

The Ultimate
Vancouver
Shopping
Guide



9 Vancouver Designers
YOU NEED TO KNOW
& THEIR FAVE SHOPPING PICKS

50+ Gifts you want
to give (and get)

WITH
YOUR
HOST
**Susie
Wall**



LOCAL CELEBS SHARE THE **BEST** AND **WORST**
CHRISTMAS GIFTS THEY'VE GIVEN AND GOT

Talking Shopping

with Susie Wall

STYLE EXPERT SUSIE WALL DISHES
ON THE BEST OF VANCOUVER FASHION

Whether she's covering the red carpet or dropping off her kids at school, Susie Wall does it in style. Inheriting her mom's appreciation of fashion at a young age ("It was impossible to get \$40 out of our mom for dinner and a movie but she'd say yes to a \$400 cashmere school blazer"), Wall kicked off her glamorous career in the film industry in the '90s. Since then, the mother of two has built her brand as a fashion insider, interviewing Hollywood's hottest stars for *eTalk*, appearing as the weekly style editor for *Chatelaine* on *Breakfast Television* and writing a weekly column for *The Province* newspaper. Most recently, Wall has signed on as a fashion personality for national TV talk show *Cityline* and will serve on the nominations committee for the Canadian Arts and Fashion Awards. *BCLiving* caught up with the style maven to get her picks for Vancouver's best shopping, the hottest local designers and the most stylish Vancouverites (spoiler alert: they're guys).

STORY BY *Janine Verreault*
PHOTOGRAPHY BY *venturi + karpa*

For more of Susie's shopping exclusives download the BCLiving iPad app

Favourite places to shop in Vancouver

"I'm a style ambassador and blogger for **Oakridge Centre** so I spend a lot of time there. I also love **misch**, **Basquiat**, **Rebecca Bree**, **One of a Few**, **LYNNSteven** and **Gravity Pope**. My absolute favourite shop is **Bacci's**. A friend and I joined owner Andrea Molnar at Paris Fashion Week a couple of years ago and she'd never admit it but she has rock-star status in that city. It was amazing to see someone so humble be so appreciated beyond South Granville."

Favourite Vancouver fashion designers

"**Mandula**, **Dace**, **Obakki** and **Isabelle Dunlop**. For jewelry, **Shereen de Rousseau** and **Liselott Montesano** (co-owner of **Basquiat**) and for leather goods, **Erin Templeton** and **Lloyd & Wolf**. They're all visionaries, no question, but they've also learned how to thrive in a super unique landscape when it comes to their craft. They live and work here for the same reasons we all do – for the love of this lifestyle we have going on, which is an exchange for not necessarily being in a fashion epicentre."

Up-and-coming Vancouver designers to watch

"I think the **Party Skirts** girls are adorable, but they also have serious gravitas. A lot of start-up brands could learn from their business model. I would also include swimwear designer **Beth Richards**, as well as Parsons grad **Taran Cheema**, **Wing Yau** of **WWake**, **Eliza Faulkner** and scarf aficionado **Mona Sultan**."

SUSIE'S SECRETS

A PIECE EVERY WOMAN SHOULD HAVE IN HER CLOSET

The absolutely perfect party dress. Pull that baby on and you feel beyond fantastic in a flash.

FASHION RULE YOU BREAK

I don't dress for my size. I'll wear a giant gender-bender men's overcoat one day and something much more tailored the next.

ONE MUST-HAVE TREND FOR FALL

Just one? No! I'm super into the borrowed-from-the-boys message. And thanks to my Scottish DNA I'll forever be in love with tweeds and tartans – whether they're hip or not.

BEST CLOSET-ORGANIZING TIP

Black, slim-line flocked hangers from London Drugs. They look sleek and you'll double your hanging space.

BEST CHRISTMAS SHOPPING TIP

Go it alone.

BEST BOXING DAY SHOPPING TIP

Easy. Don't do it.

CELINE FALL/WINTER 2013/14



Vancouver celebrities with the best style

"Well, style is really a combination of overall cool factor. It's clothing, but it's also character, so I'm going with Michael Bublé and Steve Nash on this one."

On American stores like Nordstrom and Victoria's Secret entering Vancouver's retail market

"You know what? I think it's fantastic. Competition keeps us sharp. And while I'm not anti-U.S. shopping in any way (some of my most coveted pieces were bought in L.A. and New York), at least we'll be heading downtown instead of down south."

The perfect Vancouver shopping day

"I'd cruise around Gastown, Railtown or Crosstown and hit shops like **One of a Few**, **Oak + Fort**, **Inform**, **Provide**, **The Block**, **Old Faithful**. I'd have wine at **Salt Tasting Room** and then do dinner at **L'Abattoir**, or I'd head over to **Hawksworth**. David [Hawksworth] told me he'd let me intern in his kitchen, and I'm holding him to it. He warned me I'd have to wear kitchen whites. No giant heels and drama tops? It might be a deal-breaker." ■

Styling Luisa Rino Makeup Cindy Leyland Hair Joyce Pong at Suki's Location Misch Boutique THIS PAGE: Susie wears Carven sweater and Boy pencil skirt both available at Misch boutique. Browns ankle boots from Browns boutiques. Necklaces by Liselott available at Basquiat. Maria Rosa rings from Bacci. Cause We Care wood bead and turquoise bracelet at causewecare.org Shereen de Rousseau bracelets at shereenderousseau.com FACING PAGE: Susie wears R13 camo denim pant from Misch boutique. Smythe plaid blazer available at Holt Renfrew and avenuek.com. Acne Studios "Nova" floral pump is at Gravity Pope Tailored Goods Rick Owens tank is at Bacci.