THE KIT

PARIS STYLE SPECIAL Fashion icons, groundbreaking facials and closet essentials: We've rounded up the latest ways to score timeless French style



ANTI-AGING JE NE SAIS QUOI

"In France, women bloom into 'une femme d'un certain âge,' a term laced with sex appeal and mystique."

page 4



TRAVEL GALLIC GETTAWAY The hautest hot spots in the City of Light page 3

STYLE SPECIAL LESS IS BETTER

Self-proclaimed minimalist **Kate Carraway** taps into our cultural obesssion with the stylishly sparse French wardrobe

I'm a super-minimalist: My husband describes



my design aesthetic as "a green apple in a bowl on the floor of an otherwise empty room." Even though I love fashion, makeup and design, my years spent as a broke freelancer, moving between infinite sublets, taught me slowly to buy with intention—and discard and donate often—in order to maintain a slim inventory of clothes and things so that I'm free from the administrative drag of considering, cleaning and caring for pieces I don't even like.

Nowhere is the Insta-spirational proverb "less, but better" more relevant or resisted than in fashion: buying, owning, wanting, and needing less stuff—but better stuff—has challenged the cheap, exhausting abundance of the fast-fashion era, dovetailed with environmentalism and the wellness movement, and become a legitimate trend of "upscale minimalism" among women primed for a new obsession. A considered, narrowed wardrobe of carefully researched, tailored and just-right investment pieces is replacing the circus-y Cher Horowitz Closet as the ideal, connecting style with self-care at precisely the moment when the collective culture is breathing anger and anxiety like fire. Continued on page 5





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THEKIT.CA / 3

MOST WANTED French fancy

This spring, Parisian brand Paul & Joe celebrates 15 years of making beauty products that are almost too charming to use. Having cornered the market on pussycat-shaped lipsticks, floralprinted cardboard palettes and fluted nail polish bottles that harken back to the golden age of makeup packaging, designer Sophie Mechaly should feel *très* proud of herself indeed. —Rani Sheen. Photography by Aimee Nishitoba



GETAWAY MY OWN PERSONAL PARIS

The Kit's creative director Jessica Hotson channels the City of Light without leaving town

In March, while the snow was still falling in Toronto and SAD was setting in, my Instagram feed was flooded with images of people descending on the most romantic city in the world for Paris Fashion Week. With no vacation planned and my Fashion Week FOMO in full effect, I decided to plan the ultimate staycation.

I've never really mastered the art of vacationing in my own city. In the past, I've stuck to a formula of delivery pizza and whichever installment of *Fast and Furious* happened to be on cable. But this time, I wanted to take a cue from the Parisian glitz and glamour I was witnessing online, so I booked myself into the luxe, historic Fairmont Royal York.

On a windy Friday night, I walked over to the stately hotel from my office. With handnainted ceilings

painted ceilings, ornate furnishings and crystal chana perfectly cooked filet mignon. After a second glass of one of my favourite wines, Austrian Gruner Veltliner, I felt as if I'd travelled by air to a new relaxed state of mind.

The next morning, my North American ambition started creeping back in, so I headed to the hotel gym, running shoes in tow. But when I entered the health club and spotted the sunlit pool, I decided instead to slide into the hot tub before hitting the breakfast buffet at Epic (where I may or may not have had three platefuls of gourmet pastries).

As I checked out, full of equal parts calmness and croissants, I hopped into a cab and realized my staycation experiment had worked: I hadn't checked Instagram once to see how those Paris Fashion Week parties were playing

out. With my own joie de vivre thoroughly looked after, it

HAUTE SPOTS

Can't-miss destinations for your next jaunt to Paris

SPA: Biologique Recherche, biologiquerecherche.com A trip to Paris



of the Count of Monte Cristo in Alexandre Dumas's novel, the exterior says old-world, but the high-tech devices inside assess your skin for precisely tailormade treatments.

STAY: Hôtel Ritz Paris, ritzparis.com

There's not enough ink in the

Finding success Jessica Yik, an Avon Independent Representative, shares her secrets

to becoming an entrepreneur

When Toronto-based Jessica Yik joined Avon in 2006, she was looking for a better way to provide for her family, while also running a small dance studio. What she found was a career that allowed her flexibility and boosted her confidence. "When you don't have a boss to tell you what they expect," she explains today, "you have to decide and take action yourself." We asked Yik to share her story.

What led you to join Avon? "I grew up in a small town, and my parents ran a Chinese restaurant. Growing up in that business environment made a huge impact on me. After high school, I moved to Toronto to complete my BFA in Dance at York University. I opened my own dance studio and we were financially drained. I was looking for ways to bring in more income; my mom had been an Avon Representative on the side while running the restaurant with my dad. Then coincidentally, one of my dance students put me in contact with an incredible Avon Leader who patiently answered all my questions and got me started. I've cross-promoted my two businesses, so they complement and grow together. Over the years, I've earned nine all-expense-paid trips through Avon, where, on top of being spoiled and pampered, they offered conferences with motivational speakers. That training has given me the tools to build my business and train my Representatives."

