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The **JEWELS**
FALL'S NEW RICHES

IN FULL BLOOM

Rendered in 18-karat white gold, pink sapphires and diamonds, Chanel's Parade earrings are as celebratory as the name implies >>>
Chanel Fine Jewelry earrings: \$100,550,000.
Fashion editor: Amanda Weiner

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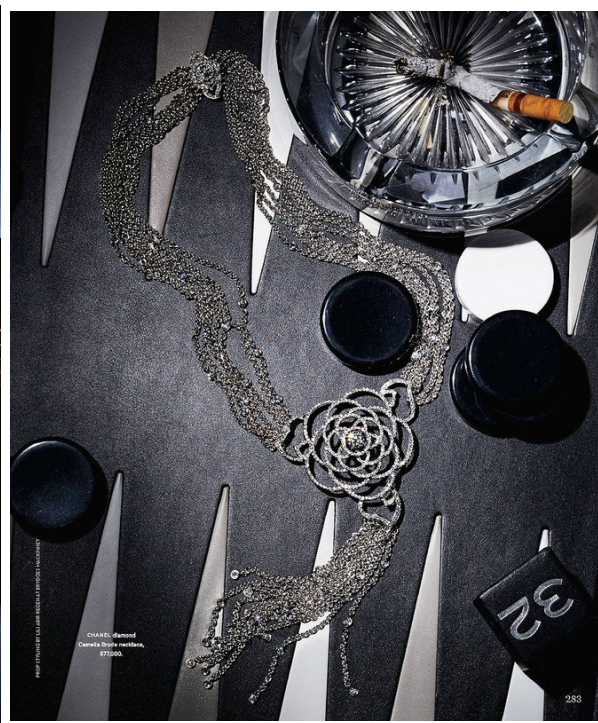
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**WAIT
UNTIL
DARK**

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANITA CALERO

A pair of diamond clusters polishes the look of a simple black sheath. The graceful, almost vintage sparkle of a sautoir creates drama against bare skin. In a world saturated with color, white diamonds, along with white pearls, epitomize simple, timeless beauty—one of the many themes explored by sculptor Rachel Lee Hovnanian, whose works are paired with the pieces shown here. “The jewelry itself is beautiful and stands alone as art, but when placed with my images, it’s not just an embellishment—it amplifies the meaning of the works,” says the New York City artist. This November, Hovnanian takes her latest works to the Abu Dhabi Art Fair. —SHAMON AROUCCI

TIFFANY & CO.
crafted for time and designed by
branch jewelry design department.
\$10,000. For details,
see page 144.

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Santori Forgotten archival piece print on canvas, 2011.
For more information on the artist, go to rachelhovnanian.com.

