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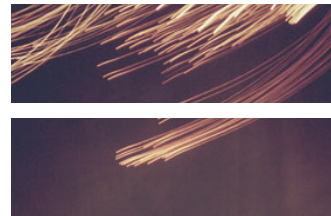
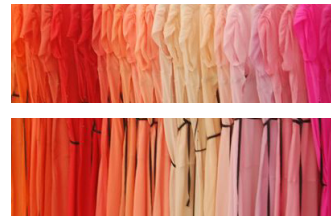
curating the steps from M.S. to MRS.



CALIFORNIA DREAMING

meet the west coast wedding super team

NOVEMBER | DECEMBER 2010



5 WEDDING NOTES

Notes from the editor.

6 *the* ENTREPRENEUR

Nikole Grace is carving a niche for herself selling hand-crafted goods.

8 *the* FOODIES

Sunday Suppers are cooking up perfectly presented cuisines.

10 CALIFORNIA DREAMING

The Flashdance are lighting up the west coast wedding market.

14 *the* PAPER MAVEN

Betsy Dunlap shares the secrets to her lovely hand-lettering.

17 THE INSPIRATION GUIDE

MRS. presents The Inspiration Guide for the especially unique bride.

30 SAY I DO TO J.CREW

J.Crew's merchant prince, Mickey Drexler breaks through with bridal.

34 *the* WONDERS OF THE WEST

Discover adventurous honeymoon destinations in America's Great West.

39 *let them eat* CHOCOLATE

Mary & Matt's Chocolate Editions hit the sweet spot for table favors.

42 CALENDAR GIRL

The MRS. step-by-step calendar for planning the perfect party.

CONGRATULATIONS

on your engagement.

welcome to MRS. magazine

We wanted to take the time to personally thank you for picking up the pilot issue of MRS. magazine. We are delighted to introduce the newest bridal magazine, crafted especially for the unique bride—a bride who knows what she wants in a wedding, with a little inspiration along the way. Each month we carefully curate a selection of features and articles each month to help guide the seemingly endless decisions involved in planning a wedding. This magazine, pares down the millions of wedding options out there into a catalogue of the “best-of-the-best.” We’ve done the research, so the hard part’s done. In this pilot issue, and every issue to follow, our goal remains the same, to provide exceptionally unique vendor resources and sources for inspiration that go beyond the traditional or trendy. Every bride wants her wedding to be an extension of her and her partner’s personalities and to embody the love and spirit of the relationship in the event. We are here to help you get there. We provide inspiration and guidance for all stages of wedding planning, from the moment you’re engaged, to the day you take the steps down the aisle, and for all the days that follow.

This month’s issue highlights teams of wedding specialists who help bring the party to life. In California, the Flashdance, a super-group of vendors based in Los Angeles lend their talents to every spectrum of event planning—from music, to styling, photography and videography. Three talented women in the field, Nikole Herriot of Herriot Grace, Karen Mordechai of Sunday Suppers, and Betsy Dunlap of Betsy Dunlap Calligraphy, share their secrets to their success and offer suggestions for stand-out event styling and invitation design. A step-by-step, pull-out calendar outlines necessary decisions, approximate timelines for when they should be made, and resources to help you make them. Budget friendly bridal-wear with design details fit for couture gowns is finally available in the J.Crew bridal line. We interview the man who made it happen, Mickey Drexler, J.Crew’s “merchant prince,” and CEO. Honeymoon ideas abound in America’s great west, eight wonders of the west are profiled, offering suggestions for the sight-seer and the adventurer. Finally, Mary & Matt’s Chocolate Editions round out this issue with solutions for perfectly sweet table favors.

So, thanks again for picking up our little guide to great wedding planning. We hope it provides insight toward all of the amazingly creative wedding vendors, specialists, stylists (the list goes on) that exist outside the sphere of everything traditional!

XOXO.



Jessica Karle editor, with her fiancé a few months after their engagement.



the ENTREPRENEUR

Blogger and web-retailer Nikole Herriot turned her father's love of wood into a booming business.

Three Sundays each month, Nikole Herriot arrives at Toronto's Antique Market at an hour when most young women are still sleeping off Saturday night's cocktails. Meandering among the Victoriana, '50's moderne, and architectural salvage, the stylish entrepreneur is on the hunt for inspiration—the right swatch of color, a unique texture or an exquisitely made item she can incorporate into product photos for her online store, Herriott Grace.

"I'm lucky to be able to support myself this way," she says. "I have a job that I love, that let's me explore my creative side." Herriot's foray into web retailing started with a love of packages—specifically the ones her parents mailed to her when she left British Columbia, first to apprentice as a pastry chef and later to study political science and international relations at the University of Toronto (she will finish her degree this summer). Her father, Lance, would always include something he'd made in his workshop, a wooden bowl or spoon. Last November she began selling her father's hand carved crafts online. "I'd always wanted to run

"ONE DAY, THE LIGHT BULB WENT OFF. WHEN YOU HOLD A SPOON THAT HAS BEEN CARVED BY HAND, IT IS JUST SO DIFFERENT TO THE TOUCH THAN ANYTHING ELSE OUT THERE."

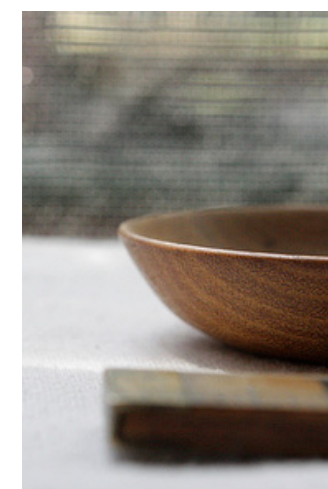
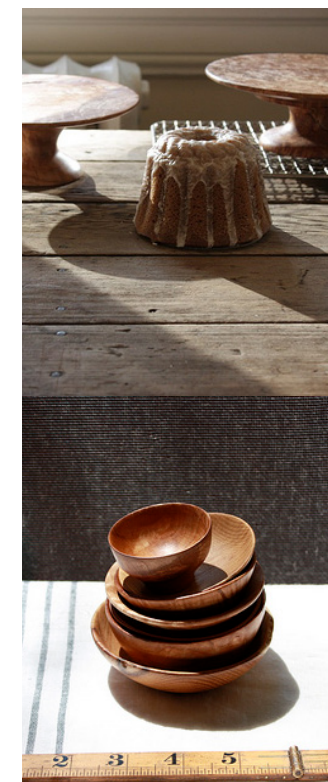
my own business," says Herriot. "One day, the light bulb went off. When you hold a spoon that has been carved by hand, it is just so different to the touch than anything else out there. I just knew that were other people who would appreciate that." Today, she sells out her entire inventory within two to 24 hours whenever she posts a batch of new products from the line that has expanded from spoons and salad sets to include cheeseboards, cake pedestals and rolling pins carved from chemical-free wood. They share virtual shelf grace with cloud-shaped cookie cutters Herriot designed. Every item is styled and photographed for the website by Herriot herself, efforts that led to lots of kudos and a nod in Martha Stewart 2009 Holiday Gift Guide.