What are some of the challenges of being an entrepreneur? "I once had a friend say to me, 'I would love to work from home like you: It's so easy.' Wrong! I treat my Avon business just like my dance studio. It isn't always smooth sailing. It takes a lot of work in the beginning and then a lot of maintenance. Being your own boss means you must be willing to adjust your usual way of life: You must be self-driven and keep in mind why you want to be an entrepreneur. If you are willing to persist and focus then you will achieve what you want to do."

THE KIT X AVON

deliers, the lobby remains nearly as the same as when it was built in 1929. (Although, while I was checking in, the desk clerk let me know that guests can now text the front desk should they need anything during their stay—a modern hospitality solution.)

With a king-size bed and huge soaker tub, my plush suite

was larger than my first apartment. After a few hours of unwinding, hunger came calling, so I slipped down to the hotel's Library Bar, with its deep crimson walls and dark wood finishes. I started with a Bubbles & Berries, a perfect blend of Belvedere vodka, Chambord, Chandon sparkling wine and fresh berries. Then, feeling positively Parisian, I ordered the escargot, baked in an addictive garlic herb butter with honey mushrooms—and









HIGHLIGHT REEL Clockwise from top left: the true-tooriginal glamour of the Fairmont Royal York lobby; a Bubbles & Berries cocktail in the Library Bar; keeping cozy in a plush robe.



world to detail every cool person who has checked into the Paris Ritz over its 100-plus years in the hospitality business. The esteemed hotel

re-opened its doors last year after a near half-billion-dollar renovation, yet it still carries touches of Coco Chanel, who lived there, and Ernest Hemingway, who "liberated" the bar from the Nazis in 1944. Indulge in Chanel-product-filled spa treatments and strong drinks in an intimate setting at the pocket-sized Hemingway Bar.

SEE: Le Grand Musée du Parfum, grandmuseeduparfum.fr/en



Grab une amie to visit this fragrance museum, which opened last winter in a renovated mansion. Its most charming quality is the interactive element: From smelling old

books to walking through a faux scent garden and testing your own nose, there's a lot to experience—plus an extensive gift shop at the end.

FASHION BEST DRESSED

Designer Nicky Zimmermann is rolling up her styling sleeves

Sydney-native Nicky Zimmermann has been designing for Australia's most stylish citizens (think Miranda Kerr and Rose Byrne) for the better part of two decades. And now, her eponymous label, which touts luxe garden party-wear and ultra-feminine lace dresses has finally landed in Canada at Holt Renfrew. Zimmermann's current collection is inspired by her free-spirited days in the '80s. And before you dismiss the decade's over-the-top style, the designer says the only way to wear it is with confidence. "It's not about having rigid rules, but rather about understanding yourself and knowing what you want." Here's how she recommends styling the standout pieces in her spring collection. - Carly Ostroff



white lace dress in a Victoriana-type styling," says Zimmermann. "You can wear it with combat boots for a tougher vibe."

ZIMMERMANN DRESS, \$2,600, HOLT RENFREW



Zimmermann likes investing in a lacy, sheer top and styling it under dresses. "It's a great piece to transfer into the next season," she says. "They look amazing even under strapless dresses."

ZIMMERMANN TOP, \$1,170, HOLT RENFREW

3. The breezy skirt "I'm loving long, printed Georgette skirts with ov

Georgette skirts with oversized cashmere sweaters," says Zimmermann, who suggests adding white sneakers for a '70s effect. "It's a versatile piece that can transition into vacation wear."

ZIMMERMANN SKIRT \$2,465, ZIMMERMANNWEAR.COM



What advice would you give to someone looking to find work/ life balance? "Always look for ways to work more efficiently-the goal is always to work smarter, not harder. Also, have your family involved with your business. My 2-year-old daughter helps me put brochures in boxes and is my 'head of public relations.' I can take my daughter to my meetings and deliveries so I can spend more time with her and she can learn to socialize with people. My husband always encourages me to take the business to the next step. My parents also often offer to take care of my daughter during my busiest season."

What is the most surprising thing you've learned about yourself? "That I am creating my own boundaries: If I am willing to go beyond my comfort zone, I can achieve anything I want to. Also, I am capable of much

To learn more about starting your own Avon business, visit **joinavon.ca**

more than I have ever imagined."



JESSICA'S TOP PRODUCTS:

AVON ANEW POWER SERUM, MARK THAT'S BEACHY TEXTURIZING SURF SPRAY, AVON.CA

STYLE SPECIAL **Mastering French style** There's a reason our obsession with Gallic glamour continues unabated: It's impeccable. Here's everything you need to know about channelling that je ne sais quoi

Madame butterfly

How the French approach to aging helped Olivia Stren revitalize her skin

It was a sunny day, the buds on the magnolia tree in front of my house looked particularly plump and downy, and I was feeling good. That is, until a visit to my local café, where a barista asked: "Just the flat white for you, ma'am?" Ma'am. (Translation: Perhaps some dentures with your coffee?) I'm sure the ma'am-spouting millennial in question didn't mean to offend. But let's be honest, this odious title is a pronouncement that the climax of your life is over, and you're now firmly in the post-fun denouement, hobbling toward the credits.

