

THE KIT

BEAUTY & FASHION

toronto
FASHION WEEK
PREVIEW

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Blazers, skirts and pumps. The best part? Canadian designs. Revamp your office wardrobe with separates that work hard

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6 TOP GO GREIGE

what we want this week

Grab an appetite for greige. It's a grey-beige fusion that plays well with spring's pastels and seasonless neutrals



1. BEDROOM EYES. Get a classic smoky eye with this sultry palette in shades that range from frosty white to satiny black. **Burberry** Quatuor Complete Eye Palette in Smokey Grey 01, \$64, Holt Renfrew **2. BIGGER IS BETTER.** Exude A-list style with these glossy, oversized sunnies that are easy to match with any outfit. **Oliver Goldsmith** Moosh sunglasses, \$380, at Josephson Opticians, josephson.ca **3. TIME FOR CHIC.** This timepiece says relaxed and elegant with its long topstitched leather strap that wraps around twice for a sleek, modern finish. **Hermès** Cape Cod Tonneau Double Tour calfskin watch, \$2,950, hermes.com **4. BEST BOOTIES.** These light-coloured ankle

booties are the perfect neutral to tone down this season's bright, bold prints and the hardware embellishment adds the perfect dose of edge. **H&M** pleather bootie, \$70, hm.com/ca **5. NO BOYS ALLOWED.** Make a statement anywhere you go with this chic oversized boyfriend-style watch. **Diesel** stainless steel and polyurethane watch, \$300, watchit.ca **6. IN NEUTRAL.** Try substituting your girly pinks and vampy reds with a versatile stone-coloured polish that is flattering no matter the situation. **Sally Hansen** Complete Salon Manicure in Greige, \$9, well.ca and **Ceramic Glaze** Long Lasting Shine Nail Lacquer in Marrakesh Spice, \$11, Shoppers Drug Mart

—NATASHA BRUNO/PHOTOGRAPHY BY ADRIAN ARMSTRONG

web Love neutrals? Find more great ones on TheKit.ca



ASK JEANNE

"I love the thrill of a fashion deal. How do I stop buying cheaper fashion and start buying Canadian designer investment pieces without spending too much?" —Jane

DEAR JANE:

I know how hard it can be to resist a quick fashion fix, and I'm not suggesting you go cold turkey on your cheap-chic fashion habit. We all crave that feeling of sporting something brand new every now and then. What does get dangerous is spending your money on too many of these inexpensive pieces. At the end of the day, you wind up with a closet full of schmattes and an absence of quality wardrobe staples.

Nothing feels better than knowing you're wearing a well-designed item that's made well, fits well and feels great. The most beloved pieces in my closet are the ones I can go to time and time again. They are the items that haven't fallen apart or were so super-trendy that I'm tired of them after a season.

As the old adage goes, you do get what you pay for. Spending a bit more on a lasting item, rather than a junky find, will prevent you from having to purge your closet over and over again.

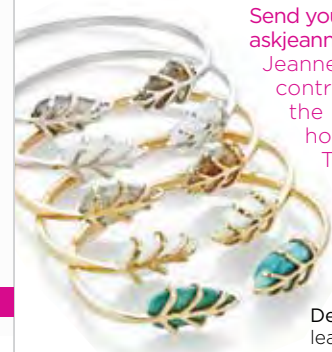
Look for sales and remember that you won't be able to splurge on the latest-and-greatest pieces right away.

Try sticking to colours that you won't tire of easily, and styles that you'll be able to wear in a multitude of ways. Silky or matte jersey pieces by Canada's Lida Baday have been with me for years. Try calling the showrooms of your favourite Canadian designers to inquire when their sample sales are, and if they're open to the public. Remember that sample sale fare isn't always necessarily comprised of model-sized samples.

Scour consignment shops, vintage and thrift shops. Search for the right labels and the right looks. One person's old threads is another's treasure: Many quality finds can be found at second-hand shops.

Buy one or two pieces by Canadian jewellery designer Dean Davidson and make these pieces a part of your personal style. They are also great conversation-starters. Scarves are also a standby closet staple. Few make scarves more fabulous than Tilo scarves by Sandy Lum, a Toronto-based designer with huge international appeal.

