

FASHION LIFESTYLE ART ENTERTAINMENT

yellow™

DECEMBER 2011

FREE

Lambert & Truex
for Tiffany & Co.

Albert Ming
Naked Suits

The Ultimate
Essential Gifts

Carnival Brings
Magic to
Galveston

yellowmags.com



Photo by Collin Kelly

While we always include an "Essentials" section in every issue that highlights items we think our readers might want to consider owning, we went into overdrive in this issue. After all, with only three weeks remaining before Christmas by the time this issue is published, you can never be exposed to too many shopping options.

We introduce you to the men responsible for the design and development of the exquisite handbags that are exclusively offered by Tiffany & Co. They just launched their second Fall/Winter collection with the retailer and exude pride when discussing their uniquely American design style.

R. Paudice is a very young Italian designer whose neckties are of unparalleled quality and which after a mere two years in business could be found in all the major cities of Italy and Japan. Notwithstanding that he believes that the necktie represents the "accessory jewel worn by men of prestige", the designer has expanded into scarves and poplin cotton shirts that continue his unrelenting determination to offer the best products in terms of fabric and design.

Ming Chang and Albert Shyy were in Singapore in 90 degree heat and 90% humidity and wondered why men had to dress in suits that were so hot and uncomfortable under such conditions. In response, they launched Naked Suits to allow men to be more comfortable while maintaining high style and quality standards. Fashion *and* function are not mutually exclusive.

It may not be too late to book a holiday cruise on the Carnival Magic, one of the world's youngest and largest ships that just commenced service out of its new home port, Galveston. The island city elevated its status in the leisure world by winning the ship, much to chagrin of other major U.S. ports.

Appropriate for the season, this month's photoshoot took place on a local Christmas tree farm. It is a place where families come together and gain an expanded sense of the holidays by selecting their special trees while they are still rooted in the earth. All in the spirit of the season.

From our family to yours, we wish you a very joyous holiday and a happy, safe and healthy New Years.

V. Hoang



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The color yellow has played a recurrent symbolic role throughout the history of Asian culture. It symbolizes the earth that sustains all life, yet has been embraced by Buddhist monks as an expression of unchallenged power. Such is the role of yellow: always revered but in different ways under different circumstances.

The mission of *Yellow Magazine* is to introduce our readers to the artistic, fashion, lifestyle and entertainment contributions made by Asian Americans. It is our hope that the depth and breadth of the topics and events we cover do justice to the pride that the color yellow has represented throughout the millennia. As the editor in chief of *Yellow Magazine*, my last name is Hoang, which also means yellow. Just as I am proud of my name, I am proud of my heritage, and proud of *Yellow Magazine*.

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On the cover

Blush high neck dress by Jerri

Moore, available at

jerrimoore.com

Jocelyn fur stole

Moonstone cocktail earrings by

Lauren K, available at sloan/hall

Model: Danika Wang

from Page 713



ACHILLE CHAIR
Design by J.M. Massaud

A padded chair of great impact and surprising comfort. The frame is metal tubing, foamed with polyurethane rubbers, and is stackable. The Achille is completely upholstered with the fabric Manila that features a broad range of stunning colors; with the eco-leather Cambridge; or the technical fabric Liverpool. The upholstery is fully removable. A new version in leather upholstery is also now available.

Studio open at the retail section of the Phillip Johnson Post Oak Central project
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Well Suited
for Rain or Shine

Get Naked (Suits)!

Tired of wearing a boxy suit seemingly designed with an aged football lineman in mind? Wishing you could even wear a suit in hot and humid weather without feeling as if you are going to pass out? Your dreams are answered by Naked Suits by AlbertMing, a line of fashionably innovative clothing by childhood friends Ming Chang and Albert Shyy.

What are your backgrounds? How did the two of you meet?

Albert: We've been close friends for over 15 years, having grown up together in Florida and attending the same high school. I moved to San Francisco after college and spent 5 years working as a management consultant, living and working in the U.S. and in Asia, before moving back to the San Francisco Bay Area to pursue an MBA at Haas (UC Berkeley) and a career as an entrepreneur.

Ming: I was on a fairly typical engineer career path—computer science at UC Berkeley, tech positions in Silicon Valley. I felt the calling of the startup world and decided to take a different career path, as well.

Was there an “aha” moment when you decided this was a good idea?

M: I was visiting Albert in Singapore (where he was working) and we were having dinner and drinks in Clarke Quay, a popular part of the city with a lot of restaurants and nightclubs. It was something like 90 degrees and 90% humidity, and we started talking about how unfair it was that girls could wear less but still look dressed up, while guys needed to wear dress shirts and jackets and be uncomfortable the entire time. The conversation evolved into something along the lines of “wouldn't it be great if we had suits that were more breathable and more comfortable to wear?” We knew companies were making really interesting innovations in other clothing segments, especially with outdoor apparel, and so it felt like there might be an opportunity there.

A: A few months later, after I moved back to the States, we were both in the market for a new suit and went to a bunch of different department stores and retail chains, but we couldn't find anything we liked that didn't have a bigger boxy cut to it. Like many other Asian guys, I have a slimmer build and having been working in Asia, was now more used to seeing guys wearing well-fitting, slim-cut suits. We thought back to our conversation in Singapore about adding performance to dressier clothing and, coupled with the focus on more modern, slimmer designs, felt that we might have something there, making suits for the modern guy.

What was the most difficult aspect to get started? What has surprised you the most?

M: We were basically coming in with a blank slate, so it was definitely a challenge to make the right connections and get up to speed as quickly as we could in the tailoring and suit-making process. My aunt actually used to work for many years with import/export in the garment industry and her biggest advice for us when we were starting out was to not enter the industry at all.

A: This wasn't an uncommon piece of advice that we heard from people in the industry, although we talked with many others who were also very passionate about it. I think it's definitely true that it's a tough industry because the barriers to entry are ironically both very low and relatively high—almost anyone can start a line of clothing, and because of this



Naked Suits repel moisture, yet the luxurious-feeling fabric is soft and touchable.

For more information, visit albertming.com



The Prince is the most formal suit offered, a two-button jacket with side vents and authentic horn buttons.



Ming Chang and Albert Shyy

there is definitely a saturation of young brands in the market which make it difficult to stand out. At the same time, the larger mills and factories that make much of the branded clothing we know and love usually have high minimum order requirements, meaning you need tens, if not hundreds of thousands of dollars in up-front working capital to actually gain access to the bigger, more experienced manufacturers.

M: We've been bootstrapping the company since the beginning, and definitely didn't have hundreds of thousands of dollars lying around! Fortunately, we've been able to build close relationships with several of our suppliers, and have been able to get around some of the minimum order amounts, which has been a huge help for us in starting out and doing some prototyping, etc.

Looking back, is there anything you would have done differently?

A: Some of the best contacts we've made have been at trade shows like Magic. Being able to speak Chinese to many of the suppliers and manufacturers was definitely helpful in building rapport more quickly and being able to effectively communicate who we were and what we were seeking.

M: We've been lucky to have so many people who have been supportive of us. Looking back, one thing I wish we would have done sooner was to use our networks more effectively to help spread the word about the company.