Herriot owes much of the success of her online business to her blog, Forty-sixth at Grace, which she started in 2006. The blog began as a way for her to keep track of products and designs she admired, but she gained a strong following when her writing

evolved into a signature poetry-prose style. "I started to be more me," she says—and she incorporated her own recipes and styling. Today she still blogs and runs her business from a 390-square foot apartment. She's excited about finishing her degree and having more time to develop her brand.

"I want to be a better writer, a better stylist, a better businesswoman," she says. "But I never want to change who I am to be successful." When asked what her proudest achievement is, she quickly replies, "I truly feel that I have successfully followed my heart. I first felt a sense of accomplishment when I followed through on my dream of becoming a pastry chef and then when I decided to go back to the university, and of course, when I discovered that I could do them both well."

By Krista Polles



Herriott Grace products include hand-carved cake pedestals, wooden bowls and spoons all made from chemical-free wood.

PHOTOGRAPHY Nikole Herriot
PREVIOUS PAGE John Cole

“WE LOVE THIS BECAUSE IT’S VERY ATTAINABLE FOR EVERY BRIDE, DIY BRIDES TO HIGH-END WEDDING PLANNER EVENTS CAN MOLD THIS IDEA TO FIT WITHIN THEIR BUDGET.”



Event Styling

the FOODIES

Karen Mordechai's nostalgia for communal family dinners led her to establish a food community of her own in Brooklyn.

“I come from a long line of women who often translated their love for life through food,” says New York City wedding photographer Karen Mordechai. “Growing up, my family cooked together and they always sat down to eat Sunday dinner together.”

Nostalgic for the big communal meals of her childhood, Mordechai established her own home-cooking tradition last year, inviting friends to the loft she shares with her husband, Ken Rivera, to make and eat a big Sunday dinner. Eventually, friends of friends began coming, Mordechai started blogging about the feasts, and the casual gathering evolved into an official class, called Sunday Suppers. Now a guest chef comes to the couple’s loft, in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn, each month to teach a small group of people to cook a meal from start to finish.

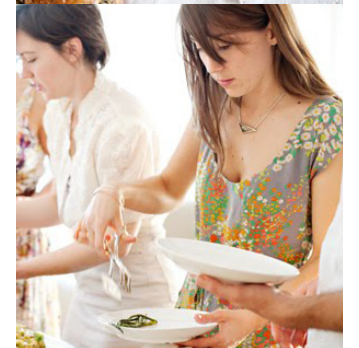
Sunday Suppers participants—some of them friends, others strangers—come to hone their culinary techniques but also to enjoy a great meal with other fellow food lovers. “The local, artisanal food movement has really

taken off here,” says Mordechai, who acts as host and participant, stylist and photographer (she took most of the photos on these pages), at each class. “Sunday Suppers is a natural extension of that movement.”

The dinner’s theme is rustic Italian, but with a look and feel that’s pure Brooklyn. The dishes are made with ingredients from the area’s farmers’ markets and food purveyors. Mordechai’s funky and elegant decorative touches—a wood-framed chalkboard menu, old-fashioned glass carafes and letterpress recipe cards, are gathered from local shops and designers. Even the dinner guest list has a homegrown flair, with people who either live or work, in Brooklyn.

Unlike traditional cooking classes, which can be rigorous affairs, Sunday Suppers has a deliberately loose format—starting with dishes that are approachable enough to accommodate cooks of all levels. “It’s about cooking delicious, simple food that can be prepared and enjoyed with friends.”

By Elizabeth Stalls



Sunday Suppers crafted the presentation of this dinner party with an eye for elegant and approachable styling.

PHOTOGRAPHY Karen Mordechai
PREVIOUS PAGE Sunday Suppers Styling



CALIFORNIA DREAMING

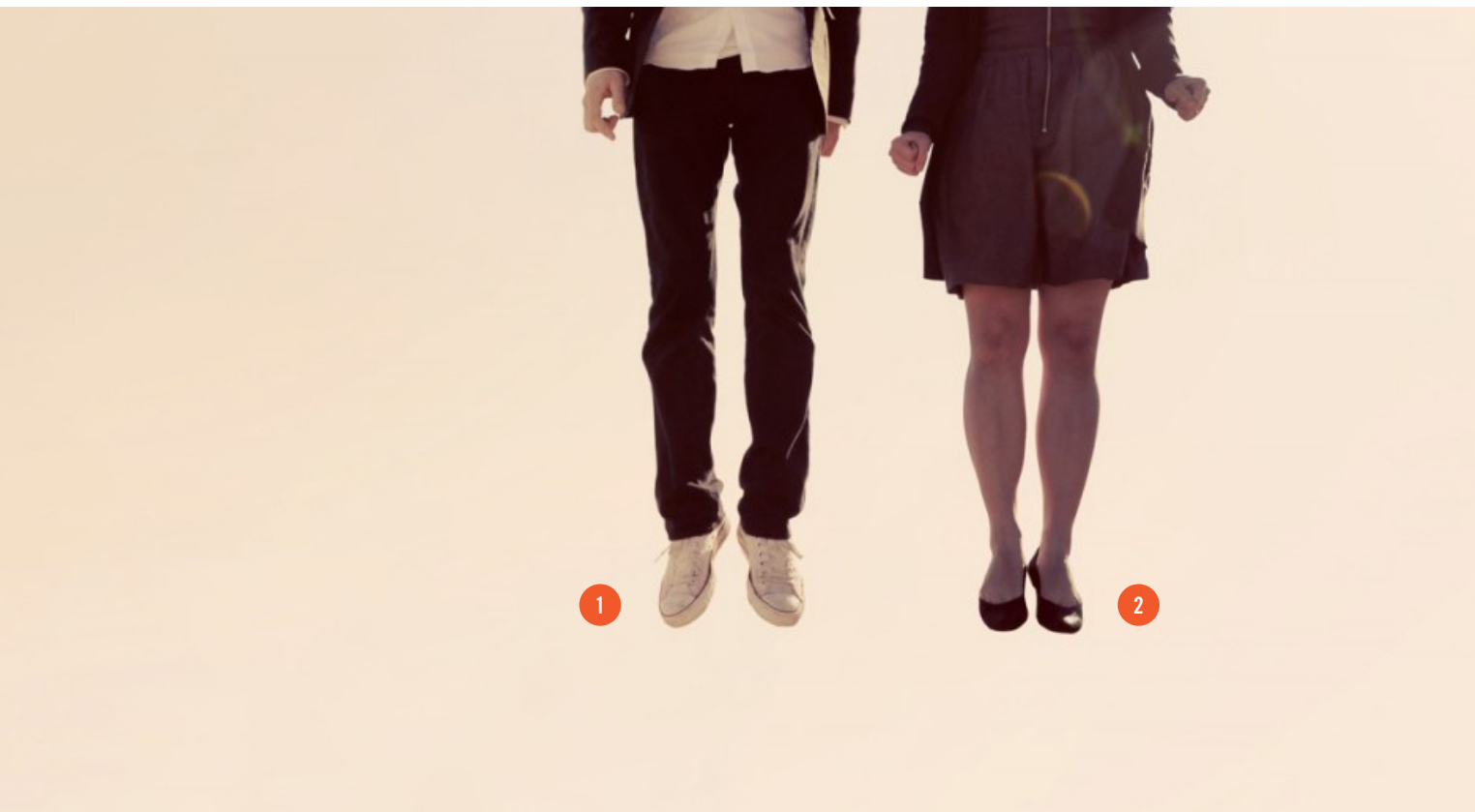
THE FLASHDANCE, THE WEST COAST WEDDING SUPER TEAM, HAS US WISHING WE COULD ALL BE CALIFORNIA GIRLS.