Remember that less is often more when it comes to good taste and great style. You may have to work a little harder and spend a bit more to get the wardrobe you want, but you'll have a closet filled with classics you can wear over and over again.



Send your questions to askjeanne@thekit.ca.

Jeanne Beker is contributing editor to the *Toronto Star* and host of Fashion Television Channel. Follow on Twitter @Jeanne_Beker.

Dean Davidson leaf cuff, \$175, deandavidson.ca

radar



THE VETERAN RETURNS

Toronto fashion week will open with veteran Canadian designer Izzy Camilleri returns to the runway with Miz by Izzy Camilleri. The collection—a cache of jersey, stretch wool twill and faux leather separates—is aimed at the baby boomer market. "Being 50 or 60 isn't the same as it was 40 years ago," says Camilleri. Her last runway show was in 2007. "These women are sexy, beautiful and stylish—they don't try to look 25," she says. —Nadine Anglin

YORKDALE MALL BRINGS U.S. BRANDS TO CANADA

Yorkdale Shopping Centre is becoming a Canadian point of entry for international fashion brands. Mulberry, David Yurman, Zara Home, John Varvatos, White House Black Market and All Saints Spitalfields will open their first Canadian stores in Yorkdale this year. Joining this new fleet are also second-timers Ferragamo, Massimo Dutti, Brandy Melville, Stuart Weitzman, Lego and Ontario retailer Honey. The Toronto mall sees 20 million annual visitors and saw \$950 million in sales last year. It spent \$220 million on an expansion. Renovations are still underway. —Kiley Bell



GREEN BEAUTY FROM DOT & LIL

Lilac, lavender, vanilla and sweet pea are just a few of the calming scents you'll find in Dot & Lil's new spring collection, launching this month. The sustainable Montreal-based brand includes an array of delicious-smelling handmade bath, body and skincare products, and owner Anne Dardick strives to use local ingredients and recyclable packing when possible. Plus, we love that their limited edition soap sets (\$26) are packaged in kitschy take-out boxes! Visit dotandlil.com for more. —April Corner

ZARA FOR ALL

We're totally guilty of spending our entire lunch hour skimming the chic-yet-affordable clothing racks at our nearest Zara store. Now, you can get your shopping fix online without leaving your desk. Zara launched its online store in Canada on March 6, making its womenwear, menswear and children's clothing available nationwide. Yes, you read that right. Pick up your item in-store or have it shipped to your door. Fashion lovers who don't live in major urban cities can also buy Zara's on-trend items online, seven days a week, 24 hours a day. Even better, orders that are more than \$50 are free. How's that for fashion freedom? Visit zara.com. —Glynnis Mapp



ON THE COVER

JUST ADD THIS

We've overhauled the 9-to-5 wardrobe with playful silhouettes and an inspiring jolt of colour. Canadian designers will make your stand-by blazers, pencil skirts and pumps feel new again

BY VANESSA TAYLOR • PHOTOGRAPHY: ANDREW SOULE

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SUMMER JACKET

A crisp blazer is a staple, but in a light neutral shade it's an ideal layering piece for printed dresses come wedding season. Structure is your best friend: Look for shoulders that have a natural shape and a cinched in waist to create a flattering hourglass silhouette.

Smythe Taped One Button cotton blazer, \$595, Holt Renfrew. Banana Republic 10k gold-plated necklace, \$185, bananarepublic.ca. Michael Kors watch, \$350, at Michael Kors boutiques. Stella+Dot stackable gold, silver and rose gold rings, \$42, stelladot.com. BCBGeneration Bennett B pumps, \$125, Town Shoes and townshoes.com. Hermès Aloha blouse T-shirt, \$845, hermes.com. Pink Tartan extended tab wide-leg cotton-blend pants, \$295, at the Pink Tartan Yorkville store, pinktartan.com



BRIGHT TROUSERS

The classic black trouser gets a shake-up in bold hues this season. Choose colours in the jewel-tone family (think purple, blue, green and red) for the office and opt for tailored, not tight silhouettes.