There are other water-resistant suits on the market. What makes yours so unique? Why should someone buy an AlbertMing Naked Suit?

Our suits are great for people who travel or are often on-the-go, as well as guys who want something that will give them a sleeker fitted look at the office and at social events.

M: We've designed our Naked Suits to have optimal comfort and performance, while helping guys look sharp and fitted. Our wools have a special nanotechnology application that gives them greater water resistant qualities while not sacrificing any of its soft and smooth feel. We've also lined our suits with a naturally breathable, sleek fabric called Bemberg™ that's super comfortable and feels a lot less stuffy than most normal suits.

A: We believe our suits match up with those costing at least \$2,000 to \$3,000. They're hand tailored and include a floating canvas, which adapts to your body's natural shape and allows the suit to hold up better over time. We also included little touches such as authentic cow horn buttons to add to the premium experience. Basically, we wanted our generation of guys to experience a luxury suit, but without having to pay luxury prices.

Who is your typical customer? What's the ordering process like?

A: We're targeting 20- and 30-something working professionals who are seeking a more modern look in their tailored clothing. Our suits are great for people who travel or are often on-the-go, as well as guys who want something that will give them a sleeker fitted look at the office and at social events. We've also had people tell us they're good investment pieces around which they can build their wardrobes and move beyond their first suit.

M: We sell our suits in off-the-rack sizes and customers can select jackets and pants in their sizes; we have a sizing chart for their convenience, as well. We ship the suits for free and offer a simple 60-day return policy to make sure that they are satisfied with the fit once they've tried them on.

A: We've also done fittings in Berkeley and around the Bay Area, but for logistical reasons haven't yet been able to offer this in other areas. It's something we're looking into, as I'd love to expand this service to other areas as demand increases.

What are the future goals for AlbertMing?

A: We're actually working on a blazer line that we're hoping to launch in the next few weeks. We know guys don't always need to wear suits and wanted to introduce another product to wear when they want to dress up just a bit. Next year, we're planning to add to our suit and shirt lines and will likely announce a few surprises, as well. We're also in the midst of raising funds to help us augment our team and give us some capital flexibility to pursue a national rollout. We want to build this into the next great menswear brand that speaks to the modern man.

M: Another goal that drives me is to represent Asian Americans as a successful entrepreneur with a successful business, especially one that is outside the traditional tech realm.

Some Holidays Are Unforgettable



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TIFFANY.COM

A Union of Fashion Icons

Tiffany Leather

by V. HOANG

Richard Lambertson and John Truex are design directors of Tiffany Leather Collection. Known for their timeless and sophisticated leather accessories, Richard and John joined Tiffany & Co. in 2009 and are responsible for the design and development of Tiffany's handbags and accessories. Prior to joining Tiffany & Co. they owned and operated Lambertson Truex, the company they founded in 1998. They built a reputation for exclusivity, craftsmanship and uniquely American design. In 2000 they shared honors as the CFDA Accessories Designers of the Year and won the ACE Award for Design Excellence. They just launched their second Fall/Winter 2011 collection for Tiffany & Co.

Can you tell us about the Fall/Winter 2011 Collection?

John: Well, we are launching here in Houston. This is our second Fall collection for Tiffany. It's a full collection of handbags and menswear; all leather goods and travel pieces.

What inspired the collection?

John: The modern woman; a woman who is looking for beautiful accessories. We started with a clean slate and wanted to create unique original designs for men and women. The inspiration is Tiffany customers who walk into the store and buy a lot of jewelry. We want them to come in and buy lots of bags.

What are some of your favorite pieces?

John: We have lots of favorite pieces but we are only a year young, so every design that you see in this collection has been touched by Richard and me. Each one is very personal. What we do is very personal, so we love everything in the collection.

Richard: It's like asking someone who is their favorite child.

Do you follow trends?

Richard: Yes and no. We do pay attention to what's going on but I don't think we follow trends. Simply, customers are seeking items that reflect luxury sophistication and high quality.

John: I tried to establish within our collection a variety of different designs from soft to structured and from small to large. This season, the trend definitely has a little bit more of a fifties feel with a more structured edge. It is important for us to be very fashionable and up-to-date but it is even more important to present a variety of different designs from which women may choose.

What do you think are some of the key handbag trends for the fall and winter?

John: I think the biggest trend is to have a complete collection of accessories suitable for a wide variety of locations and occasions. The biggest thing is to have diversity in your wardrobe; clutches for evenings, day bags to travel and run around, a twin set consisting of a big bag with a smaller matching clutch inside it.

Richard: I also think that bags are a little more streamlined and top handles are very important. In terms of fashion, big floppy hobo shapes are not in at the moment; right now, it's all about structure and clean lines.



Tiffany Avenue Shopper
\$1,595

What is your creative process and do you work together or separately?

John: We work separately. We have our own sketch books so it is natural for us to be in our own zones. We sketch out our own thoughts, colors, and feelings and then share them with each other to create the best possible collection.

Do you have to alter your designs to suit Tiffany customers—or executives?

Richard and John: No. Not at all.

John: We are here as designers for Tiffany & Co. We have years of experience and have both received American Fashion awards. We are recognized for our style and design aesthetics and that is what Tiffany loves, loves about Richard and me. They like what we do. They have always liked what we do. They liked the DNA of our previous company. Our DNA and Tiffany's DNA is a perfect match, joining two iconic American luxury brands.

What we do is very personal, so we love everything in the collection.

What are the advantages of designing for Tiffany & Co.?

John: Tiffany offers a worldwide platform for us to express our feelings and thoughts through our accessory designs.

Richard: We get to work within Tiffany's framework of hundreds of stores that saves us from having to deal with wholesalers. We don't have to work with retailers because we are our own retailers. It's kind of a luxury to be able to design for Tiffany, work for Tiffany and put our accessories in Tiffany stores.

How did the partnership form?

John: We placed our company up for sale in 2009 and Tiffany bought it. We are both American brands. Richard and I were known in the luxury world and Tiffany had us on their radar. It seemed like a great partnership at the time. And now, in 2011, we can tell you that it's a great partnership!



Richard Lambertson and John Truex

Photo by Bryan Derballa



Tiffany Harper Chain Shoulder Bag
Price upon request



Tiffany Genevieve Satchel
\$4,900



Tiffany Reversible Totes
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When Price Is No Object
for the Objects of Your Desire

Ultimate Gifts

Who would object to receiving one of these ultra luxury gifts? Not us! If you feel like busting the budget this holiday season, we've gathered up some perfect ways to do it.