The French use the same objectionable distinctions: young (and unmarried) women are called Mademoiselle-even the word is lingerie-light with its coquettish "ll" tail feathers. Madame is the stolid matron who has traded in her ballerines, and joy, for orthopaedic footwear, reality and wrinkles. (It was feeling exceptionally haggard. But when I ask him to Madame Bovary—not Mademoiselle Bovary—who longed to escape the banality of her life.) The mademoiselle jig is up for me, I'm aware. I'm 40, a mom and, evidently, a ma'am.

Despite this issue with titles, the French do seem to have a healthier relationship to aging than we do role of protection. Our skin is like a sandwich made in North America-theirs is less based on shame, up of lipids, water and protein." fear and resistance. In France, women bloom into



S CHANEL'S GABRIELLE BAG, \$4,025, EL, AND A LAURA SIEGEL DRESS, \$565

"une femme d'un certain âge," a term laced with sex appeal and mystique. And, of course, the French are as elegant at aging (see actresses Fanny Ardant, Miou-Miou, Catherine Deneuve and the late, great Emmanuelle Riva) as they are at tying *foulards* and feasting on croque-monsieur (or croque-madame, as the case may be) without gaining weight. So I wondered: Perhaps the ideal way to approach my madame years is to be more French?

I seek out the counsel of Dr. Philippe Allouche, who helms the cult French skincare company Biologique Recherche. It's a dismal, grey morning when we meet during his visit to Toronto, and I am

"The mademoiselle jig is up for me, I'm aware. I'm 40, a mom and, evidently, a ma'am."

appraise the state of my visage, he is too charming, too French as it were, to tell me anything potentially wounding. "The best anti-aging is what I call skin tight jaw muscles and gives noticeably plumper reconditioning," he says. "It's about getting back a lips." Lord knows, the rest of my person isn't fully functional epidermis that can play its central going to the gym, so I'm glad my countenance "Un croque-monsieur?" I suggest.

> he agrees. "We need to fill up that sandwich!"

His first suggestion is that I splash my face with cold water in the morning to decrease inflammation as "the big problem with "Apply your products gently in front of the mirror, from the centre outward, without does not believe in harsh too much rubbing." He is treatments such as chempassionately against harsh ical peels that might leave exfoliation, and instead your skin red or sensitive. recommends Biologique Recherche's hero product, looks glowy and plumped, Lotion P50, which hydrates, and I celebrate with a buffet balances pH and gently of the most revered French

exfoliates on a daily basis. His final tip: Take up gently, after a bracing cold happiness. "There was a splash). They're made by great study done at Harvard cosmetic doctor Dr. Jeanshowing that longevity is Louis Sebagh, who spent about the happiness you get years reconstructing the faces from social and deep relationships," he says. "I'm not Hopital Foch before earning

HER NAME IS GABRIELLE Chanel's newest handbag honours its

spirited founder

You know her as Coco Chanel, the ubiquitous fashion designer who dismantled the early-20th-century notion that one's femininity was measured by the tightness of her corset. Lesser known is the visionary's actual name, Gabrielle-a moniker now being bestowed on the Parisian house's first new bag design in more than five years. The hobo style—updated with a more modern flat bottom—has a double-chain strap, the classic Chanel tweed body and, in a totally un-French but very welcome approach, can be fashioned into a backpack. Talk about French flair.

Through the ages: from left to right, Miou-Miou, Juliette Binoche, Catherine Deneuve and Fanny Ardant with their younger selves.

talking about stupid social relationships, I'm talking about real relationships with friends and family."

I enjoy the idea that all that is standing between me and looking like Juliette Binoche is a splash of cold water and a few laughs. But not too many, apparently, as laughter along with smiling is partly what's gotten me into this mess. "You have a lot of expression lines!" says my facialist, Jane, at Toronto's Lac + Beauty spa as she examines my skin. I am embarking on Parisian skincare guru Joëlle Ciocco's signature "buccal facial," which involves a series of stretching and kneading movements from inside the mouth—oui, that's correct—meant to tone and plump facial muscles and boost circulation in the skin. A biochemist by training, Ciocco counts Carine Roitfeld, Monica Bellucci and Sofia Coppola among her devotees. She personally trains select aestheticians in her method-there are only eight such disciples in the world; two of them are now here in Canada, at Lac + Beauty. "The Buccal is efficient for sagging features, as it tonifies and acts as an anti-aging gym-a workout!-for the face," Ciocco explains over email. "It also relaxes is being aerobicized. Jane applies a procession of Ciocco's cleansers, oils and masks-many of which smell, exquisitely, as if you're capering through a "Oui! Un croque-monsieur," citrus grove in Corsica. And then she massages my face from inside my mouth—a peculiar experience that, frankly, flirts with the painful. This is not the kind of facial you fall asleep to whilst listening to Enva. Instead, I listen to Jane talk about Ciocco with the same mixture of admiration and fear many reserve to describe, say, God. Among Ciocco's commandments: Don't cleanse in the whole body is inflam- the morning, to avoid disturbing the natural flora mation." Then, he advises: that will have developed during the night. "A gentle toner or lotion will be the only necessary gesture." And like Allouche, Ciocco