Express polyester-blend editor ankle pant, \$70, express.com. Jacob polyester blouse, \$50, jacob.ca. Tristan polyester blazer, \$165, Tristan stores. Hermès calfskin Collier de Chien cuff, \$1175, hermes.com. Cocoa Jewelry Scarlett Wire Necklace, \$25, target.ca



NEO-TRENCH

With all the traditional features of a classic trench coat including the double breasted closure, khaki shade and belted detail, this piece is meant to be worn as a dress, exactly how you would wear a wrap-style frock. Give this piece additional style mileage by treating it like outerwear and layer it over skirts and blouses for the office.

Diesel brave art leather handbag in Rubine Red, \$460, canada@diesel.ca. Pink Tartan silk blouse, \$325, at the Toronto flagship store at 77 Yorkville Ave, pinktartan.com. Nine West Jule strappy sandal platform heels, \$140, ninewest.ca. J. Crew pencil wrap skirt, \$198, jcrew.com. Banana Republic tan belted shirtdress, \$175, bananarepublic.ca. Mercedes-Benz G 550 SUV



POLISHED ONESIE

Despite rockin' this fabulous jumpsuit all weekend, a one-piece isn't at the top of our list for office wear. By layering a thin sweater over top, this jumpsuit is transformed into a chic trouser and blouse combo—which is excellent for creative work environments.

Lucian Matis multi-coloured rayon-polyester jumpsuit, \$295, matsilyucianmatis.com. Banana Republic silk and cotton V-neck sweater, \$74, bananarepublic.ca. BOSS mint silk and cotton jacket, \$1,095, hugoboss.com. Fossil Heather leather and stainless steel watch, \$115, at The Bay. Marc by Marc Jacobs purse, \$278, at Holt Renfrew. Select images shot on location at the Fossil Showroom in Toronto.

WHO'S RUNNING THE SHOW?

BY DORIS MONTANERA

Toronto fashion week has been around for a few decades and has changed names—and sponsor hands—over the years. From the Festival of Canadian Fashion in the mid-1980s, to Matinée Fashion Week in the early 1990s to L'Oréal Fashion Week in the early 2000s and, now, World MasterCard Fashion Week, produced by one of the most influential fashion week organizations: IMG Fashion. In recent years, through several off-shoot showcases have turned this feast of fashion into a two- (or three!) week event. Here are the players running the shows.

THE COLLECTIONS: THE COOL FACTOR, MARCH 18-22

Launched in early 2010, The Collections, formerly known as The Fashion Collective, is run by Dwayne Kennedy, Brian A. Richards, Mel Ashcroft and Stephanie MacLean. The creative consulting agency works with designers year-round, helping them with everything from their sales to their lookbooks and their fashion shows. Its goal, says Kennedy, its fashion director and co-founder, is to give artists a platform to showcase their work and elevate them to an international level.

"We bring new talent—somewhat of a cool factor," he says. Its roster includes Sid Neigum and sister duo Chloé Comme Parris. Indeed, The Collections' shows have a cutting-edge vibe. "We believe there's more than one way to do a show," Kennedy adds. "There are static shows, films, cocktail receptions, runway shows and performances with props. We try to keep it fresh."

THE SHOWS: INTERNATIONAL TALENT, MARCH 13-14

The Shows started in March 2011 at the then unfinished Trump Hotel, where attendees had to wear hard hats. The venue has changed: the Andrew Richard Designs (571 Adelaide St. E), being its latest locale.

Thanks to sponsors like Procter & Gamble and DHL, it presents the collections of Canadian designers who also show globally. Jeremy Laing and Todd Lynn, regulars in New York and London respectively, have shown their collections.

The guest list is deliberately kept to a 150 select buyers and media. "It's not a big social event," says Paola Fullerton, a fashion-show producer and founder of The Shows. "It's a carefully curated presentation that's all about craftsmanship," she says. "I want to get these Canadian names out there."

IMG FASHION: THE CORPORATE MACHINE WORLD MASTERCARD FASHION WEEK, MARCH 18-22

The newest head of the official Toronto fashion week is part of a global organization that produces fashion weeks in New York, Tokyo, Moscow and Australia, among others. Last season, IMG Fashion's first official season as producers in Toronto, proved it's a smooth machine with top-notch facilities for designers and attendees, and sponsors that help defray the costs.