All Business

The Ambassador is Goyard's answer to the modern briefcase. Crafted out of chevron canvas and calf leather, it comes in a standard briefcase or 24 hours luggage piece.
Goyard Ambassador Briefcase, \$2,530
goyard.com

Scandinavian Sound

Great sound doesn't have to come from big black boxes. The Libratone Lounge has minimalistic elegance with a jaw-dropping 360 sound experience. Airplay connection gives you the freedom to move about as you please with your entire music library in the palm of your hand. Want to sit and enjoy the latest blockbuster? The Libratone Lounge is optimized for TV, with a mini plug connection that ensures perfect syncing and audio transfer. Plus, it comes with a choice of cover colors in Italian cashmere wool.
Libratone Lounge Wireless Speaker, \$1,300
libratone.com



Decadent Bedazzling

Perfect for any holiday gala, this exquisite bangle from Tiffany & Co. combines a sleek, sensuous design with some knock-your-socks-off jewels.
Tiffany & Co. Black Jade and Green Tourmaline Bangle, price available upon request
Tiffany & Co. Galleria 5015 Westheimer Rd., Houston, TX 77056 713.626.0220 tiffany.com
Tiffany & Co. The Woodlands Market Street The Woodlands The Woodlands, TX 77380 281.292.4360

Cuff Me

As seen on the wrists of stars and fashionistas such as Kate Moss, Lady Gaga, Rachel Zoe, and many more, the iconic Hermès Collier de Chien leather cuff with gold hardware is a great investment piece, as it will probably never go out of style. For a more affordable option, you can always download the paper version at hermes.com and make one yourself!
Hermès Collier de Chien Cuff, \$1,050
Hermès Houston, 1800 Post Oak Blvd., Houston, TX 77056 713.623.2177, hermes.com



The Classic Little Black Watch

The new Dior VIII line of watches for Day, Cocktail, and Evening, pays tribute to the couturier with multiple references to the "8", the lucky number of Dior's superstitious founder. The collection features black high-tech ceramic and steel cases and bracelets, with signature black ceramic pyramid inserts. Feminine and timeless with a crisp outline, the Dior VIII watch reinterprets the couturier's passion for highly structured forms.
price varies
dior.com



Time for a Classic

You will never be late with this stylish yet simple timepiece from Tiffany & Co. The Atlas dome watch is stainless steel with black dial and black leather strap. The watch features mechanical movement with automatic winding, water resistant to 50m, Swiss made.
Atlas® Dome Watch, \$3,100
Tiffany & Co. Galleria 5015 Westheimer Rd., Houston, TX 77056 713.626.0220
Tiffany & Co. The Woodlands Market Street The Woodlands The Woodlands, TX 77380 281.292.4360 tiffany.com



Rugged Plushness

The all new Range Rover Evoque is the smallest, lightest, most fuel efficient Range Rover ever produced. The Evoque is available in two distinctive versions: the stunning coupé model (which precisely mirrors the original concept car design), and the stylish 5-door that adopts a slightly higher rear roof line for extra practicality.
Range Rover Evoque, starting at \$43,995
landrover.com

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Natural Holiday

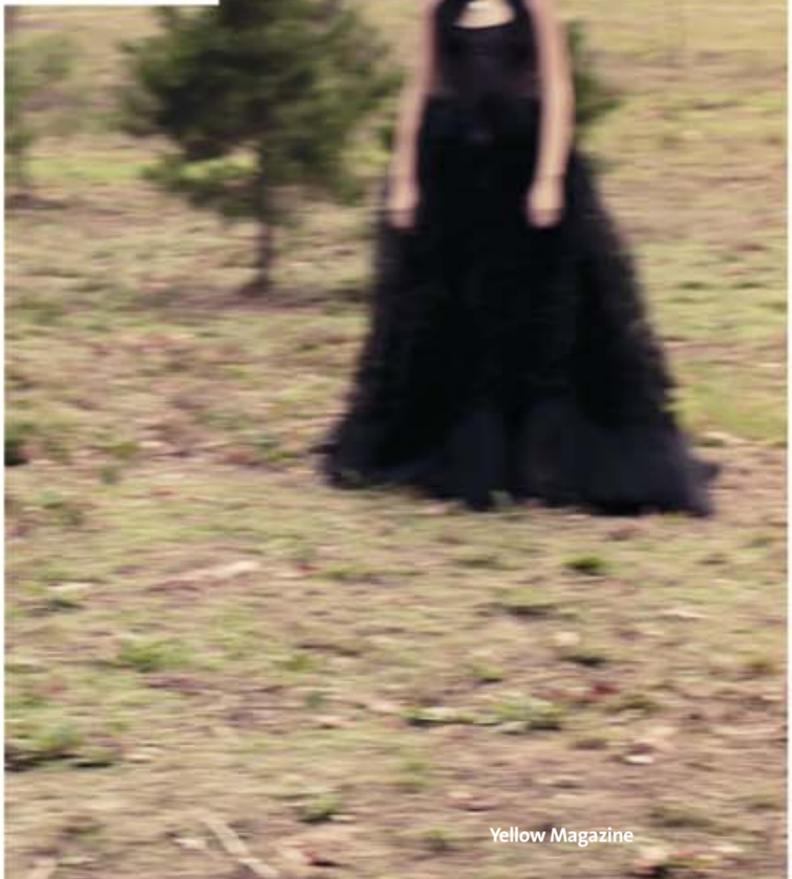
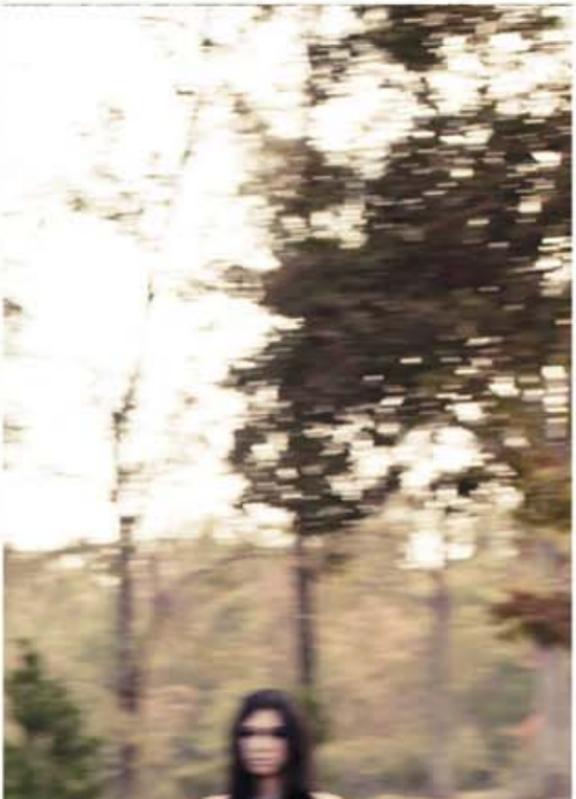
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Hair and Makeup Bianca Linette
Fashion Stylist Assistant Laura Tylka
Model Danika Wang from Page 713

Shot at Tinsel Time Christmas Tree Farm
18477 FM1485, New Caney, TX 77357
832.368.1103

Jerri moore Black dress with fringe by Jerri Moore,
available at jerrimoore.com Pyrite multi-strand
necklace by Joanie Jacomini Herring \$2775,
available at sloan/hall



Silver sequin dress by Badgley Mischka, available at Neiman Marcus
Leather belt by WCM for Neiman Marcus \$195, available at neiman Marcus





Black tulle gown by Christian Siriano \$6980, available at neiman Marcus
Vintage necklace with baroque fresh water pearl by Joanie Jacomini Herring
\$1672, available at sloan/hall



Purple sequin gown by Aidan Mattox \$430, available at Saks Fifth Avenue
Purple fur stole by Adrienne Landau \$598, available at Saks Fifth Avenue



Black sequin gown by Zuhair Muhar, \$8990, available at Neiman Marcus



Cutting Edge Technology
for Gift Giving Stars

Holiday Techno

You can't escape it—you might as well just give in. Technology and all of its fits and foibles has taken over your life, so you should just deal with it the best way you know how: buy stuff. We've put together some of the latest and greatest electronic doodads and gadgets that will have even the most techno-phobic person oohing and ahhhing this holiday season.



