



EDITOR'S LETTER

As I write this I'm sitting in a treehouse overlooking the beautiful Boesmans River in the Eastern Cape. So sure, I'm desperately holding onto every last second of my holiday, but I am also excited about the fact that very shortly, this year is due to start with a bang. We have plenty of great fashion and beauty in store for you in 2015: not only do we have lots of plans for making Fashion Weekly even more interesting and dynamic, we also have a surprise new project up our sleeves that we'll be able to reveal to you soon. Watch this space! And in the meantime, celebrate the beautiful weather – we still have many lovely long summer evenings to enjoy, even if the holidays are over – by getting inspired by this week's Edit (see Page 4). Light, playful and very feminine, these looks are the ideal way to ease into what's set to be a super busy yet beautiful new year.

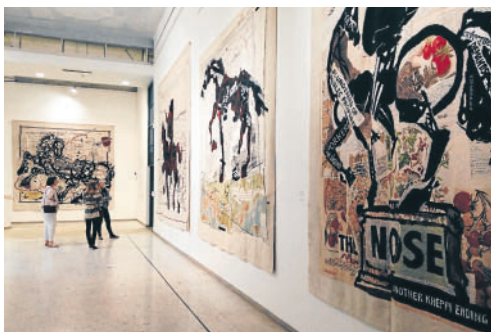
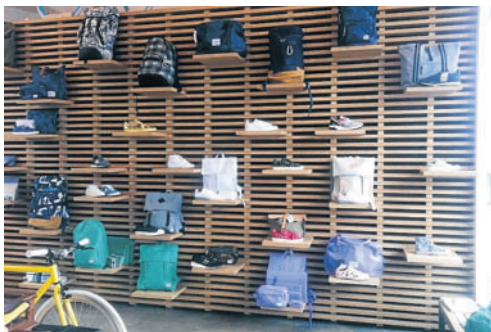
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5 MINUTES WITH

Stella Jean

Designer, Rome, Italy

**What's the first thing you do when you wake up in the morning?** I implore for five more minutes sleep.

**If I wasn't afraid, I would . . .** be a thoughtless person.

**If you could invite any five people for dinner, who would they be?** Joaquín Navarro-Valls, Rigoberta Menchú, Luigi Pirandello, Maya Angelou and Winston Churchill.

**What's one thing you've done this year that you've never done before?** Gone to the Korogocho slum in Nairobi, Kenya.

**If you had one day left to live, how would you spend it?** With my children.

**You're on death row. What's your last meal?** *Riz djon djon*. **Which celebrity would you like to have in your inner circle?** The first female president of the US.

**If you could wear the outfits of one designer every day for the next decade, who would it be?** Dries van Noten.

**Who would play you in your biopic?** Thandie Newton.

**Which three songs changed your life?** *Sweet Potato Pie* by Ray Charles, *La Bohème* by Charles Aznavour and Puccini's opera *Tosca*.

**R1-million. One investment. What is it?** The Ethical Fashion Initiative.

**What's in your ultimate sandwich?** Avocado and salmon.

**Signature drink?** Moscato d'Asti.

**Favourite item in your wardrobe?** A white, mannish shirt.

**What would you never be caught wearing in public?** A hairgrip.

**Who do you think has great style?** The pope, Papa Francesco – the power of coherence.

**Who is someone to watch on the fashion scene?** The handbag designer Benedetta Bruzich.

Follow @StellaJeanLtd on Twitter.



TALK TO US

Have a comment, a question or a query? E-mail us at [fashionweekly@sundaytimes.co.za](mailto:fashionweekly@sundaytimes.co.za) or follow us on Instagram at @sundaytimesfw



Lalessa has launched a lovely summer pop-up at the Grand Gallery, Granger Bay, Cape Town, featuring a wide collection of bikinis, one-pieces, hot pants, kaftans and cover-ups in the brand's exclusive East African-inspired prints. Prices range from R570 to R1 900.



Bo & Luca

Australian couture bridal label Bo & Luca has revolutionised the look of the traditional white dress from Melbourne to London and San Francisco – and now it's our turn. Bo & Luca launched in Cape Town last month. Set in the heart of the city, the beautiful studio features a clean colour palette and lots of antique trinkets, and reflects the essence of the brand. If your style is free-spirited and you have a penchant for flowing silk crepes and georgettes, layers of soft tulle and delicately hand-embroidered embellishments of beads, pearls and crystals – oh, and if you're about to get married soon, of course – visit Bo & Luca at 32 St George's Mall in Cape Town.

SHARP DRESSING

You'll know Shaldon Kopman and his Naked Ape brand as one of the regular highlights at SA Fashion Week, so we were very excited to discover that the designer has finally launched his first flagship store, at The Firs in Rosebank. Pop into the new store if you're looking to up your personal style and overall image, because "the Naked Ape team is well poised to assist with developing the confidence in men to dress with style and class, while maintaining uniqueness and personality", we're told. The brand's exclusive use of natural fabrics such as hemp, wool, cotton, linen and leather ensure that the garments you invest in are luxurious, comfortable . . . and ecofriendly. For a fresh, sharp start to the new year, why not give it a go? Call (011) 447-8888 for more information.



ON THE COVER

Denim jacket, R889, Topshop (011) 685-7070, (021) 419-5900; earrings, R450, Henriette Botha [henriettebotha.com](http://henriettebotha.com)

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