IMG Fashion's goal, says Jarrad Clark, the director of global production, "is elevating designers' outcomes from participating and providing designers a platform to connect with buyers, press and consumers." This season has 28 runway shows from emerging to big brands such as Pink Tartan and Joe Fresh in Toronto and Montreal-based brands Rudsak and Mackage. (Although many notable designers aren't on the schedule at all.) Seating about 800 for the large runway room and 180 for the smaller studio space, it is the hub for buyers, media and consumers who can buy tickets for the shows. "We bring a lot of stylish eyeballs."

web More from Toronto fashion week at kit2it.com/torontofashionweek

what backstage beauty pros know

The hair, makeup and nail looks you'll see at Toronto fashion week March 18 to 22

BY JILL DUNN



THE HAIR PRO
JORGE JOAO
International Redken Performing Artist

What shows are you most looking forward to styling at Toronto fashion week? "Each season we are excited to work with all the designers to create hairstyles that complement their vision. At Joe Fresh, there are always great models and creative director Joe Mimran always brings a contemporary feeling to the hairstyles. Korhni has show-stopping styles that demand a lot of hair artistry."

What Fall 2013 looks do you love from runways around the world? "I liked the disheveled, natural texture like at Marc Jacobs; extreme

side parts at Calvin Klein and the wet look at Diesel."

What will be your go-to products for this upcoming fashion week?
• Redken Powder Refresh 01 Dry Shampoo, \$23. "It really freshens up the look."
• Argan 6 Hair Oil, \$35. "It adds lots of shine and softness."
• Fashion Works 12 Versatile Working Spray, \$19. "It has flexibility and control and 24-hour humidity protection."

Follow @jorge_redken



THE NAIL PRO
RITA REMARK
Lead Nail Artist for Essie Canada

Which shows will you work on for Toronto fashion week? "Miz by Izzy Camilleri, Chloe Comme Parris, Pink Tartan, Line Knitwear, Mackage, Ashtiani by Golnaz Ashtiani, Rudsak, Vawk and Pavoni."

You worked at New York Fashion Week. Which shows? "I was lucky enough to join the Essie team at The Row, 3.1 Phillip Lim and Jenny Packham runway shows in New York."

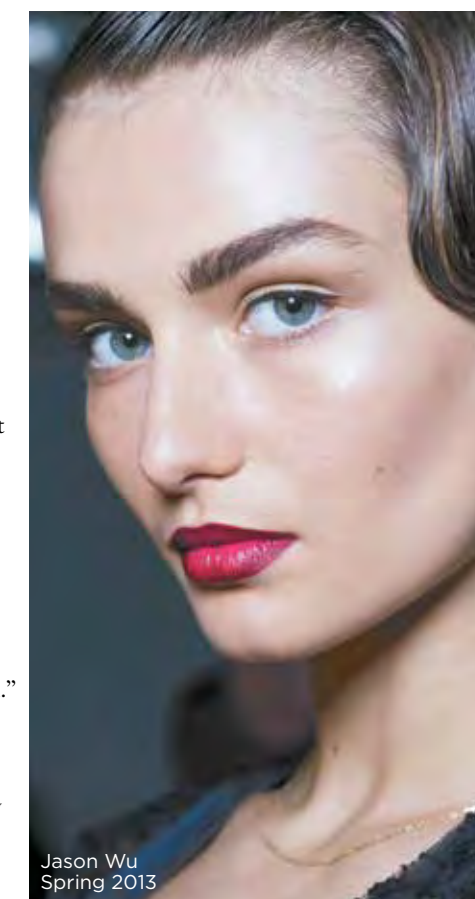
What has been your top nail look so far for Fall 2013? "The metallic oil spill nails at Rebecca Minkoff using Essie's Gold As It Gets, Penny Talk, Go Overboard, Blue Rhapsody and Aruba Blue,

all swirled to make an exciting constellation."

What nail trends are you excited to explore in Toronto? "I'd love to re-invent the idea of a worn nail look."

What are your go-to products this season and why?
• Essie's Matte About You topcoat, \$10. "This is a must-have. Shine-free manicures will be a big trend this season."
• Essie's Apricot Cuticle Oil, \$10. "Cold weather can be extremely harsh on our nails, so give them love with plenty of this oil."

Follow @RitaRemark



THE MAKEUP PRO
GRACE LEE
Maybelline New York Lead Makeup Artist, Canada

Which runway shows will you work on for Toronto fashion week? "Some of them include Chloé Comme Parris, Pink Tartan, Joe Fresh."