Crosley Ranchero Radio

Plug and play. One of our longtime crushes, Crosley makes vintage-style radios that marry old-school aesthetics with modern-day technology. This season, they created a white tuner and iPod dock exclusively for west elm. The Ranchero tabletop radio and iPod speaker system features a clean, "new-stalgie" look with a touch of vintage flair combined with surround-sound technology for clean, consistent audio purity.
\$169, westelm.com



Beats Executive Headphones

Always wanted to get great sound from your headphones, but didn't want to look like you were still in high school? The soon-to-be-released Beats Executive headphones combine Beats' legendary sound quality in a more refined package. Additional features include noise cancellation that helps block out the sound of the outside world, a built-in shutoff feature to preserve battery life, and a swiveling design to make them ultra-compact when not in use.
\$399, beatsexecutive.com



Logitech Wireless Solar Keyboard

Goodbye battery hassles! This light-powered wireless keyboard makes dying batteries a thing of the past. The solar cells work in any light, including the one on your desk. So the keyboard stays charged and ready to use, even when you're typing in the dark. No battery changes. No wires. And thanks to the standard Mac layout, there's no learning curve, either. (There's a PC version available also). With sleek lines and a thin profile, this stylish, streamlined keyboard adds some pizzazz to your workspace—whether you've got a laptop or desktop. It's plug-and-play, and the advanced 2.4 GHz wireless connection virtually eliminates delays, dropouts, and interference.
\$60, logitech.com



Designer Silicone iPhone 4 Cases

You can dress up your iPhone 4 in one of these amazingly stylish cases. Choose from four on-trend outer shell designs, each inspired by architectural elements in the cities for which they are named—Bordeaux, Shanghai, New York, Barcelona. Each includes two inner silicone wraps in contrasting colors, so you can change the look of your case as you wish. The polypropylene shell is impact-resistant; each silicone wrap cushions your phone and features side grips for a secure hold.
\$33 each, containerstore.com



Lower East Side Audio Dock Air

This new AirPlay speaker system from Audyssey complements today's digital lifestyle, enabling users to stream music wirelessly throughout the house from their computer, iPod touch, iPhone or iPad. The Lower East Side Audio Dock Air is the latest Audyssey product built on the company's Smart Speaker technology for rich and balanced sound.
\$400, audyssey.com



Marley One Foundation Speaker Dock

It's a premium sound system designed for environmentally conscious music lovers. This elegantly designed speaker dock is made from beautifully polished FSC-certified wood, giving you that natural look and feel. The iPod/iPhone dock acts as a charger, it has an aux-in connection so you can connect with other devices, and it comes with a remote control for easy listening. Even AirPlay technology has been added letting you wirelessly stream music from any room.
\$399, beatsexecutive.com



Lytro Cameras

You've probably seen these all over the news lately. Unlike a conventional camera that captures a single plane of light, the Lytro camera captures the entire light field, which is all the light traveling in every direction in every point in space. By instantly capturing complete light field data, the Lytro gives you capabilities you've never had in a regular camera. Since you capture the color, intensity, and direction of all the light, you can experience the first major light field capability—focusing after the fact. Focus and re-focus, anywhere in the picture. You can refocus your pictures at anytime, after the fact. Forever. Pretty cool.
Red Hot (16GB), \$499; Graphite (8GB) \$399; Electric Blue (8GB), \$399, lytro.com



Logitech Squeezebox

Logitech Squeezebox Radio brings a world of music, free Internet radio, subscription services, or your personal digital music collection to any space in your home, over your Wi-Fi network. You can listen to infinite music, news and sports from every corner of the globe with this easy-to-use, all-in-one Wi-Fi music player—all without a computer. The Squeezebox brings full, high-quality sound to any room with an ultra-compact design that fits easily on your night table or kitchen counter. Just turn the dial to browse radio stations, music tracks and even album art, displayed on the full-color screen. You can even recommend music to Facebook friends instantly right from your Squeezebox. **\$180, logitech.com**



Ninja Flash Drive

This stealthy ninja is actually a 4 GB USB flash drive in disguise! It packs a lot of punch for storing and sharing photos, videos and music on the go. The playful silicone figure protects the hardware inside and features magnetic hands so you can store the drive on any steel surface. 2.0-1.1 compatible. **\$25, containerstore.com**



Yamaha PDX-11 Portable Player Dock

This easy-to-carry, powerful speaker system lets you enjoy your entire content library whenever you want, wherever you go. The PDX-11 houses a unique two-way speaker system and a large 4 in., woofer to ensure strong bass and stunning mid-range, plus a dedicated tweeter for the higher frequencies. Designed and sound-tuned by Yamaha speaker experts, this system delivers extremely accurate low bass while delivering crystal clear highs, just the kind of remarkable sound you would expect from Yamaha. Available in your choice of four colors: white, dark blue, green and black, and highlighted by a color matched, perforated steel front grille. **\$100, yamaha.com**



Magneat

If you've ever had your earbud cord get tangled on the handles of the elliptical machine, you know how important it is to tame your cords before a workout. With the innovative Magneat, you just wind the excess length of cord around the center spindle to eliminate slack, then secure the clever holder to your shirt or jacket with the two-piece super-strong magnet. When you're not working out, it keeps your earbud cords contained for easy storage. **\$13, containerstore.com**



Roku 2 Streaming Player

From its simple remote to its easy-to-use interface, Roku 2 is designed to connect you to internet television options without the investment in an internet-ready TV. All you need to get started is a high-speed Internet connection, and a TV. The built-in wireless and guided setup mean you can be up and running in minutes, with more than 300 channels featuring the best movies, TV shows, live sports, music, games, and more, including Netflix, Hulu Plus, Amazon Instant Video, Crackle, Pandora, and much more. Any time you want it, Roku streams sports action as soon as you say go with a large selection of live sports packages, including NHL, NBA, UFC, MLB and MLS. You can also play any music, any time. From Sirius XM to your iTunes library, Roku can stream whatever music genre you are searching for. With the enhanced remote the new Roku 2 XS offers a built-in accelerometer and gyro so you can play games with just a flick of your wrist. **Starting at \$49, roku.com**



Braun BN10 Digital Watch

Reflective of their classic watches of the past, Braun timepieces just launched the new BN10 digital watch, developed and made in Germany. This remarkable timepiece has a completely new movement system. The BN10 uses a battery-operated digital module and the patented EasySkroll® v2.0 operating system, so a single scrolling device controls all the watch functions. The BN10 has the best negative display ever made, achieving a degree of clarity that is superior to any other. The BN10 is water resistant to 3 bar and is available in a stainless steel or black version with the choice of a rubber strap as well as metal bracelets. **Steel \$680, Rubber \$600, braun-watches.com**