VIVE LA RESISTANCE

If your North American impatience still hankers for a more intense anti-aging blitz, in the spirit of French revolution, take a mini break from the douce regimen and try a Pico Facial, among the most recent laser technologies. First fashioned for tattoo removal, the PicoSure laser dispatches short bursts of energy (in trillionths of a second) to stimulate collagen production, refine skin texture soften fine lines, wrinkles and sun spots and generally bestow radiance. The procedure, available at Toronto's SpaMedica, feels vaguely like your face is being caressed by birthday sparklers but its results-brighter, clearer, smoother skin-do make one feel quite festive. - Olivia Stren



Less is better Continued from cover

PARIS MATCH

Maybe it's their citizenship or their Paris-based ateliers,

but these designers garner the most praise

come Fashion Month



moral imperative" existed before it got new, prettily appealing packaging. In short: It didn't begin when the quirky Japanese decluttering guru Marie Kondo published her bestseller, The Life-Changing certainly took off. Kondo's philosophy of thanking and then tossing anything that doesn't "spark joy" has made its way into a New Yorker profile, the mansion of old-money matriarch Emily in Netflix's an appealing quirk instead of an eccentricity. Gilmore Girls revival, and an (ironic!) overabundefinitely not mine). In fact, few lifestyle punchlines have been as culturally pervasive as the Kondo method-rivalled maybe only by juice cleansing and "conscious uncoupling" in recent yearswhich suggests that women are looking for something real and useful in minimalism.

The all-in way to have less, but get more is by wearing a self-styled uniform," which basically just means that you decide to wear the same outfit every day, like Matilda Kahl, the cool creative manager at Sony Music who, in 2015, fashionfamously blogged about her collection of identical white silk shirts, worn with or without a black work every day" more than two years later. A slightly more forgiving option is the "five-

piece French wardrobe," which is usually interpreted by style bloggers as symbolic essentials to build on. It's dreamy, if theoretical—and it's example, moved into "capsule" collections, which are basically just highly marketable, risk-mitigating limited edition fashion lines that offer monthly releases of supposedly elevated basics (Are culottes basics? Is a blazer with a massive bow?).

Since we have access to basically everything via social media, online shopping and disposable fashion, hard limits come as a relief. In the same way that "free-range kids" and "intuitive eating" give social credibility to "relaxing" for women who feel like they are both constantly under surveillance and failing, "less, but better" style solves two problems at once. Kondo's directive to throw things away, the French idea of chicness as defined by "less" and, of course, rich, patrician Paltrow's endorsement of owning only the essentials are the answer to our desire to happily release the overwhelming parts of getting dressed (shopping, spending, cleaning, choosing)—and still capture an of-the-moment look and mood.

Like anything prescriptive, though, even something as light as "less, but better" can feel

ONE-MINUTE MIRACLE



of petits fours and bathing in a vat of rosewater.

broadly, though. Joy can be so aging.

The following day my face

serums (which I apply

UNUSUAL ALLURE Delving into the real meaning of French girl beauty with Charlotte Gainsbourg



Born into pop culture royalty as the daughter of French singer Serge Gainsbourg and British actress Jane Birkin, Charlotte Gainsbourg was destined to be talked about. A self-described shy child, she started acting at age 12 and released her first album with her father at 15, later gravitating toward complex, provocative roles in Lars-Von-Trier-directed films Nymphomaniac, Melancholia and Antichrist, with a recent unexpected detour into the mainstream for Independence Day: Resurgence. Along the way she has become a fashion darling, often wearing unusual pieces by designer Nicolas Ghesquière for first Balenciaga, then Louis Vuitton. As Gainsbourg dips a toe into the beauty world with a makeup collection she's thoughtfully designed for Nars, we asked her about French girl allure and what she finds most beautiful.

You live in New York now, but you grew up in Paris. Do you roll your eyes when you see all the 'How to do your makeup like a French girl' stories? "When I was in France, yes. I thought it was overstated and it seemed like a cliché. But now that I'm in America I do understand—I understand that less is more. I don't think that French girls are more confident, but maybe we're brought up with the idea that we don't need to put makeup on, don't need to make such effort. I see that teenage girls in New York wear a lot of makeup-that's the trend. It's a pity. I love how women look naturally.

What were some of your early experiences with makeup? "I had a bad experience with a makeup artist on my first film, when I was 12. It didn't look real. I was always quite concerned when people wanted to dress me up like a doll for films and photo shoots, but I understood it very early on. I wasn't a difficult child, but I was very stubborn, and because I was so shy, I sulked. It made it impossible for journalists [or photographers] to interact with me because I would shut myself off. I didn't do it on purpose, it was a protection."

How do you approach getting older physically when you're in the public eye? "I find it really hard. People knew me as a child and I had big success in France as a teenager and I always looked young, even in my 20s and 30s. That was my trademark. But then suddenly I'm 45 and not a young girl anymore. I didn't have the time to grow into a woman, so it's as if the transition never happened."

