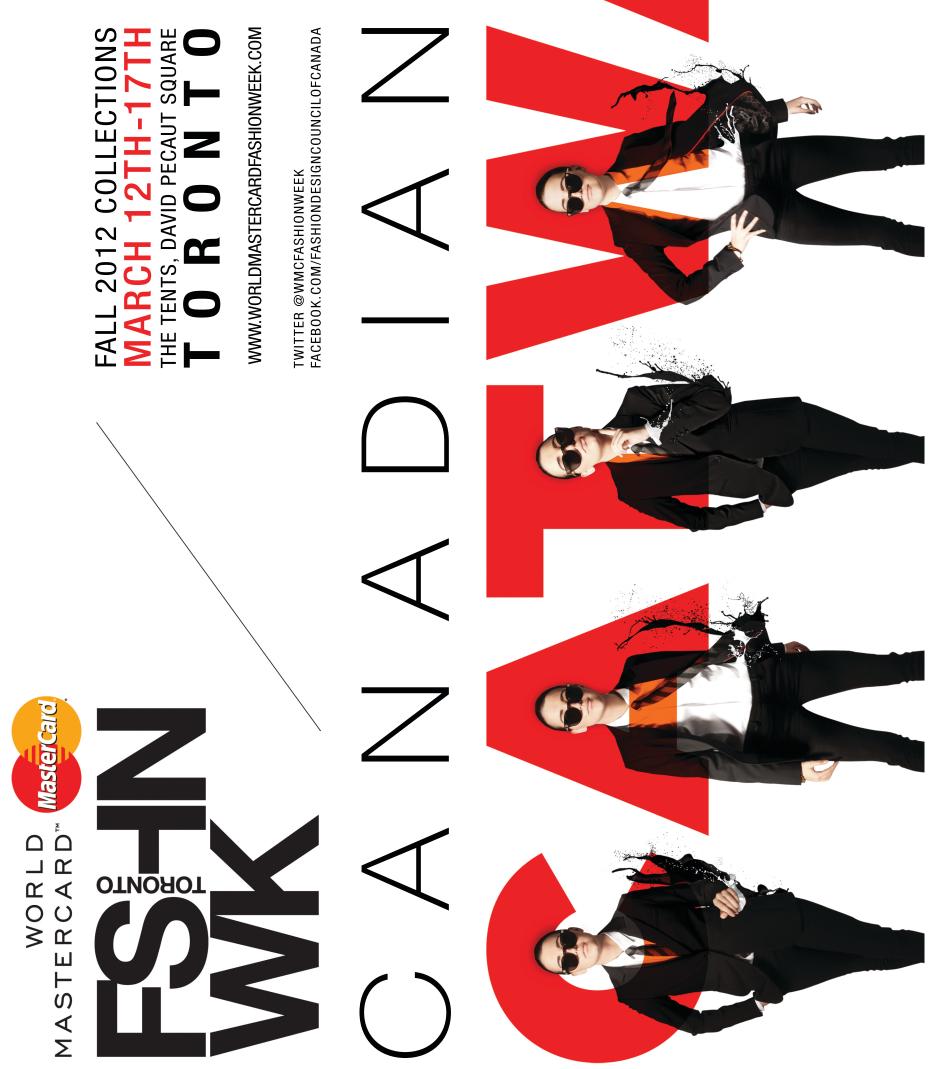
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