

Los Angeles Fashion Week Spring 2005

Mercedes Benz L.A. Fashion Week at Smashbox Studios came and went. I was swept off my feet and spun into a fashion frenzy of fantasy come to life on the runway. The most beautiful and powerful people in the L.A. fashion industry were amongst the crowd.



ESTHER NASH
Special to the SunPost

Inspired by the all-American girl circa 1950, with a contemporary spin; **ROJAS**: could have fooled me that he was not from Miami with his fun, sexy and young designs full of color and happiness; **SUE WONG**: dramatic, elegant, artful – a spectacle to watch. Her fashion show included live international performers; **PAUL HARDY**: didn't reflect the cold of his Canadian homeland, designs were light and flirty; **RAMI KASHOU**: The dresses seemed red carpet

arrival perfect. The styles displayed were timeless; **FRANKIE B.**: is she the model or the designer? The looks showcased were young, hip and fun; **JUAN CARLOS OBANDO**: represented by Miami's own Tara Solomon of Tara Ink, the designs were very tropical, sexy, full of color and form flattering; **BATS DAUGHTER**: a casual chic and cute collection, tank tops with fitted jackets and shorts as the new miniskirt; **SHERI BODELL**: designer's inspiration is the lifestyle of the jet set and individuals who live for the moment (sounds like Miami); **DA-NANG**: very practical and comfortable ready-wear clothes, loose draping



Designer Kevan Hall and Esther Nash.

and plenty of color; **NAQADA**: something for everyone, this designer had high-waist, low-waist, short, long and medium length skirts, pants worn loose and tight – giving ladies total freedom of choice; **LOUIS VERDAD**: easily one of the largest shows, the looks were very Hamptons with big sun hats and crisp lines; **ENYCE**: had airline steward-like gift bags which included invitations that resembled airline tickets; complete with a blanket and a Nintendo game piece; **JENNI KAYNE**: looks were simple and sweet; **TRUE MEANING**: focused on "the jacket"; **PEGAH ANVARIAN**: simple and easy to wear looks; **SHAY TODD**: this designer was pretty enough to walk the runway herself. Her designs reflected her youth and talent.

Special thanks to Sharon McConochie of Presse PR for arranging the interview with Sheri Bodel.

Well fashionistas, my head has not yet stopped spinning. All the collections I viewed belong to designers with very promising careers ahead of them. I am looking forward to next season when we all meet again in L.A. As for now, you lucky Floridians are prepared to travel anywhere with flair.

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METRO

Head of office at www.sunpost.com



REAL ESTATE
Groundwork
Young adults to young professional buyers in Sunnyvale are in demand.



OUT & ABOUT
Paris Moderne
French Art Deco works are on view at the Barbours Museum of Art. (D-32)

Covering major beach, North Bay Village, San Jose, San Mateo, Mill Valley, Redwood, Sausalito, Tiburon, San Francisco, San Francisco Peninsula, The Peninsula, San Francisco Bay and North Beach.

Funny Business

Vendor Alerts State Attorney's Office of Possible Non-Profit Permit Fraud in South Beach

BY MITCHELL PELLEGRINA
Staff Writer

You see them on Ocean Drive and on Lincoln Road, selling t-shirts or selling Miami Beach club permits. Some vendors to speculate on if they contribute money to non-profit organizations.

But one vendor says that things are not entirely as they seem with the city's vendor permits. A South Beach vendor has registered the city's Finance Department for the State Attorney's Office of Public Corruption, alleging that permits have been issued for a vendor that he believes is not legitimate.

Jason Allen has been participating in the city's nonprofit vendor permits for some time. Paul Simon is one of the Finance Department and Council have some concerns on his website and self-promotion, usually in the form of t-shirts with non-profits logos and designs like "Proud" and "Support" or "Proud" or "Love South Beach" to raise money for the city's (C) nonprofit organizations.

Council Representative, a spokeswoman for the public corruption unit, said that her office is taking a look at Allen's case but has not yet officially opened an investigation. She said she doubted there would be any discrepancies in the way the Miami Beach Finance Department conducts the vendor permits, which results making a great profit or one.