By Jesse Carey

Max Wanger is all over the place, isn't he? For good reason of course. His photography (along with many other amazing photographers, including the photographer and family teams The Flashdance and Our Labor of Love) has reinvented the way people photograph their weddings, and family portraits. The new generation of couples that obsess over music, style, and design are starting to get married, demanding that their personalities and interests shine in their wedding photographs. The Flashdance have tapped into the "personal

wedding" phenomena by teaming up with those they identify with most, their friends. The Flashdance consists of seven creatives—2 couples, (Jess & Whitney Chamberlain, and the recently married, Max & Margaux Wanger), Michael Antonia, Brian Morrow, and Ashley Meaders. The beginnings of their business started almost a decade ago when Whitney and Michael used to throw parties in clubs, theatres, and stadiums around Seattle in the late 90's and early 2000's as a way to showcase the amazing talents of all of their friends. When they

continued next page

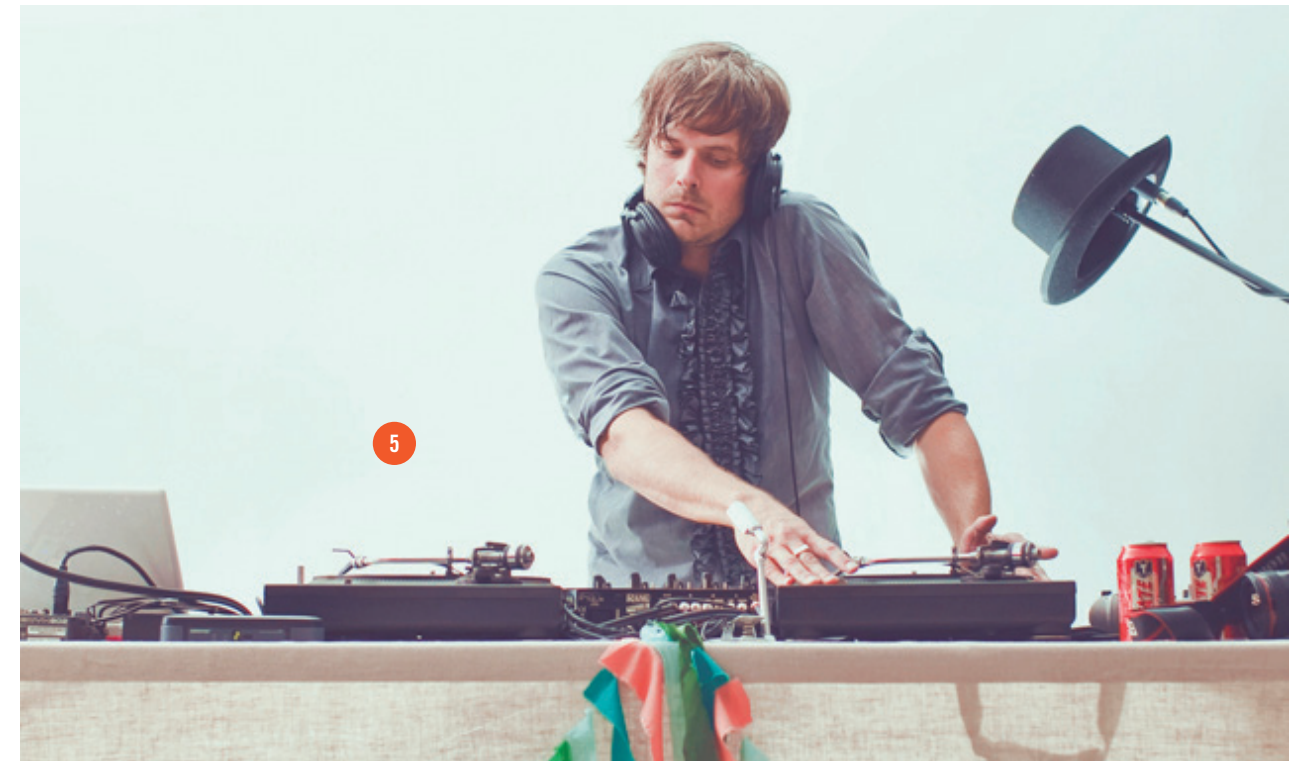


started, Michael's wife would make the flyers, Whitney would design and dress the stage, Whitney's roommate and Michael would DJ, another friend would make custom video projections, etc. Ten years later the budgets have gotten bigger, and the audiences smaller, but they are still doing what they love in a very similar way. Michael's wife is an award-winning art director and designer. Whitney and his wife are award winning photographers, Michael has travelled the world as a DJ, and Michael and Whitney are still plugging away marketing and advertising their incredibly talented friends and family in addition to the art, music, and culture they love. Michael reflects on the team's style, musing, "we are not caught up in temporary trends or fashions, though we are fascinated by them, and we are not bogged down by arrogance and ego. We like house parties, and good art and we combine a DIY aesthetic with award winning production & design."

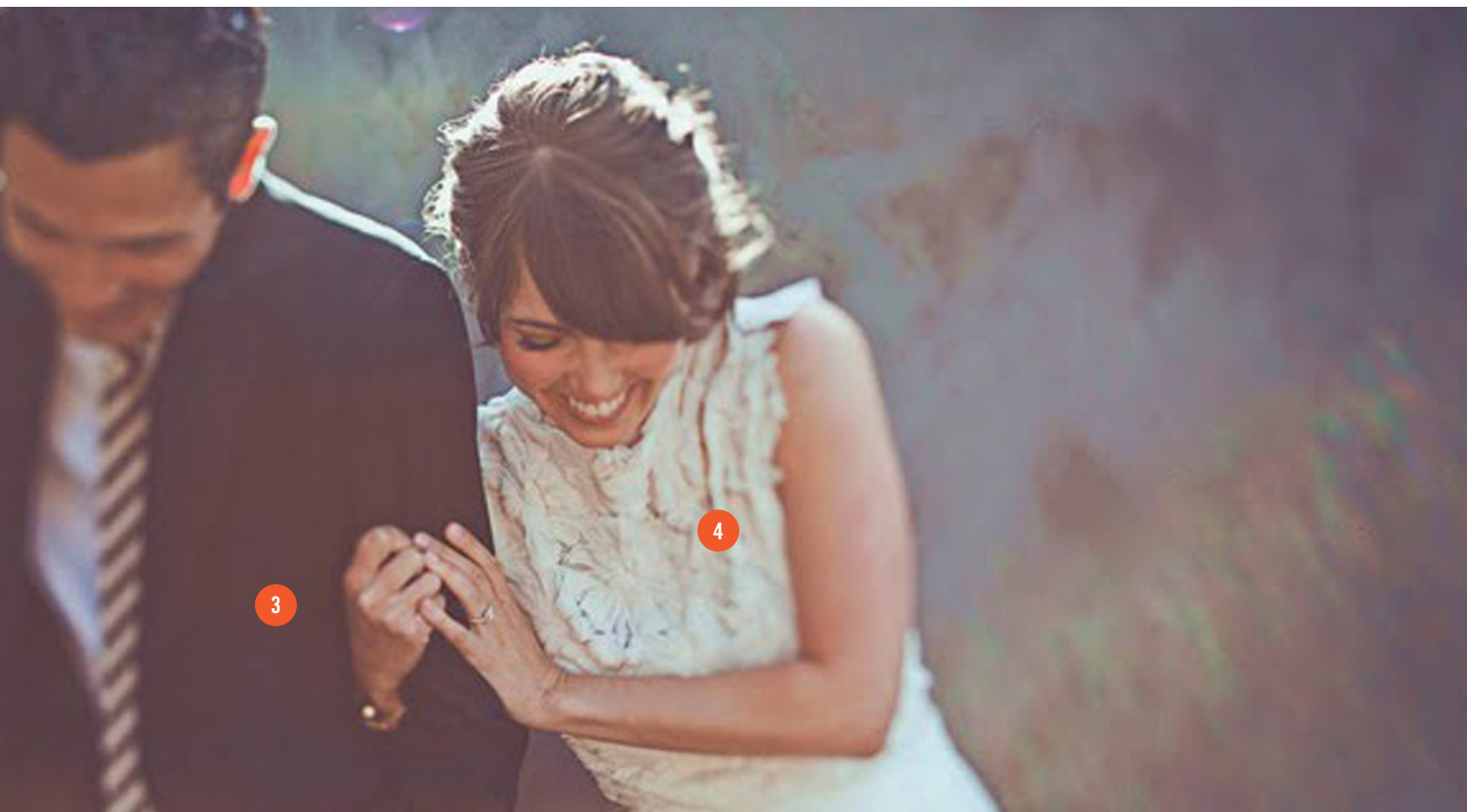
"They say if you love someone you have to let them go, and if they love you they'll come back." The Flashdance has come back together over the past decade in the most amazing way. Whitney and Michael had always dreamed of having their own company together, however, looking for love drove them to the furthest corners of the country,