Nikon 1

From Nikon, a company with more than 75 years in imaging excellence, the Nikon 1 J1 is an advanced camera with interchangeable lenses that opens the door to a fresh way to capture pictures and High Definition (HD) movies. This Nikon 1 system represents a new category of camera that challenges conventional thinking, emphasizing a pocketable form factor with unbelievable speed, combined with the high image quality that only Nikon could create. You can unleash your creativity with a camera that offers a balance of high performance, advanced features, portability and a newly designed interchangeable lens system. A camera so versatile you can even snap photos while recording movies! **\$650 to \$900, nikonusa.com**



iHome iW1 AirPlay Speaker System

Play your music, in any room, wirelessly. With a slick, minimal design, iHome's iW1 is an elegant element of Apple's innovative AirPlay technology. With a home Wi-Fi network, you can stream music from iTunes, iPod Touch, iPhone, and iPad. Setup is easy by using the free downloadable iHome Connect app. **\$300, ihome.com**

Tied to a Tradition of Classic Style

R. Paudice

by V. HOANG

Renato Paudice began his career focusing on neck ties which he believes to be the accessory jewel worn by men of prestige. Within a couple of years of starting his business, his designs were available in all the major cities of Italy and Japan. He has recently expanded into scarves made of cashmere and other innovative fabrics, along with handmade poplin cotton shirts.

What inspires you?

What inspires me is to continue the tradition of extreme quality. I would like to emphasize the importance of detail and fabric. I enjoy making timeless pieces that can be passed down father to son and continue having value and meaning. My collection is traditional in the fact that I do all my pieces completely by hand and make sure only the finest quality of fabric is used. At the same time, I am modern with my designs and fantasies.

Who is the R. Paudice man?

R. Paudice man is a guy who is adventurous and classic at the same time. He is a very detail oriented person who takes pleasure in noticing and appreciating beauty. He is very individualistic and likes to stand out. He loves color and since he comes from a city such as Naples that is so vibrant and beautiful that it reflects his inspiration and personality.

What's your goal with this collection?

I like to emphasize timeless pieces and inspire others to appreciate and understand quality. My collection speaks for itself in the sense that the quality of my products is evident. In addition, I would like people to experience the feeling of wearing something that has such a beautiful feel. I want people to enjoy wearing my products since so much love and creativity was put into making them. Each one of my items is made with such care and excitement, and each item is unique and individualistic. My products have souls.



Designer Renato Paudice
For more information, visit paudicenapoli.com



Does the R. Paudice aesthetic reflect your own personal style sensibility?

Absolutely. My product reflects the person that I am which is classic yet modern, individualistic yet traditional, sentimental yet strong. My product is also the true taste of Italy. The most important thing is that my products are for dreamers, for people who still take the time to enjoy life and appreciate its beauty.

Do you think there are differences in how Italian and American men dress?

Generally, what I notice is that American guys have a wild side but in the way they dress they like to play safe. It seems like they follow a brand. The Italian man is very individualistic and loves to stand out at the same time. They also stay classic in the fact that they are very picky and want good quality. There is also a difference in the selection of color; American men seem to like more pastels where Italians love strong colors.

What are your three favorite pieces for the fall?

My three favorite pieces for fall are my unisex scarf that is blue and grey, my denim shirt, and my polka dot brown and white tie. It is so hard to pick only three pieces.

If you weren't a designer, what would you be?

If I was not a designer I would have been a professional accountant. In fact, I started out as an accountant in Italy but since I would always wear such unique pieces to work everyone would tell me that I was a designer instead. I think that being a designer is in my DNA. It runs in my family and it is my destiny, as well.

Plan a Trip, or Imagine You Are On One

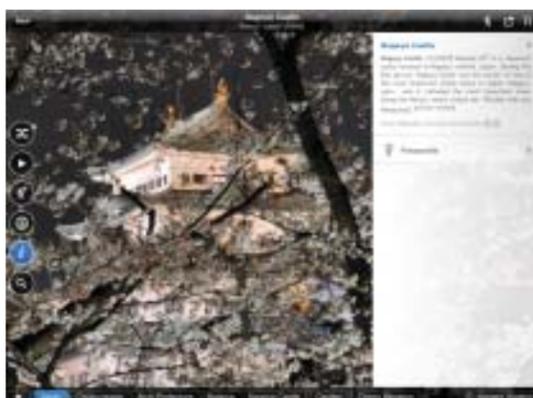
Japan by Phone

The latest of Fotopedia's globe-trotting photography apps comes from Japan, filled with more than 1,000 images from the Land of the Rising Sun. Like Fotopedia's other international image apps, Fotopedia Japan brings users an intimate look at another country and its culture through images.



Fotopedia Japan
Available for the iPhone and iPad at the iTunes App Store Free

Fotopedia Japan includes a number of features in addition to its many photos. Social media integration means you can share your favorites with your friends online, and you can also view the app's shots in slideshows or turn them into wallpapers for your devices. Fotopedia Japan also includes interactive maps and a trip builder component that lets you plan a trip to Japan with the app's help. With this app, you can sample the beauty and diversity of Japan's culture as if you were there. The only difference may be that this app is free, while a trip to Japan isn't.



Wines Around the World

Held at New Gallery

Photos by Mitchell Alexander

The United Nations Association – Houston (UNA) held their annual *Wines Around the World* benefit on September 23 to raise awareness and funds for humanitarian projects. This year the UNA supported the good work of CAMSA (Coalition to Abolish Modern- Slavery in Asia). CAMSA's mission is to end all forms of human trafficking. Attendees had a chance to taste a variety of wines from all over the world while enjoying the artwork at the New Gallery.



Jannette Diep, Jen Hoang, Monica Nguyen, Kate Nguyen



Coung Phan, Habib Chamoun, Teta V. Banks



Tan Tran, Annie Trinh

The Land of Lagniappe

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Just a short distance from Houston and New Orleans awaits L'Auberge du Lac, a luxury resort where you'll find more "mmm" at the restaurants and additional "aah" in the spa. And of course extra "ooh" in the casino, in the form of brand new midi baccarat and Pai Gow poker. Not to mention 1,600 slot machines and over 60 table games. It's that "little something extra" we call Lagniappe. And it's only at L'Auberge du Lac.

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Dr. Benson Tran, Kristina Ngo



Guest, Joanne Houck



Monica Aleman, Umar Suhail

The Sweet Smell of Gift-Giving Success

Sensual Scents

Why worry about the right size or color, when a fragrance can be the perfect holiday gift. And with all the glistening and glitter, it's almost as if you are giving jewelry in addition to the magic potions enclosed. Our olfactory elves have gathered up some of the newest spectacular scents of the season to help you give the perfect gift this year.



Jimmy Choo

Imagine femininity, luxury, and style bottled. Inspired by modern women (and already a top seller for 2011), the new fragrance from Jimmy Choo has luminous green top notes, a heart of rich and exotic Tiger Orchid, and the lingering sensual base notes of sweet toffee and Indonesian patchouli.

2 oz. Eau de Parfum Natural Spray, \$70
Saks Fifth Avenue



Fendi Fan di Fendi

A radiant floral scent resting on a leather base, this wildly exciting eau de parfum pays tribute to Fendi's expertise with materials such as fur and leather—plus the arty, rock and festive spirit that defines Fendi.