How do you like your own makeup to look? "In the past, I was very uncomfortable with the way I looked, so it took me a long time to get to know myself. Now I'm more accustomed with what works for me. I want to look natural, as if I have no makeup on, because I think that's what suits me best. I love doing a photo shoot where I have tons of makeup on my eyes, but it's like dressing up when you were a kid. Premieres and events were a nightmare in the past, but through Nicolas Ghesquière's care, he's helped me have fun with my body and face."



the rosiness that appears under the skin and all the transparency that evokes. I wear either the light pink or the poppy red Multiple Tint every day. It's so subtle."

challenging product to make. The idea was concealing in a very subtle way, but to also have some hydration within the makeup. I've always liked YSL Touche Éclat, but it isn't always enough [coverage]."

SHOP THE LOOK These closet staples are cool enough to wear every day of the week-seriously





OMEGA WATCH, \$5,650, OMEGA-WATCHES.COM





KATE SPADE PANTS, \$595, KATESPADE.COM





NARS MULTIPLE TINT IN ALICE AND JO (SWIPE), \$49, HYDRATING GLOW TINT, \$45, NARSCOSMETICS.COM

Pare down your wardrobe with curated essentials from a new Toronto label

Mercredi is passionate about basics—which is why she launched her own womenswear line, Franc, earlier this month. "Minimalism want to take off your statement hoodie-which are available in looks different for everyone, but necklace, slide out of your heels the concept of less-is-more is a and live in Chuck Taylors. In short, good one for the environment and our wallets," she says. That's Habit and designer of a kids' basics under the straight hemmed sweatwhy her wardrobe consists of jeans collaboration with Mini Mioche shirt, elevate the soft, bamboo that fit just-so, flat boots made for makes basic look chic. running errands and chasing kids, and simple tees. "I stick to two "designed with function, comfort crafted in Toronto, because, as rules when it comes to shopping: Only buy what you love and what you need," says Mercredi. And so, with the thought that each item in as we care about who they are she says, her closet is thoughtfully your closet should work for several made for." – Vanessa Grant

Like most trends, the ideal of "organization as like a self-help mandate that's self-defeating. Men love to opine about living with less. Author and entrepreneur James Altucher has oft described his post-purge wardrobe of three pairs of pants, three shirts and one pair of shoes. But most women Magic of Tidying Up, in 2014. But the narrative in typical jobs aren't able to pull off self-created "uniforms" like Altucher, who can do mostly whatever he wants, or like Matilda Kahl, whose youth, creative gig and hotness makes her uniform

Clockwise from top left:

Marion Cotillard, Carla

and Ines de la Fressange.

Women, who still earn less than men and dance of parody, including a book called The do more unpaid work, tend to have less time Life-Changing Magic of Not Giving a F*ck (asterisk and financial capital to make well-researched

investments in just-right things. My super-minimalist wardrobe of "better" costs less time and "My husband money overall, but dropping describes hundreds on a single piece still stings. my design

aesthetic as

'a green apple

in a bowl on

the floor of

an otherwise

empty room."

And, realistically, life is too big to accommodate a wardrobe that's as small as the one I want, which would be a 10-piece, one-rack capsule of Max Mara, Céline and 1990s Calvin Klein. While my husband has maybe four strata of his sartorial lifeancient gym shit, J.Crew sweats for "stomps" with the dog, heavy sweaters I buy for him (and then steal back) and jeans for casual nights out, and Canali for work

blazer, black pants, a black tie. According to her and weddings-I have maybe 16, which corre-Instagram, she's still "wearing the same thing to spond to the subtleties and sub-levels of the roles and identities that I'm intended to put on and take off. I need streetwear for brunch and shopping with fashion-y friends who can talk Vetements; polished, preppy basics to assert my respectability in meetings when required; floaty-softies catching on. Gwyneth Paltrow's Goop concern, for for PMS; winter cocktail; summer beach; holiday formal; lingerie; it goes on.

If doing less could include fewer demands made of women, so we didn't have to wait for a fashion trend to empower us to trust our own judgment, that would actually be better.

PRETTY BASIC

tortoiseshell specs and naturally tops: a crewneck tee, sweatshirt full brows, Mercredi makes you

Franc's debut collection was and wearability in mind," she says. "Franc was built and designed who made our clothes just as much

Toronto-based designer Brandy filled with items that work together. outfits and live beyond seasonal With her straight bob, wayfarer trends." The line features only six tank, boxy tee, muscle tank and just a handful of neutral tones Thoughtful details, like rounded the former blogger behind Heart & hem tanks that look great layered jersey tops beyond your typical tees. And they are designed and the hangtags say, they "care about



Dear Dior Diorshow Pump'N'Volume Instant Volume Squeezable Mascara: I must admit that your name did not hint at the chicness I associate with your brand's coveted reputation. The term "squeezable" is normally reserved for BBQ condiments or children's crafts, but in the hands of Dior's makeup masterminds, it's now associated with extra-dramatic sweeping lashes. A simple pinch of your tube helps deposit more of your creamy, lash-plumping formula on the wand, creating even more major results than your cultfavourite predecessor. And the squeezable dispenser helps the wand get to every last swipe of mascara, so I can bid farewell to waste. Merci infiniment, Kathryn Hudson

DIOR DIORSHOW PUMP'N'VOLUME MASCARA, \$37, SEPHORA (AVAILABLE IN MAY)





JUDITH & CHARLES TOP, \$225, JUDITH-ANDCHARLES.COM





TORY BURCH SHOES, \$790,

FEEL THEAL

Did you know exercise is a healthy way to help manage anxiety and depression?