(Seattle, Atlanta, New York, Los Angeles) and now falling in love has brought them back together. Nearly 10 years later, with families in tow, they are finally doing exactly what they always wanted to do and nobody's telling them how to do it. They've created a photography style that stands apart from the typical, and often banal wedding photos out there. They've worked hard to hone in on what methods result in the most honest and unique wedding photographs. "We truly believe that you and your family celebrations, your friends and your true loves are beautiful, and that the images that represent these milestones should illustrate the pure joy in these moments."

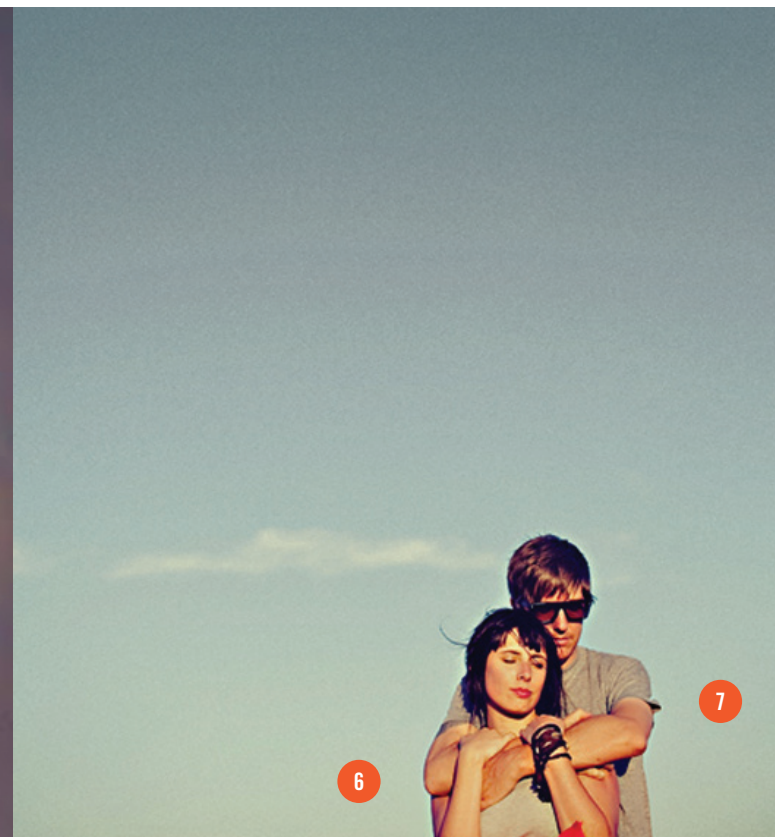
Even though there are seven different voices and styles within the Flashdance line-up, they all agree on one thing—the reason for joining in on the collaborative effort in the first place. "We didn't get into this business because we thought it would be an easy way to earn a buck, we did it because our weddings were the most amazing days of our lives, and so much fun, that we decided to trade in the grind of corporate events, music festivals, and nightclubs, to make love and happiness the biggest part of our lives. We think we made the right choice." We agree and so do the lucky brides who get to work with them.



Above **Michael Antonia** aka The Human Jukebox. Photographed by Our Labor of Love.



Above **Max** and **Margaux Wanger** on their wedding day, Los Angeles, California.



Above **Jesse** and **Whitney Chamberlain**, Joshua Tree, California. Photography by Max Wanger.

THE FLASHDANCE *In a Phrase*

1. BRIAN MORROW – *Sharkpig*

My mission is to make a film about your wedding that is as charming and unique as the day itself; and to approach it creatively with love in my heart, people deserve that on their wedding day.

2. ASHLEY MEADERS – *Ashley Meaders Event Styling*

When I first met Jesse & Whitney, I suspected then, as I've come to know now—these are some really cool and genuine people.

3. MAX WANGER – *Max Wanger Photography*

I love shooting weddings because they bring everything and everyone down to the basics: fear, wonder commitment, ecstasy, laughter, and love.

4. MARGAUX WANGER – *Max Wanger Photography*

It's amazing to be part of this Flashdance family, to be surrounded by such talent, to be able to call everybody friends.