1 oz. Eau de Parfum Spray, \$56
Sephora



Prada Candy

Named "Best Sweet Scent" for Allure magazine's "Best of Beauty", Prada Candy is Prada's new feminine fragrance that is colorful and explosive.

1.7 oz. Eau de Parfum Spray, \$80
Neiman Marcus



Gucci Guilty Intense

The new Intense adds a twist to Gucci Guilty, making it more provocative and more sensual. Guilty Intense is a warm yet striking oriental floral, which opens to a natural rush of mandarin and fist of pink pepper.

1 oz. Eau de Parfum Spray, \$61
Sephora



Bottega Veneta

Master perfumers Michel Almairac and Amandine Marie have composed a singular fragrance that is a complex and abstract mix of plum and pink pepper, with a strong note of Sambac jasmine.

1.7 oz. Eau de Parfum, \$95
Neiman Marcus exclusive



Coach Signature

Inspired by the Coach Signature collection, this fragrance evokes a sense of classic luxury. Mandarin, guava, and the exclusive scent of Gant Waterlily sparkle, followed by a feminine bouquet of jasmine, mimosa, and tuberose.

1 oz. Eau de Toilette Spray, \$48
Sephora



Michael Kors Gold Limited Edition

Gold is always luxurious, always glamorous, always commands attention. This fragrance brings together iconic yet complementary scents, with exquisitely alluring notes of magnolia and freesia blended with delicate violet flowers for a brilliant sparkle.

1 oz. Eau de Parfum Spray, \$48
Sephora



Burberry Body

In this fragrance, an eclectic composition of fruity-chypre notes envelopes the body, creating a suggestion of effortless seduction. The base is woody cashmeran and creamy vanilla with amber and musk.

1.1 oz. Eau de Parfum, \$55
Sephora



Estée Lauder Sensuous Nude

Estée Lauder Sensuous Nude is a new dimension in sensuality for today's woman. Modern, intimate, and feminine, wrapped in sultry woods and musks, delicate muguet, Sicilian bergamot and baie rose.

1 oz. Eau de Parfum, \$52
Macy's

Chinese Community Center of Houston *Starry Starry Night* Gala

Held at Westin Galleria

Photos by Melissa Chou Yan, Mitchell Alexander

The Chinese Community Center of Houston held its 32nd Anniversary Fundraising Gala on November 5, 2011, at the Westin Galleria Grand Ballroom. The theme was *Starry Starry Night, Celebrating East Meets West*, honoring outstanding Asian individuals who exemplify "East Meets West" through their dedication, commitment and enrichment of the performing arts. The event raised \$300,000 which will be used by the CCC to serve the growing needs for social services in Houston's Asian communities.

Gala chairs Dr. and Mrs. Jarvis Cheung and Board chair Marylynn Kallina-Matthews welcomed nearly 600 guests and supporters at the gala. Dignitaries and distinguished guests included Houston Mayor Annise Parker, Chinese Consul General Xu Erwen, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office Director Joseph Chen, Judge Theresa Chang, Judge Steven Kirkland, Sugar Land Mayor Pro-tem Jacquie Chaumette, and many community, business and academic leaders and representatives from various charitable foundations. Mayor Parker presented University of Houston student Van Diep a Memorial Scholarship in honor of the late Helen Chang, who served not only as a CCC board member, but also as Director of International Trade and Development during four mayoral administrations.



Van Diep, Mayor Annise Parker



Mary Lee, Chi-mei Lin



Gina Jarvis Cheung, Marylynn Kallina-Matthews



Karen Hsieh, Judy Yuan, Jean Liao



Gina Cheung, Joyce Eng



Tim Shen, Alice Huang, Donna Shen



Jun Shuang Huang, Xiao-Chen Chen



Francine Cheng, Grace Chi, Jessica Tsao



Kevin Tran, James Tao, Andrew Cheng



Jean Ho, Charlene Chuang



Linda Wu, Judy Yuan



Cho-Liang Lin, Helen Sung, Angel Lam



Francine Cheng, Li Yi, Ailie Chang, An Ly



Vican & Stephanie Tan, Daisy Wong



Tammy Su, Jacquie Baly Chaumette, Mandy Kao

Girls Playdate

Held at Neiman Marcus Galleria

Photos by Mitchell Alexander

As a prelude to the launch of Katherine Le's jewelry line in the spring of 2012, Neiman Marcus and Katherine Le invited Katherine's girlfriends to an evening of endless champagne as they were glamorized by Chanel's make up artists.



Duyen Huynh



Brandy Heckerth, Leslie Hazlewood, Deborah McFarlane, Laura McNear, Katherine Le



Kaitlin Trinh, Donae Chramosta



Gloria McGowen



Chris James, Trang Trinh



Sandy Nikko



Emily Le Saab, Nina Yu, Katherine Le, Phuong Doan



Katherine Le

HOLIDAYS

A Unique Selection of Gifts
for Your Unique Selection of Friends

Gift Ideas for Everyone

Some people are simply difficult to buy for. Or maybe just difficult. Whichever. In either case, here are a few gift options for the individualistic folks in your life.



Chakra Flags Chime
\$65, uncommongoods.com



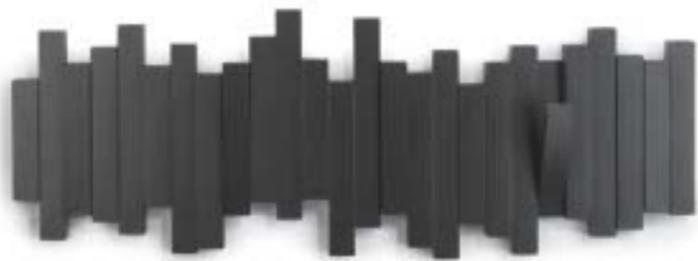
2012 Birth Year Box
\$45, uncommongoods.com



Tiffany Mobile Charm
\$145, tiffany.com



Bamboo Cheeseboard
and Knives
\$30, umbra.com



Umbra Sticks Multihook
\$20, umbra.com



Menagerie Cat
Wine Topper
\$8, umbra.com



Hand Embroidered State Pillows
\$149, uncommongoods.com



Hennessy KAWS Limited Edition
\$30, hennessy.com

TRAVEL

Galveston's Magical Touch
is All New

Bon Voyage!

by HENRI MERCERON

People could not wait to be Marooned at the Port of Galveston earlier last month. In case no one was aware that the island just became the homeport to one of the largest and newest cruise ships on the planet, Carnival hosted a concert by Grammy® winning Maroon 5 on Pier 21 in front of where the gargantuan ship was docked.



Carnival Magic
The new Carnival Magic features a Western Caribbean itinerary including Belize, Cozumel, and Montego Bay, and an Eastern Caribbean itinerary featuring Key West, Freeport and Nassau, Bahamas.

carnival.com

There is a vacation and recreation renaissance brewing in the bay south of Houston. Two months ago, Carnival's Triumph began voyages, followed by Royal Caribbean's Mariner and Carnival's brand-new Magic in November. Disney will launch its own Magic in September 2012, which will be followed by the Crown Princess in December.