Sign up for the **SHOPPERS** LOVE. YOU. **Run for Women** and have an amazing day for mind and body.

Run or walk, you'll feel the heal!



6 / THEKIT.CA

THE KIT LOVES **PALM READING** Beauty director Rani Sheen soaks up the sunshine, '60s silhouettes and splashes of colour in Palm Springs

A colourful oasis in the California desert, Palm Springs swells at its seams with pool parties and after-pool-parties during the annual Coachella music festival, which recently wrapped. I, however, love Palm Springs during the rest of the year for its sleepy town centre with vintage shops and brunch spots; its cool, design-focused hotels; its thriving drag-show scene; and its clusters of low-slung mid-century-modern homes that have, since the 1960s, seen wild fetes filled with weekenders escaping from nearby L.A. It's the sort of town where you want to dress up to relax in a flirty sundress, dinnerplate-sized sunglasses and a huge straw hat both classic and completely of the moment.

> Must do: Order a hibiscus margarita at the Saguaro hotel's pool and watch the beautiful people swim by.

EUGENIA KIM HAT, \$645, EUGENIAKIM.COM





KAIA NATURALS JUICY BAMBOO CLEANSING CLOTHS TO GO, \$20, KAIANATURALS.COM SURRATT BEAUTY ARTISTIQUE BLUSH IN TOME FAIS ROUGIR, \$35, SEPHORA:CA

IGK CALL TIME

STYLING PRIMER, \$33, SEPHORA.CA

Rani Sheen at the

Saguaro Palm Springs.

Register to walk or run 5K or 10K runforwomen.ca





WEEKEND ITINERARY

Stay At Arrive Palm Springs, one of the newest designforward hotels, the rooms are minimal and elegant, the angled buildings designed to notch in visually with the surrounding mountains. Grab an excellent housemade cold brew from the onsite Customs Coffee, borrow a turquoise cruiser bike and cycle off to explore. *arrivehotels.com*

Spa Saunter past the Colony Palms hotel's famous courtyard pool (moviemakers and mobsters have been lounging there since 1936) and enter the serene jewelbox spa, all

creamy-toned tilework and matte black accents. Try the Desert Rain Moisture treatment, a mix of cocooning moisture wrap, hydrating face mask and essential-oil scalp massage, to infuse moisture back into skin sapped by plane travel and dry desert air. *colonypalmshotel.com*

Brunch The Parker Palm Springs hotel is a mustvisit for its lush grounds, Instagram-catnip entryway, kitschy Jonathan-Adlerdesigned lobby and poolside lemonade bar. Book in for brunch on the Norma's patio and nibble on Light and Lemony Griddle Cakes or the caviargarnished Zillion Dollar Lobster Frittata (a slightly more reasonable US\$100). *theparkerpalmsprings.com*

Shop The North Palm Canyon Drive strip is packed with vintage-pick up '60s sundresses and '70s denim at the Frippery (thefrippery. com), or browse mid-century reproduction lamps and vases at Trousdale's (trousdales.net). Preppy-tropical designer Trina Turk (trinaturk.com) takes up a whole block with her swimwear and homewares, while Elizabeth & Prince (elizabethandprince.com) offers minimalist Onia shirt-dresses and boho Ulla Johnson blouses.

THEKIT.CA / 7

STYLE ICON

Christy forever

Supermodel Christy Turlington has been 🛛 🙀 a fashion heavyweight for decades. She's also a philanthropic force to be reckoned with



Christy Turlington is totally disarming. It's not that she has one of the world's most recognizable faces, it's that the 48-year-old's unfathomably symmetrical beauty is not her most striking quality. When she has folded her lithe frame onto a comfy couch in a New York penthouse suite, as elegant as the orchids on the coffee table, the Columbiaeducated CEO is equally comfortable discussing the finer points of non-profit certification as she is '90s fashion campaigns. By that decade, she was already an established face of Calvin Klein's Eternity fragrance, having signed on when it launched in 1988, and she remains so today for its latest installment, Eternity Intense. We sat down to talk about longevity, leadership and family.

You've been the face of Calvin Klein's Eternity for more than 20 years. What does the concept of eternity mean to you? "I think it's a beautiful word, but I'm someone who tries to focus on the present, so I never really think that much ahead. There's comfort in something that promises to last and endureand as much as you want to stay flexible and have the freedom to change and grow, there is something nice about consistency. There is not enough of that in the world right now....In any long-term relationship, like mine with my husband [actor Edward Burns], you want things to get better, deeper, to keep things alive and not complacent. It seems kind of hokey, but it takes intention and it takes some work. Otherwise, things pass you by."

