

TOP DENTISTS

The Votes Are In!

INSIDE HOUSTON'S
CRIME LAB
AN EXCLUSIVE LOOK

RVs, CASINOS,
LAKE CHARLES!
OH, MY!

Houstonia.

HOT BREAKFAST SPOTS

DONUTS!
OMELETS!
CRÊPES!
KOLACHES!
& MORE!



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HOLD, PLEASE

Further proof, if any was needed, that H-Town handbag designers know their way around a nice piece of leather

BY SARAH RUFKA

PHOTO BY AUDRA ODEN



1 Inspired by architectural principles and geometric lines, Julia Gabriel's latest collection emphasizes aesthetic balance and harmony. Arc clutch, \$80 at Myth & Symbol. 2 Native Houstonian Hayden Lasher named her signature handbag for Belgian Shoes, which were introduced to America by her great-great-uncle, Hans Bendel. Belgian bag, \$1,500 at haydenlasher.com. 3 Paint and canvas were Whitney Riley's inspiration for Stitched, a line of colorful clutches made by independent artisans in Bali, \$95 each at Wardrobe. 4 Nothing says Texas pride like the beautiful expanse of cowhide stretched across JulieBeth's spacious Longhorn handbag, a nod to designer Beth Younger Purpich's century-old cattle farm, \$555 at juliebethhandbags.com. 5 Handmade in a century-old mattress factory in Sealy, Stash Co.'s latest, supple leather creation is an of-the-moment bucket bag, 20e bucket bag in chestnut, \$299 at Stash Co. 6 Elaine Turner's latest collection is inspired by the colors and textures of Marfa. Brenna fold-over clutch, \$248 at Elaine Turner. 7 After actress Emilia Clarke (*Game of Thrones*) was spotted with a Baird & Baird minaudière on the Golden Globes red carpet, designer Minnie Baird's jewel-encrusted clutches have become coveted evening accessories. Cobblestone minaudière with multi-colored pearls, \$2,450 at The D'heral Room. 8 Alexandra Knight is known for her handbags' exotic skins—think alligator, python and ostrich in vibrant colors not found in nature. Caroline handbag, from \$3,200 at alexandraknight.myshopify.com. ■