5. MICHAEL ANTONIA – *The Human Jukebox*

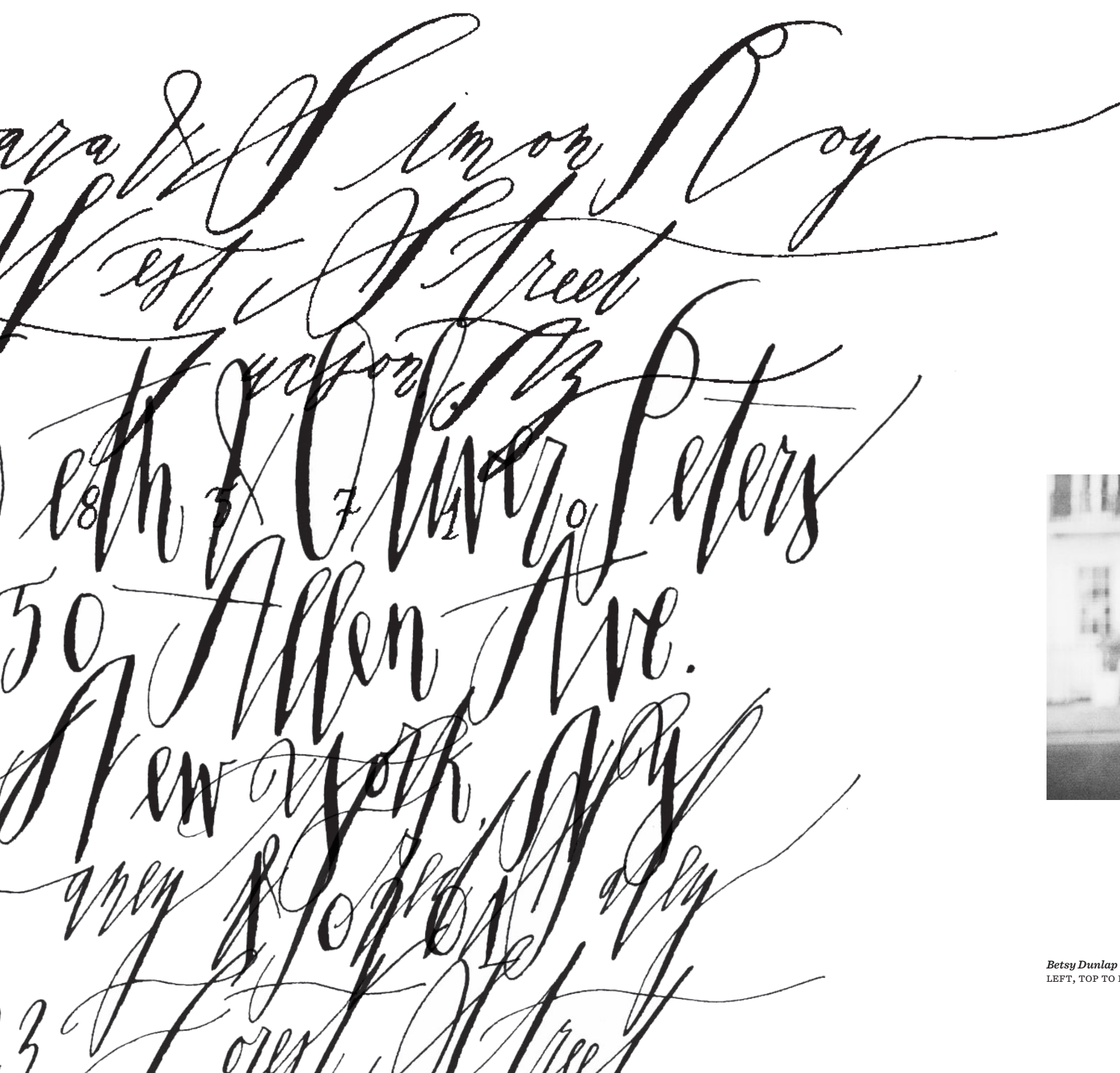
The music that I play at any event is determined solely by the people in attendance. I am *not* going to be a shitty wedding DJ!

6. JESSE CHAMBERLAIN – *Our Labor of Love*

Our hope is to break open everyone's heart, because a closed heart is definitely not photogenic.

7. WHITNEY CHAMBERLAIN – *Our Labor of Love*

We are interested in unique photographs that capture real beauty rather than manufactured robo-photos that pasteurize originality.



the PAPER MAVEN

Blogger and calligrapher Betsy Dunlap has drawn a niche for herself in the intricate art of hand-lettering and calligraphy.



Betsy Dunlap crafts beautiful hand-lettering.
LEFT, TOP TO BOTTOM Betsy Dunlap's Amelia, Sophia, & Emily lettering styles.

WHAT INSPIRES YOU?

I've always felt that my calling is to create beauty in the world around me; I feel most inspired when I feel that I am fulfilling that purpose. I am inspired by dark, stormy days, family heirlooms and photos, old films, old letters, starting a new book, travelling to new places, long days of gardening, spending meaningful time with friends and family, and most of all, being with my husband Nick and our tabby cat, Sebastian.

FAVORITE SCRIPT OR COLOR?

I especially love scribing the *Sophia* script, and my favorite color combo of the moment is white ink on kraft. I am drawn to pieces with many different dimensions, such as tiny envelopes mounted on the main invite, with another card within, or separate kraft paper tags attached with string.

WHERE & HOW DO YOU WORK?

I mix all of my inks in antique shot glasses, and keep all of my tubes of gouache and all of my nibs in pretty cigar boxes. As far as the number of inks, I have dozens of different bottles of India ink and tubes of gouache, and I custom mix everything. I use extra-fine pointed nibs for most of my projects.

WHAT'S UP NEXT?

It would be amazing to incorporate my hand illustrations into the suites that I work on, so I hope to be able to launch a line of my own invitations in the near future.

By Joanna Goddard

THE M[R]S.
INSPIRED GUIDE

FOR THE ESPECIALLY UNIQUE BRIDE

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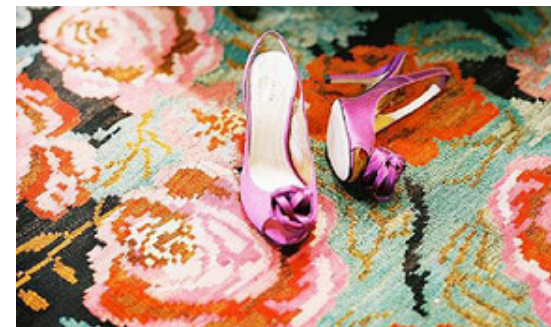
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Cover & Back Vibrant Red

welcome to **THE INSPIRED GUIDE**

The MRS. guide to all things inspirational calls on fashion, interiors, architecture, art, landscapes, objects, and more to provide guidance for material and color palette choices. Each image is paired with corresponding CMYK and RGB colors so you can color match to anything you see inside. The source for each image is noted for further inspiration beyond these pages. Enjoy!





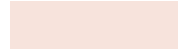




For more inspiration visit, www.mrsmagazine.com

R 274 G 227 B 220

C 2 M 11 Y 10 K 0



R 255 G 172 B 147

C 0 M 37 Y 91 K 0



R 205 G 157 B 87

C 20 M 38 Y 76 K 1



R 233 G 57 B 33

C 2 M 92 Y 100 K 0



R 251 G 202 B 188

C 0 M 24 Y 21 K 0



Chloé Spring 2011 Runway Looks



R 235 G 222 B 190

C 5 M 10 Y 27 K 0



R 236 G 186 B 190

C 5 M 31 Y 15 K 0



R 251 G 73 B 19

C 0 M 86 Y 100 K 0



Kelly Wearstler Interior Design, Palm Springs

R 209 G 135 B 148

R 233 G 97 B 65

R 248 G 238 B 220

C 17 M 55 Y 28 K 0

C 4 M 77 Y 81 K 0

C 2 M 5 Y 13 K 0



Johnny Miller Photography Still Life, 2010



R 226 G 217 B 208

C 10 M 12 Y 15 K 0



R 110 G 124 B 58

C 58 M 35 Y 95 K 16



Edward Burtynsky, Rock of Ages # 4 Abandoned Section, Adam-Pirie Quarry, Barre, Vermont, 1991