TIMELESS ELEGANCE Christy Turlington brings class to every red carpet.

Does living in the moment come naturally to you? "I've been a yoga practitioner since I was a teenager, and it's very much part of the philosophy. I wouldn't say it's always been so natural; it's been more of an effort, like reminding myself to stay present. My kids really force me to live in the moment and that's nice. There is so much in our society and culture that pulls us backward or forward, so it takes a bit of discipline to be in the now."

Speaking of work ethic, you've gone from a successful modelling career to founding a philanthropic organization. What spurred you on? "I didn't set out to start a foundation. I became engaged in the topic because I had a complication delivering my daughter, who is 13 now. I came into motherhood very prepared and with lots of options. I knew it would be a life-transforming experience, and I was ready for that—but what I wasn't ready for was the serious medical complication that I experienced afterwards; it was random and you can't test for it. It reminded me how critical it is to have access to quality care when you need it. I'm not a big fear-factor person, but it's important to have a plan for the 'what ifs' because when things don't go the way they are supposed to, things

FRESH TAKE Calvin Klein Eternity Intense, the newest take on the scent Turlington has repped for two decades builds on the iconic Eternity profile, adding aquatic floral notes to bergamot and sandalwood.

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CALVIN KLEIN ETERNITY INTENSE EAU DE TOILETTE \$85 (50 ML), SHOPPERS DRUG MART

can happen really quickly for mom and child. Once I learned about the global stats for maternal mortality and that my complication was one of the leading causes of death for women and girls, I thought 'Okay, well, how can I help women be better prepared? How can I make sure more women have access to the kind of care and the range of care that I did?""

How did you turn those insights into action? "I did a lot of learning. I travelled with organizations related to maternal health. I went back to school to work on a master's in public health. Then I made a documentary film [No Woman, No Cry, 2010]. After I started showing that around the world, people began asking what they could do to help. That's how Every Mother Counts came to be."

What was your initial goal? "It was originally a resource for people to find ways to engage and help through donations. There was a big demand for it. We've evolved quite a bit since 2012—now we're a grant-giving organization and we've given almost \$4 million around the world to make sure that women have access to transportation, to people with skills and training and

"Don't feel like you can't try, or speak up, or put yourself out there. It just takes a bit of discipline and a wish to have the world be a better place."

earrow 1

to supplies. We've impacted more than 540,000 lives. Something that was just a personal experience has grown substantially and the beauty of it is that people are relating to it because of their own experience-or realizing that when things have gone perfectly well for them, they want that for other women."

Many of us are scared into passivity when issues feel overwhelming—like, "What can one person really accomplish?" How did you overcome that? "From a young age, I asked myself what I could do that was purposeful. My mom is from Central America, and I did charity work in postwar El Salvador in the early '90s, so that was really the beginning. My career in fashion began during the time that AIDS became the problem that it was-a lot of people around me lost their lives. It's hard to have the discipline to know where to begin, but I don't think you need to almost die or know someone who died to do something. You need to listen to yourself, to think about the things that move you and that worry you, and start there. Don't feel like you can't try, or speak up, or put yourself out there. It just takes a bit of discipline and a wish to have the world be a better place."

Eric Buterbaugh's artful arrangements.

EXPERT ADVICE King of flowers

Eric Buterbaugh—star florist and celeb BFF—on how to max your petal power this spring

Florist Eric Buterbaugh is someone you want at your party. BFFs with everyone from Demi Moore to Naomi Campbell to Maria Shriver, he started out in fashion, working for Gianni Versace in Dallas, and later Los Angeles, where he would style Elizabeth Taylor and Jane Fonda in Versace's clothes after meeting the designer at a party. He transitioned into floristry after doing flowers for a well-connected friend's party, and soon he was installed at the Four Seasons Beverly Hills where he remained for 21 years, called upon to provide flowers for fashion parties (for Chloé, Chanel, Dior), weddings (for his close friend Salma Hayek at Venice Opera House) and royalty (Princess Beatrice's 18th birthday at

Windsor Castle). "The thing was, I knew everyone in L.A.," he says, on a recent visit to Saks Fifth Avenue in Toronto, where his fragrance line EB Florals is sold. "I knew every movie star, I knew every music star, I knew the head of the studios, I knew the social people, I knew the art people, so they all just started using me." But what he'd always wanted to do was make perfume. Three years ago, he sent 10 of his favoaurite flowers to the perfumers at Geneva-based fragrance house Firmenich, and launched EB Florals with eight blooming blends including Celestial Jasmine, Sultry Rose and Fragile Violet. "I always said, 'You're not going to wear the same shirt every day, why should you wear the same

perfume every day?" exclaims Buterbaugh. The most recent addition, Kingston Osmanthus, is named for both the incredibly rare and expensive osmanthus flower, and Gwen Stefani's 10-year-old son, Kingston, whom Buterbaugh considers a friend. We asked the most sociable man of all how to ace the flowers for any occasion.