Like the Phoenix rising from the ashes, cruise ships such as the Carnival Magic are lifting Galveston from the devastation wrought by Hurricane Ike. Magic is of particular significance because it is the largest cruise ship to be based out of Galveston year round. Together with the company's Triumph which regularly docks in Galveston, the two ships will book an additional 100,000 passengers next year for a total of 450,000 and have a combined economic impact in excess of \$10 million. It is no wonder that the Port of Galveston invested \$12.5 million to upgrade its facilities to accommodate a ship of the size of Magic.

The ship can accommodate 3,690 passengers and will sail to the Caribbean and Mexico for weeklong cruises. In between ports, passengers will enjoy such features as the WaterWorks aqua park with a 312 foot long water slide, the massive two deck Cloud 9 spa, an elevated ropes course and a miniature golf course. Of particular interest to many will be the Caribbean-themed RedFrog Pub that features Carnival's proprietary Thirsty Frog Red Ale that was so popular that it is now available on all of the company's ships. Be forewarned, you need not be thirsty to absolutely crave this beverage. It is that good.



Sipping the Sparkling Stars
for the Holidays

Splendidly Effervescent

by PHILIP CUISIMANO

"Come quickly, I am drinking the stars!" exclaimed the French Benedictine Monk, Dom Perignon, upon his production of the very first sparkling wine. While untrue, the story is romantic, and the success of the fable as a marketing tool is evident in that one of the most revered and most recognized brands of sparkling wine is from the house of Moët & Chandon, Dom Perignon.

California produces the best American sparkling wines but you can also find quality offerings from Oregon, New Mexico and New York.

What is not a myth is that there is more sparkling wine consumed in December than any other period, with enormous amounts raised in toasts during the holiday season. This wine lends itself to special occasions for many good reasons. Consider that sparkling wines are typically delicious, sleek and elegant and accompany most types of food, and the bubbles afford a certain touch of stylish hedonism. However, for all its romantic evocation, sparkling wine is merely table wine subjected to a second fermentation.

In today's market, you have an abundance of options from which to select your sparkling wine. With this in mind, we will briefly describe a few of the more accessible categories:

Champagne – Champagne is a demarcated area in France and it is where the template for sparkling wine production was first developed, the "Methode Champenoise". In this process, the second fermentation occurs in the bottle, a labor-intensive and costly technique. Only cuvees produced within the defined geographical region and which adhere to the requisite rules and regulations can be labeled as Champagne.

Sparkling Wine – In the seventies through the eighties, American sparkling wines used the term Champagne on their

labels. It was later decided that this appellation should be reserved only for qualified French wines, although there are a few California wineries that were grandfathered in and which may legally continue to use the Champagne designation. California produces the best American sparkling wines but you can also find quality offerings from Oregon, New Mexico and New York. Many of our domestic wines utilize the traditional Methode Champenoise process and will state such on their labels, or denote that "Fermentation Occurred in this Bottle". America also offers quality wines that are produced utilizing alternative fermentation techniques. One such method is the "Charmat Process", in which the secondary fermentation takes place outside the bottle. Wines produced in this manner will also state so on their labels.

Spumante – The Italian word for sparkling is Spumante. Obviously, Italy is remarkably adept at producing all types of wine and they do a fabulous job with Spumante. The best of these is the rare Franciacorta. The wine is from Italy's Lombardy region and is crafted in the traditional French Methode Champenoise style to produce a world class cuvee; if you should come across one, grab it. What is abundantly available here is the very popular sparkling wine, Prosecco. These wines, from the Veneto region, are produced in a variety of styles utilizing both traditional and modern fermentation techniques, resulting in delicious wines at equally delicious prices. Additionally, Italy produces an array of semi-sparkling wines called Frizzante, including the charming Moscato d'Asti and Brachetto d'Acqui from the Piemonte area.

Cava – Spain produces outstanding sparkling wines called Cava. These wines are crafted in the Methode Champenoise style and provide great quality at very attractive prices. In fact, I can think of no other grouping of sparkling wine that provides a bigger bang for the buck.



Wine of the Month

Schramsberg Blanc de Blanc Brut

This is one of my favorite California wines, produced in the "Method Champagne" process with only white grapes; the cuvee is full-bodied, luscious and rich in flavors of traditional "Grand Champagne". The wine also has both an historic and cultural significance, as President Richard Nixon carried it with him on his ground breaking visit to China in 1972 to offer a "Toast to Peace" in Beijing with Premier Chou En-Lai. \$34.00

Wines available at Spec's Wines, Spirits, & Finer Foods, various locations. Visit specsonline.com for the store nearest you.

Dining Guide

Yellow Magazine's featured restaurants

JAPANESE

Tokyo One

7465 W. Greens Rd., 281.955.8898
2938 W. Sam Houston S., 713.785.8899
Tokyo One is a sushi buffet restaurant, situated in a fancy boat house with an outside deck. The food is fresh and is constantly replenished. Selections include: salads such as sea weed, beef, squid, salmon and watercress. Sushi includes a variety of rolls and sashimi.

Zushi Japanese Cuisine

5900 Memorial Dr., 713.861.5588
Zushi serves extremely fresh and high quality sushi. Stand out items are the sashimi appetizers served with perfectly paired sauces or any one of the many house specialty rolls.

Uptown Sushi

1131 Uptown Park Blvd. #14 713.871.1200
Uptown Sushi personifies an upscale sushi restaurant located near the Galleria in the swanky Uptown Park Plaza. The menu offers Japanese fusion dishes and a great selection of high-end sashimi and sushi. Side note: Uptown Sushi has "off-the-menu" specialty rolls served daily!

CHINESE

Auntie Chang's

2621 South Shepherd #290, 713.524.8410
Auntie Chang's offers the most flavorful home-style Chinese cuisine around. Although known for their dumplings, any of your favorite classic Chinese dishes are done extremely well.

Hong Kong Food Street

9750 Bellaire Blvd., 713.981.9888
Peking duck and roasted pork hang from cleavers in a front window display giving a Hong Kong street market feel. In addition, the menu is divided into sections including Seafood, Hot Pot, Special Stir Fry, Sizzling and Chef Specials.

San Dong Noodle House

9938-F Bellaire Blvd., 713.271.3945
Authentic hand pulled Chinese noodle dishes are served at a reasonable price. A few favorites include the Roast Beef Noodle soup served in a beef broth accented by ginger and soy, or the oh so addicting pan fried dumplings.

Sinh Sinh

9788 Bellaire Blvd., 713.541.0888
The seafood at Sinh Sinh is quite exciting because everything served comes from live tanks. Prawns, Australian king lobster, King crabs, Coral Leopard trout, Surf clams, Geoduck clams, Trunk clams, Elephant clams, etc...are all featured as live seafood.

THAI

Thai Spice

8282 Bellaire Blvd. 713.777.4888
Thai Spice on Bellaire is a foodies dream. It's a casual place that serves Thai dishes you won't find anywhere else in Houston, with a huge selection of interesting, rare, tasty dishes at excellent prices. A must have is the whole fried tilapia with hot and sour dipping sauce and papaya salad and Tom Yum soup.