R 209 G 135 B 148

R 254 G 187 B 80

R 248 G 238 B 220

R 254 G 187 B 80

R 248 G 238 B 220

C 17 M 55 Y 28 K 0

C 0 M 30 Y 79 K 0

C 2 M 5 Y 13 K 0

C 0 M 30 Y 79 K 0

C 2 M 5 Y 13 K 0



R 209 G 135 B 148

R 233 G 97 B 65

R 254 G 187 B 80

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C 4 M 77 Y 81 K 0

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143 Boutique Georgette Dresses

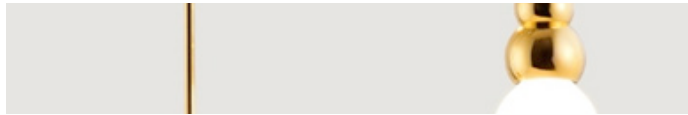
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C 90 M 38 Y 80 K 32



R 224 G 223 B 219

C 9 M 7 Y 8 K 0



Michael Anastassiades Ball Lights Gold, 2006

Yves Klein Monogold, 1959



R 182 G 146 B 53

C 29 M 39 Y 98 K 4



Nora Black The Sleep of Winter, 2010



R 57 G 76 B 46

C 71 M 47 Y 85 K 46



Johnny Miller Photography portrait, 2010



R 48 G 48 B 48

C 70 M 64 Y 63 K 61



Loeffler Randall Esther Wood Pump, Fall 2010

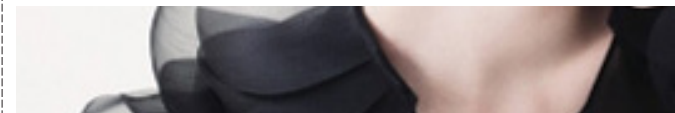


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3.1 phillip lim fall / winter, 2010



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C 76 M 70 Y 57 K 64

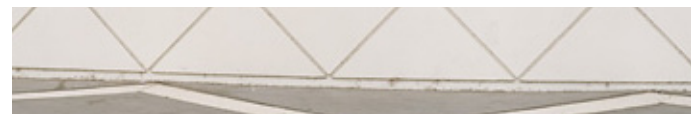


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Amanda Freidman Photography Grid, 2010





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C 45 M 46 Y 56 K 12



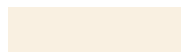
Max Finile Lines, 2009

Claudia Knoepfel + Stefan Indlekofer portrait, 2010

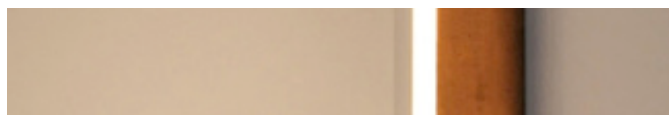


R 247 G 237 B 224

C 2 M 5 Y 11 K 0



Michael Anastassiades Gold Plated Stainless Steel, 2006



R 167 G 86 B 28

C 22 M 65 Y 100 K 8





SAY I DO TO J.CREW

MICKEY DREXLER IS THE MERCHANT PRINCE.

The man behind three successful turnarounds, Ann Taylor, Gap, and now J. Crew, takes it to the next tier with the introduction of J.Crew Bridal.

By Tina Gaudoin

“THE BUSINESS IS SMALL ENOUGH THAT WE CAN EASILY MAKE A DIFFERENCE. THE CUSTOMERS WANT BRIDAL; WE DO BRIDAL. IT’S AN EXPERIMENT.

LET’S SEE IF IT WORKS.”

It was Steve Jobs who informed Millard “Mickey” Drexler that he was about to be fired from Gap, a company he had taken from \$400 million in annual revenues to \$14 billion and from 450 stores to more than 2,000 in the span of 19 years. “Steve, who was on the board, called and let me know the night before,” Drexler says, recalling their May 2002 conversation. He knew it was coming. Although he’d been celebrated in the media for years as the “merchant prince”—the man who had the answer to the curious riddle of retail (just how do you get a customer to buy more than one pair of jeans?)—Gap’s growth had stalled in the two and a half years leading up to his firing: Same-store sales had dropped by double digits every quarter between 2000 and 2002 and the stock had plummeted 75 percent.

The board did him a favor; at least that’s how Drexler plays it. “I’d been trying to figure out how to get out from under a job that had suddenly owned me for around four years,” he says over a lunch of chicken parmigiana at Enzo’s Restaurant in his old Bronx neighborhood. That sounds suspiciously like bravado from a jilted CEO. “Yeah,” he acknowledges. “I felt terrible about being fired.” He hasn’t shopped at Gap since. “I still feel angry every time I pass a store.” Every time? “That’s right,” says Drexler. “Every time.”

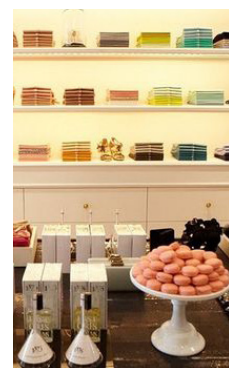
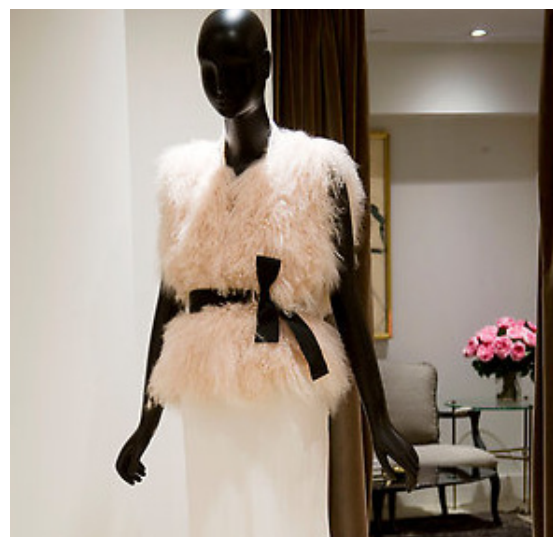
Drexler, who turns 66 in August, grew up about half a mile from the restaurant at 2911 Barnes Avenue. At J. Crew, where he is now CEO (and an 11.8 percent shareholder), there is a black-and-white photograph of him as a child, age 10, sitting with his friends on the steps of the home owned by his grandmother Frieda. With his Keds sneakers, rolled-up jeans and zippered jacket, he is the picture of 1950s preppydom; he could just as likely be any other kid from Greenwich, Kennebunkport or any other bastion of WASPINESS. “I dressed kinda preppy even then,” Drexler says as we drive down Lydig Avenue in his chauffeured black Mercedes, peering at the



Mickey Drexler and **J.Crew Bridal model**. J. Crew has opened its first bridal-only shop on New York’s Upper East Side. On model - Erica gown, \$850.00.

PHOTOGRAPHY Danielle Levitt
PREVIOUS PAGE J.Crew Bridal Summer 2011 illustration

continued next page



ABOVE J.Crew Bridal Salon 769 Madison at the corner of 66th, New York City.
MIDDLE TOP TO BOTTOM Detail *Lumiere Dress*, \$1,100.00, Interior, J.Crew Bridal Salon.
RIGHT J.Crew Bridal Summer 2011 illustration

run-down haunts of his youth. He credits his love of clothes to his father, a former garment-district worker. “He was always well turned out. I think he spent a good portion of his salary on clothes.” The Waspy privileged-meets-street-smart-kid vibe has quickly become Drexler’s calling card. At Gap he turned the wearing of khakis into an art form (who can forget the Ernest Hemingway wears khakis campaign?), and now at J.Crew he is spinning sequins, and cashmere into a raging success story.