1. Go for peonies "People call peonies the queen of flowers, and I just think it's true. Especially the big-headed ones that are very bright salmon with a little bit of yellow in the middle. Every day it gets a little paler and paler and the day you need to throw it out, it's gone from salmon to butter-coloured. It's just a magical flower."

2. Try his petal trick "I reflex the petals of red roses open [by flipping them back gently] so it doubles the volume. It's like velvet. Alessandro Michele from Gucci came to L.A., and we've become good friends-I sent him a big arrangement of those and people were like, 'Oh my God.'"



3. Be generous "I always feel like more is more-10 dozen roses is more beautiful than one dozen! One dozen is mangy."

4. Be aware of what your flowers mean

"Red roses could be misunderstood but you can always choose tulips for any occasion. They're beautiful, they have beautiful colours, but I don't think there's a hidden meaning. In Victorian times and other eras there was hidden meaning behind everything. If somebody sent a woman a yellow rose, it meant something."

5. Use any flower with flair "I have an aversion to filler things like baby's breath or daisies, but I've used every one of those in some amazing way. I'm not particularly drawn to tropical things, other than orchids, but I used four-foot birds of paradise for a party at a really cool store in L.A.-I shrink-wrapped them. The party was over the top, so we had to have over-the-top flowers. L.A. is a bit snooty, so people don't usually take the flowers home, but this night there was not a flower left in sight!" -Rani Sheen with files from Natasha Bruno

EB FLORALS CELESTIAL JASMINE, SULTRY ROSE, FRAGILE VIOLET AND APOLLO HYACINTH, \$350 (100 ML) EACH, SAKS FIFTH AVENUE

Senior Innovations





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HOTOGRAPHY

Eric Buterbaugh with his fabulous friends-Demi Moore, Donna Karan and Olivia Palermo-and equally fabulous flowers.









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SHOW MOM YOU CARE ABOUT HER TODAY—AND EVERYDAY WITH A GIFT THAT'S AS THOUGHTFUL AS SHE IS



DRAMA QUEEN

Go for full-throttle glamour with this volume-boosting mascara in classic black or amp up your look with brilliant blue. Yves Saint Laurent Beauté Mascara Volume Effet Faux Cils The Shock in Noir Asphalte and Blue Underground, \$39 each



TRIPLE THREAT

Enhance your natural lip colour with these intensely hydrating buildable shades. Beeswax nourishes, while a triple action firming agent stimulates collagen for plump, soft, ultra-kissable lips. Eve Lom Kiss Mix Colour in Cheeky, Lippy and Demure, \$32 each



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INSTANT RADIANCE Create a sun-kissed glow in a flash with this genius all-in-one palette, which combines blush, bronzer and highlighter. Bobbi Brown Illuminating Cheek Palette in Peach, \$60



GET GLOWING

Refresh and renew with this innovative skin care treatment, inspired by professional exfoliation. It smooths skin, softens fine lines and minimizes pores-call it a shortcut to radiance. Darphin L'Institut Youth Resurfacing Peel, \$110 (30mL)

narciso rodriguez

HIGH NOTE

Rose, pink peppercorns and soft amber combine to spark a warm, sensual scent that is inviting, intriguing, and completely irresistible. Narciso Rodriguez For Her Fleur Musc Eau de Parfum, \$142 (100 mL)

DEEP IMPACT

This luxe serum is an antioxidant powerhouse. Formulated to penetrate deep into the skin, it uses a



blend of witch hazel, reishi mushroom and alpha arbutin to brighten and illuminate. Kat Burki complete b Illume Brightening Serum, \$264, (30mL)

OLFACTORY TWIST

Classic rose gets a revamp with this elegant fragrance, a refined interpretation of Si's modern chypre. Graceful and feminine, this sophisticated scent is spiked with unexpected powdery iris. Giorgio Armani Sì Rose Signature Eau de Parfum, \$152 (100 mL)



GIORGIO ARMANI

TOOL KIT

Treat your skin with these high-tech Swedish delights. The LUNA Play Purple is the perfect, on-the-go deep-cleansing device, while IRIS Magenta—the world's first dedicated eye massager-rejuvenates the delicate under-eye area using innovative T-Sonic technology. The LUNA 2 for Normal Skin is a complete system dedicated to revealing your most beautiful, youthful complexion. Foreo IRIS Magenta, \$159; LUNA Play Purple, \$49 and LUNA 2 for Normal Skin, \$229

FRESH TAKE

MyChelle

Perfect C[™] PRO Serum Sérum C parfait PRO

15 mL

Channel the joy of a tropical holiday with this enchanting fragrance. A graceful blend of nashi pear and pomegranate anchors the scent, while cherry blossom, jasmine and creamy sandalwood add olfactory texture and delicacy. Salvatore Ferragamo Signorina in Fiore Eau de Toilette, \$117 (100 mL)



wrinkles with this powerful, pro-level serum. Ascorbic acid-the most active form of vitamin Cbrightens, smooths and firms. MyChelle Dermaceuticals Perfect C PRO Serum 25%, \$65 (15 mL)