Jason Allen (left) and Paul Simon (right) were found a vendor at Ocean Drive last Monday afternoon in Miami Beach. The State Attorney's office is investigating. See how the Longmans require their permits. Photo by Mitchell Pellegrina.

However, legal it may be under federal law (18 USC 1343) but not under the state's (18 USC 1343) provisions. The city has been making efforts to ensure that it is not a vendor that has been making a profit.

Rules of Order

Judge Grants Police Oversight Board Right to View FTAA Plan, MPD Likely to Appeal

BY ANTOINETTE PELLEGRINA
Staff Writer

After months of the difficulty to board members and their independent members, Miami's Civilian Oversight Board (COB) has finally gotten the state from a District Court judge to view an internal plan that will be given during the May 15th meeting of the American Society of Police.

The COB is investigating whether or not officers were sufficiently trained for the FTAA and if they acted according to protocol. That can only be determined, said COB lawyer David Frager, by reviewing the Miami Police Department's operational plan.

But Miami cops are going to try to convince the Third District Court of Appeal otherwise, said Frager.

On November 9 Miami Police Chief John Timoney and the City of Miami agreed to overturn the judge's ruling.

FASHION WEEK HIGHLIGHTS

The kick-off party held at the Argyle Hotel to celebrate Patrick McMullans' latest bestseller *INTENTS* was unreal. The line outside almost reached to the next block, there were at least six PR ladies manning the entrance with their A-lists and a red carpet surrounded by paparazzi snapping away. What an amazing thrilling night.

Fashion Incidents: Publicist Henri Myers of EM Productions had to flex some fashion



Mr. Factor and models backstage at Smashbox.

muscle during the Rachel Pally show, because when he escorted me to my front row seat there was a man sitting in my chair who refused to leave. Henri communicated via hi-tech wireless VIP headset and instantly three Smashbox Security guards stepped up to escort this man out of my seat. Unfortunately, during the dispute the John Doe absconded with my gift bag.

So, I could have an interview that I thought I missed, publicist Serene Cicora of HSM Media performed cartwheels for me, figuratively, when she was able to track down Frankie B. during the exclusive invite-only Frankie B. after party at Smashbox – which was so crowded with VIPS no matter which way you turned you met a fashion rock star.

Fashion accessory highlights: Jewelry by Judith Ripka, sunglasses by Silhouette, and make-up by Smashbox.

The Shows: **KEVAN HALL**: classic and elegant looks for a modern woman; **SAMORA**: lots of aqua colors and luxurious feather-light fabrics; **CUSTO BARCELONA**: sexy, body-clinging styles; **DAVIES**: walf fantasy slip-like dresses; **HEIKE JARICK**: bold, beautiful and tribal; **IRON**: looks inspired by nature's elements; **PETRO ZILLIA**: country girl simple looks with subtle sex appeal; **ASHLEY PAIGE**: bikinis and cowboy boots worn with socks pushed down for beach-ready urban cowgirls; **RACHEL PALLY**: Jersey fabric easy slip on dresses, tops and skirts; **COCO KLIKS**: styles

INSIDE

NIGHTLIFE (P.37)



Charlie Goldman and Andrea's 30th birthday. Photos by Mitchell Pellegrina.

A.S. (P.34) **OR**
NAME CITY (P.34) **OR**

SoBe Business Exiles Make Miami's Bourgeoning Upper Eastside Home

BY ANTOINETTE PELLEGRINA
Staff Writer

There's just art everywhere, but Miami's Upper Eastside is the center of it all. It's a "hip" neighborhood where successful artists work their craft at enterprises, but under the same roof.

"A lot of my paintings have gone to the beach," said artist and entrepreneur, who has been making a profit.

Upper Eastside artist Larkie Larkie is excited to attend a hip Upper Eastside bar on the 11th corner of 7th and Bourne Boulevard, a "hippy" boutique where successful artists work their craft at enterprises, but under the same roof.

Photo by Mitchell Pellegrina. Photo by Mitchell Pellegrina.