In 2005, the company turned its first profit in five years, and between 2003 and 2008 revenues rose 107 percent. In 2006, Drexler presided over a very successful IPO. In 2009, revenues (\$1.57 billion) exceeded pre-recession levels and same-store sales climbed 11 percent. Profits jumped 40 percent. When Drexler took up the reins in 2003, J. Crew had \$609 million in debt and 196 stores. Today, it has 321 stores, less than \$50 million in debt and \$298 million cash on hand.

The first family are fans: All four wore the brand during last year’s inauguration festivities. Though he won’t discuss his most famous clients (“We respect their privacy”), he does admit to checking sales figures after Oprah wore, and waxed lyrical about, the company’s shoes this spring during a segment with executive creative director Jenna Lyons.

He was also pretty happy when the Queen of Media admitted to her 5.6 million viewers: “When I saw the first lady, even before she became first lady, wearing J.Crew—full disclosure here—I bought some J.Crew stock. And that was a very good decision.” (The stock has risen 119 percent since Michelle Obama appeared on “The Tonight Show” in a yellow J.Crew ensemble in fall 2008 and 132 percent since Drexler took the company public.) So what drives Mickey Drexler? A man so obsessed and passionate about his job, the customer and the product that he personally answers shoppers’ emails and telephone calls, makes split-second decisions about entire lines based on “a gut feel,” talks to his 695-strong team constantly via an elaborate intercom system and treats routine store visits (of which he makes at least five per week) as a holiday: “They don’t count as work.”

He certainly doesn’t need the money. (He collected around \$350 million cashing out his stake in Gap and has about \$270 million in J. Crew stock and options.) He says it’s not the acclaim either—he’s garnered more media, industry and peer plaudits than he can count, including comparisons to the man who let him know he was being fired and on whose board he sits. “Mickey is the real deal. He is the Steve Jobs of retail,” says designer Andy Spade, who teamed up with Drexler on the Liquor Store, a stand-alone pet project of a men’s store opened

in 2008. “He knows exactly what to buy high and what to buy low. He knows what consumers want, he surrounds himself with smart people and, above all, he’s close to the product.” As Drexler’s Mercedes makes its way through the Bronx back toward Manhattan, he points out the places where he shopped as a boy. “I bought my argyle socks and everything else here,” he says of a gray low-rise building. Back then, he remembers, it was called Town & Country. “I love great product and I always wanted to own nice things,” he says. Today, he has on his signature look—J. Crew 484 slim-fit jeans, an untucked light-blue button-down shirt (Thomas Mason for J. Crew), brown unpolished shoes (Alden for J. Crew) and a biker jacket (Belstaff). The outfit is an example of one of his retailing passions: “the cult brand.”

“What Drexler has come to understand is the biggest rip-off in retailing is designer goods,” Davidowitz says. Saks CEO Stephen Sadove “walks around saying, ‘We’re reducing price points.’ Sure they are. But also look at the reduction in quality. Customers aren’t stupid. Drexler sees this and thinks, I’m going to have a higher price point, but it’s going to be a quarter of theirs and I’m going to offer better quality.’ That’s a real strategy.”

TOP Dressing Room Foyer, J.Crew Bridal Salon.
ABOVE Entry View, J.Crew Bridal Salon.

MICKEY DREXLER’S WEDDING ATTIRE WISDOM

5 reasons to *Say I Do To J.Crew*

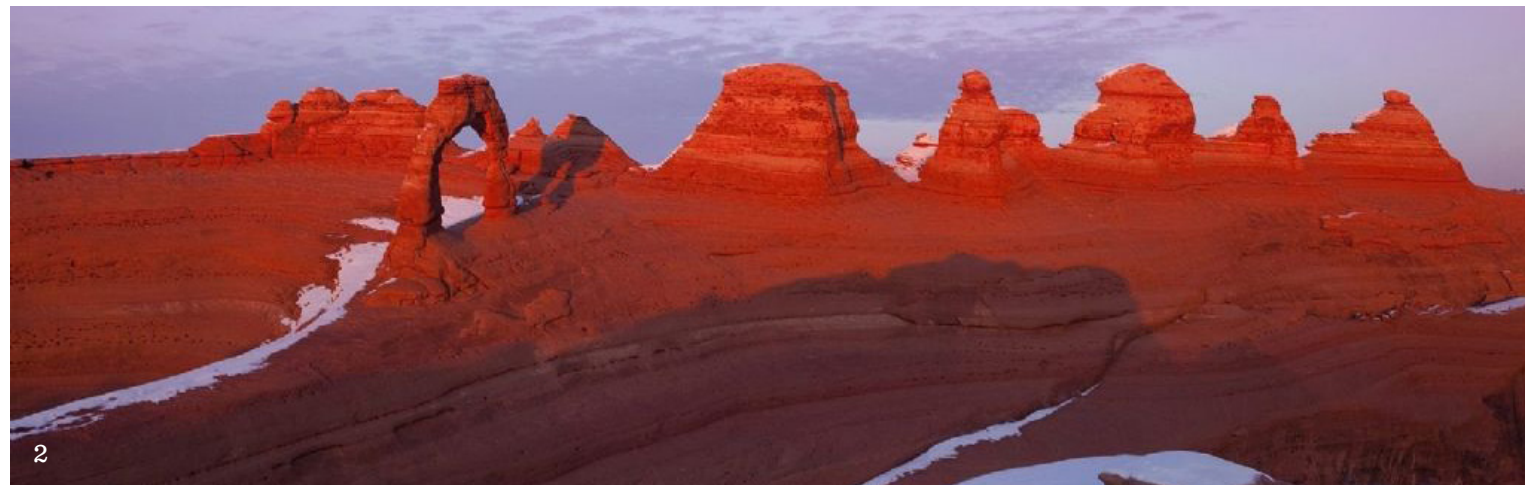
- 1 YOUR OWN WEDDING SPECIALIST**
Ashley, our head wedding coordinator, will help you find the perfect gown, dress your entire wedding party, track deliveries and organize it all.
- 2 THE J.CREW BRIDAL BOUTIQUE**
Your “I do” go-to shop is now open at 769 Madison Avenue, New York City and in our select wedding shops dedicated to all things for your big day. Our wedding specialists are on hand day or night, you’ll even have their personal email and phone numbers to get in touch at any time.
- 3 SUPERB QUALITY**
Our gowns are impeccably tailored with exquisite, handmade details—we only use fabrics from Europe’s most renowned mills, from Swiss-based Bischoff St. Gallen to famed French lace maker Sophie Hallette, used by the top fashion houses.
- 4 FROM “YES” TO HAPPILY EVER AFTER**
It’s about more than just your big day, we’ll help you put together your wardrobe for the ceremony, engagement party, rehearsal dinner and honeymoon—and create an outfit itinerary with looks and style tips, so you can enjoy it all.
- 5 TIMELESS DESIGNS**
We have an amazing selection of dress styles to fit and flatter a range of figures—so you can mix & match the options for your bridal party.



honeymooning
WESTWARD BOUND

The beautiful and romantic West sets the perfect backdrop for a honeymoon that is sure to be memorable. From the hottest to the lowest and driest, we present eight of the most beautiful **Wonders of the West**.