What's your favourite international runway makeup look of Fall 2013 to date? "Too hard to pick a favourite! I do love all the red lips that I'm seeing. From Marc Jacobs, to Wes Gordon, to Prada."

What key makeup trends are you excited about on Toronto runways? "Skin. Skin. Skin. Great skin is always on trend. And I love bold lips. The eyes have it this season, as well. Whether it's cool, inventive eyeliner or a lot of shading and highlighting."

What do you see as your go-to products this season and why?

• Maybelline The Rocket Mascara, \$10. "Big lashes are a huge trend, and nothing gives you fuller lashes. It does just what you need for backstage touchups."
• Maybelline Baby Lips, \$5. "It's always a go-to for soft lips. Also great mixed with other products for highlighting or creating extra dewiness."
• Maybelline Master Duo Eyeliner, \$12. "Its dual-sided ball helps you make your line thinner or thicker just by turning the wand on its side—so you can create fun eyeliner looks easily!"

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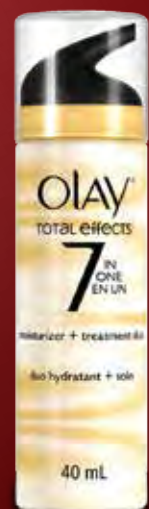
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CLOSET OF THE WEEK

THE BECKERMANS

Bloggers, Designers; Toronto **BY** THE COVETEUR

Take it from us: a day with the Beckermans calls for a crash course in prints, Pomeranians and Prada. The Beckerman sisters are Energizer Bunnies in Proenza Schouler. The sisters, two of the three sibling designers-turned-bloggers behind Beckerman Bite Plate track down statement pieces with archivist-like fervor. How to score the best stuff? Befriend vendors at the flea market. They also trawl eBay and Yoox. Their best fashion finds? Fuzzy Prada sweater and denim Isabel Marant trainers.



CLOCKWISE: Quirky designer bags from Marc by Marc Jacobs, Proenza Schouler and Prada, Beckerman-made and vintage accessories; The Beckermans pose for The Coveteur camera with their Pomeranian Cubby; Isabel Marant sneakers and a faux-fur Prada purse; The Beckerman closet.



web Go inside the rest of The Beckerman closet at thecoveteur.com/the_beckerman_sisters

THE KIT ON instagram

Visit us at instagram.com/the_kit and go behind the scenes. See our candid pictures from photo shoots, events and more.



A beautiful display of soaps and candles at the Dot & Lil spring preview



Shooting on location at *The Kit* means gorgeous spring shoes arrive at the office!



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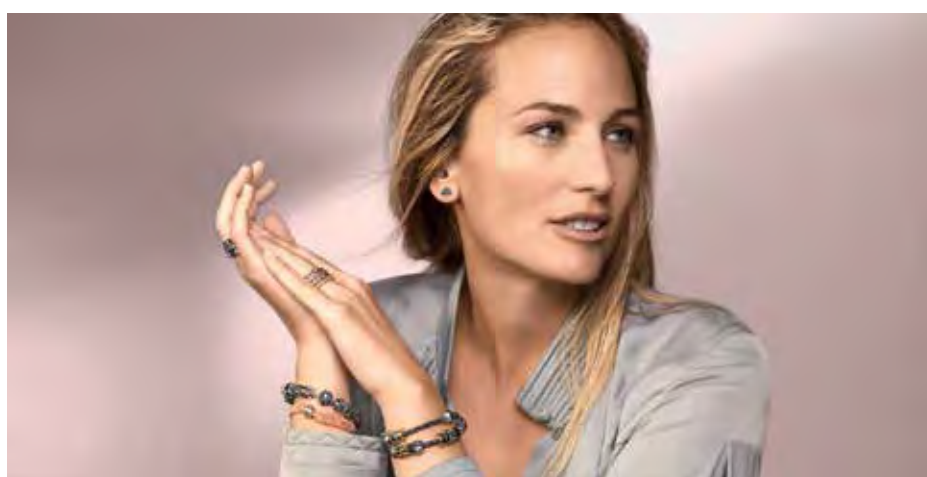
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Doug Wallace

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Makeup Artist Picks

Grace Lee, Lead Makeup Artist



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