Nit Noi

6700 Woodway Pkwy., Suite 580
281.597.8200
Nit Noi means "a little bit" and Thai food lovers pack Nit Noi restaurants and cafes all around Houston. Nit Noi will always be known for their Pad Thai, but other must try dishes include Pad Thai Korat (flat noodles stir-fried with chicken, pork or shrimp with vegetables) and Tom Yum Goong (spicy and sour shrimp soup).

Tony Thai

10613 Bellaire Blvd., 281.495.1711
A sophisticated approach to traditional Thai cuisine, Tony's executes with perfect balance and pizzazz. Tony's Wings, wet or dry, and the Steamed Mussels are popular appetizers. For the main course try the Basil Lamb, Garlic Salmon or the Steamed Fish with Chili.

INDIAN

Kiran's Restaurant

4100 Westheimer Rd. #151, 713.960.8472
This northern Indian style restaurant embodies a fusion approach to its cuisine. With a focus on well balanced flavors rather than spice, the Flaky Halibut Swimming in Watermelon Curry sauce and the Tandoori Platter typify this perfectly.

VIETNAMESE

Kim Son Restaurants

2001 Jefferson (and other locations),
713.222.2461
The menu is the most imposing part of this casual, highly regarded landmark Vietnamese restaurant. There are no poor choices among the 100 or so options. Enjoy finely prepared delicacies as well as the expected fare, such as the pork vermicelli and fried eggroll. Must try is their black pepper softshell crab. Special event facilities available.

Vietopia

5176 Buffalo Speedway, 713.664.7303
Trendy yet elegant, Vietopia delivers top notch Vietnamese cuisine at reasonable lunch prices and a stellar dinner menu. The lounge works perfectly for those who want a less formal dining experience but still want to enjoy quality food.

Mo Mong

1201 Westheimer Rd. #B, 713.524.5664
This Trendy Montrose establishment has a great lunch crowd as well as a packed martini night on Wednesdays. But the real draw is the food-traditional family recipes mixed in with some tasty modern dishes. Must try items include the Mango Spring Rolls, Shrimp and Avocado Spring Roll, Volcano Chicken, and the Bo Luc Lac.

CONTINENTAL

Voice Restaurant & Lounge

Hotel Icon, 220 Main, 832.667.4470
The impressive décor has thoughtfully transformed the space of an old bank lobby into a warm cozy and elegant dining area. Try the Mushroom Soup "Cappuccino", reduction of garlic, onion, crimini mushrooms topped with frothy truffle foam, and the Bryan Farms Roast Chicken, a free range and 100% corn fed chicken.

Colombe d'Or Restaurant and Hotel

3410 Montrose Blvd. 713.524.7999
Built in 1923 and originally the mansion of Walter Fondren, one of the founders of Humble Oil, Colombe d'Or Hotel is considered a Texas historical landmark. Featuring French and Continental fare, we recommend the Carre d'Agneau, individual rack of baby lamb grilled with natural herbs and red wine sauce.

"America's Ethnic Restaurant"-- Bon Appetite



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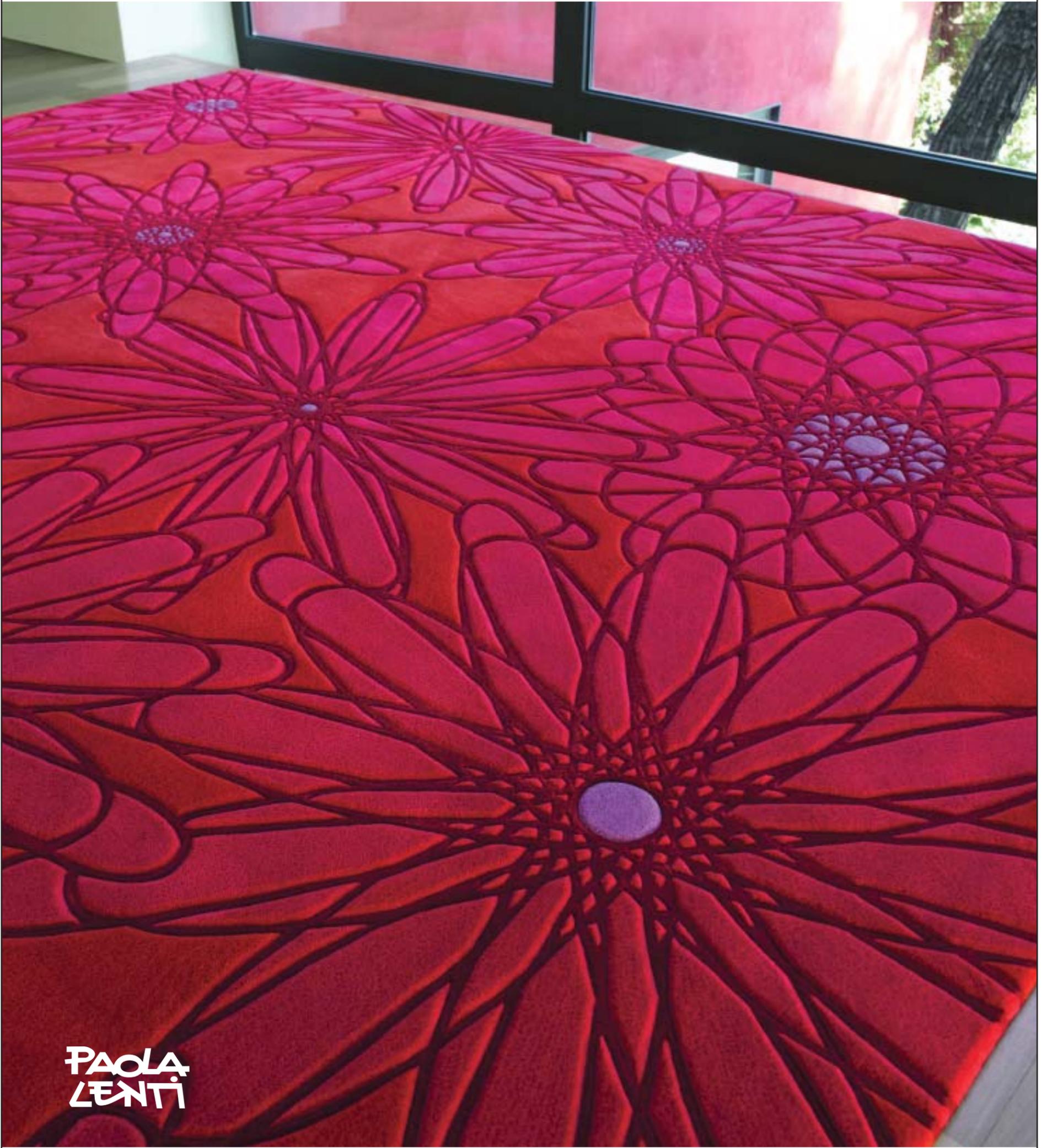
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MAGAZINE



**PAOLA
LENTI**

DAISY RUG
Design by Paola Lenti

The relief design of this hand tufted rug is created by chiselling the surface of the wool. The pattern features intricate floral designs, whose outlines are lower than the background field. This design requires the combination of four different colors; background field, the design, the design outline, and the design center. Over 100 colors to choose from.

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