WONDERS OF THE WEST



DEATH VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

Death Valley is a land of harsh extremes, but this ultimate desert landscape was once the bottom of a sea on the earth's equator. Death Valley hits an average high temperature of 120 degrees in the summer, and it is the lowest and driest spot in the world. Millions come year-round to soak in the sun, have an organized hike and take in the beauty of this vast, open landscape.

ARCHES NATIONAL PARK, UTAH

Take a first glance at Arches National Park and you would think several sculptors got together and created something absolutely breathtaking. In fact, centuries of wind and water have sculpted the Utah sandstone into over 2,000 natural arches. You won't find more natural arches in 1 place anywhere else in the world. The park also brings in the adventurous traveler; extreme mountain biking was born at Arches.

1

latitude (36°14'31" N)
longitude (116°49'33" W)

2

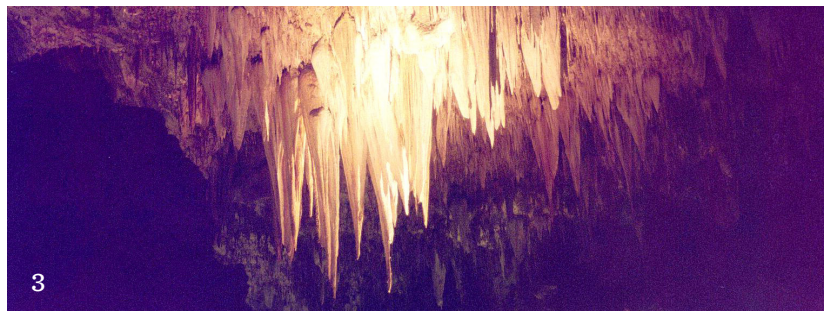
latitude (38°42'30" N)
longitude (109°33'47" W)

3

*latitude (32°25'14" N)
longitude (104°13'41" W)*

CARLSBAD CAVERNS, NEW MEXICO

Roughly 750 feet below New Mexico's Guadalupe Mountains exists a maze of tunnels that is the state's number one tourist destination. Of the 300 known caves in the Guadalupe Mountains, 120 of them are located in Carlsbad National Park. Created by 500,000 years of dripping water, the caverns consist of 30 miles of vaulted halls and maze-like, all adorned with dazzling formations and colors of iridescent pinks, beiges and tans. Aside from the grandeur of the cave, visitors also come to see the residents of these caverns—bats. For over 5,000 years, the Mexican freetailed bats have come soaring out of the cave every evening in search of night flying insects.



4

*latitude (34°00'15" N)
longitude (119°23'50" W)*

CHANNEL ISLANDS, CALIFORNIA

Only accessible by boat, the Channel Islands are located 90 miles off the coast of Los Angeles. Consisting of 177 miles of coastline, these five islands; often referred to as America's Galapagos, are decorated with rocky cliffs, arches, and beaches populated by 2,000 plants and animals, including sea lions & pelicans. 150 of the animals found on the islands are found in no other place in the world. Channel Islands National Park is considered one of the top destinations for scuba divers. Its waters are home to 17 different species of sharks, including the great white shark.

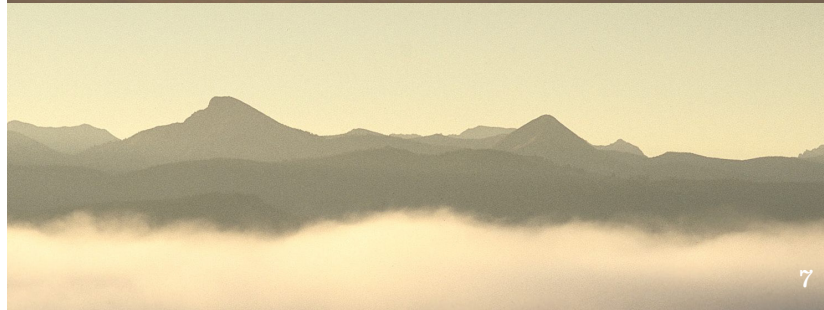


5

*latitude (45°32'17" N)
longitude (121°34'12" W)*

MOUNT HOOD, OREGON

Since its last eruption 250 years ago, this beautiful, dormant volcano has been a paradise for hikers and skiers. A great combination of beauty and danger, Mount Hood is the second-most climbed peak in the world. During climbing season, you can expect roughly 200 people per day. These include skiers and snowboarders, who can take advantage of many of the mountain's slopes until the Fourth of July. After a long hike or a day of skiing, make sure to visit the historic Timberline Lodge to rest and warm up. Built during the height of the Great Depression, this lodge displays the handiwork of over 300 craftsmen.



YOSEMITE, CALIFORNIA

Nestled within the Sierra Nevada Mountains, Yosemite National Park greets nearly 4 million visitors each year. A natural glacier-carved canyon, Yosemite was the first territory in the United States set aside for public use. Filled with meadows, cliffs, waterfalls and forests, the park is also home to the fifth tallest waterfall in the world. The park's most famous attraction is Half Dome; carved from granite by glaciers and millions of years of erosion, it stands more than 4,000 feet above the valley. Yosemite's second lookout, El Capitan, fondly known as El Cap, is officially the largest monolith of granite in the world.

YELLOWSTONE, WYOMING

The first national park of the United States, Yellowstone covers more than 2.2 million acres of the American West, filling it with spectacular mountain scenery, animals and endless natural beauty. This park also lies on top of one of the most dangerous volcanoes in the United States. In researching the geological history of the park, scientists have recorded 3 major eruptions more powerful than any in the world's recorded history, and they have all happened at Yellowstone. The eruptions toppled a mountain range and left a crater the size of the Los Angeles basin. Moreover, the volcano that sits underneath this beauty is still alive. The main attraction at Yellowstone is Old Faithful. A result of a volcanic eruption, Old Faithful has expelled gallons of boiling water over 180 feet in the air. Herds of buffalo and elk roam freely in Yellowstone.

THE GRAND CANYON, ARIZONA

The Colorado River started its work on the Grand Canyon over 20 million years ago. So far the result is a 1-mile-deep, 10-mile-wide and over 1 million-acres-long canyon. One magnificent example of erosion, the Grand Canyon was formed by water cutting through layers of rock for millions of years. One of the best spots to hike is along the rim. For more adventurous travelers, the Colorado River offers rip-roaring whitewater rapids.

6

*latitude (37°51'00" N)
longitude (119°34'04" W)*

7

*latitude (44°36'53" N)
longitude (-110°30'04" W)*

8

*latitude (36°05'40" N)
longitude (-112°09'30" W)*

let them eat CHOCOLATE

Instead of choosing between chocolate, vanilla or strawberry, why not choose them all?

Mary & Matt's Chocolate Editions are the perfect solution to the chocolate *or* vanilla debate. These hand-made chocolates are crafted in small batches so they are always fresh and customized specifically per order. Graphic & delicious, these chocolates are the perfectly sweet table favor.



BLACK & WHITE BAR
dark chocolate (72%)
white chocolate (28%)
3 oz.



CARAMEL BAR
white chocolate (36%)
caramelized chocolate (64%)
sea salt
3 oz.



California Dreaming, see pg 10 for the full article.
ABOVE Photography by Max Wanger