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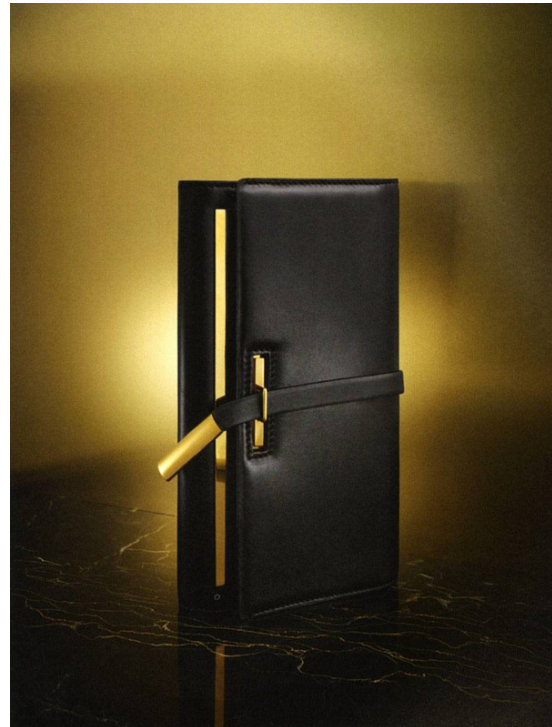
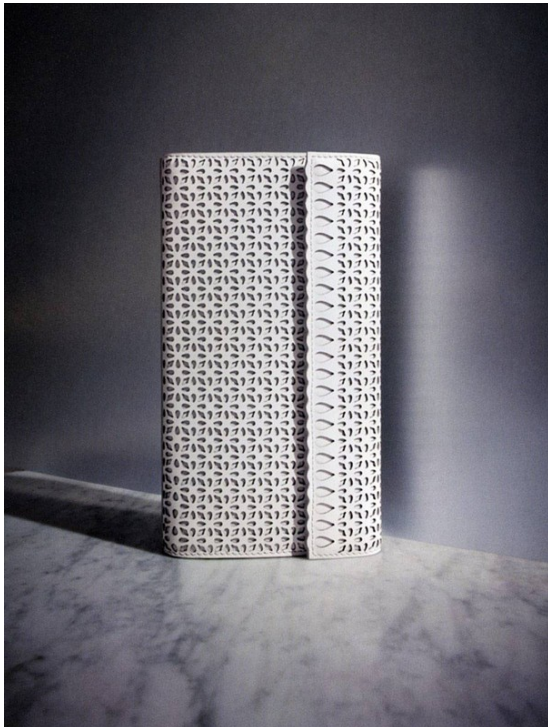
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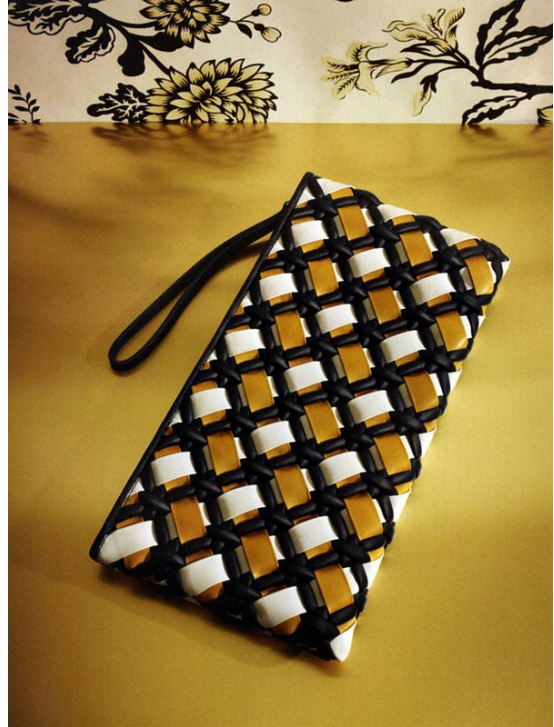
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NM EXCLUSIVE
GIUSEPPE ZANOTTI
 45a. Tan/brown/black dyed pony hair (Italy) platform peep-toe pump with (not shown) detachable ankle strap, in sizes 6-11B. Italy. \$850.
OPPOSITE: BRUNELLO CUCINELLI 44a. Olive raffia and buffalo hair with brown dyed shearling (Spain) lining and cashmere faces, in sizes 6-11B. Italy. \$1,350.

45



MILLY 45a. Brown calfskin and natural Mongolian lamb (China) "Kiki" crossbody bag, imported. \$475.
OPPOSITE: ELIE TAHARI
 49a. Tan/brown/black dyed calf hair (China) "Valentina" side-slip boots with brown leather trim, in sizes 6-11B. Imported. \$448.

46



OSCAR DE LA RENTA
 38a. Black suede and black dyed Astrakhan fur (Mongolia) "Zarina" boots, in sizes 5B, 6B, 7-11B, and 12B. Italy. \$1,195.
OPPOSITE: GUCCI 39a. Black leather and natural alpaca (Canada) platform bootie, in



CHANEL 30a. Off-white/black tone and embroidered faux peafowl pump, in sizes 6-12B. Italy. \$1,450.

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MARC BY MARC JACOBS
35x Patent leather "Tulle Blue" satchel, in color (shown), black, electric blue, or more. \$372
OPPOSITE: FENDI
46x Navy/black leather "Chomelov" fringe platform sandal with laser-cut detail, in sizes 5-11B. Italy. \$810.



CHANEL 18x Gold/silver dégradé patent calfskin "Mademoiselle" handbag. France. \$2,700
OPPOSITE: ROGER VIVIER
15x Wine/berry satin platform sandal, in sizes 7-10B, 9-10B, and whole sizes 6-10B. Italy. \$925.



Finds // Stuff with a Story

ECUADOR In Fino Veritas

Blame it on a U.S. president that a straw hat made on the coast of Ecuador is known, erroneously, as a Panama hat. A photo from the turn of the 20th century showing Teddy Roosevelt (wearing said hat) near the Panama Canal construction site helped to create the misnomer. The headwear actually originated in the coastal town of Montecristi, Ecuador, where some of the finest hats are still produced today.

Made of tightly woven strawlike toquilla palm fibers, Panama hats, called sombreros de paja toquilla in Ecuador, are light in weight and characterized by a black band and wide brim. Today, their quality ranges from cheap knockoffs made in China to high-priced Montecristi fino, the handwoven, hand-blocked version from Montecristi.

"These high-end hats are works of art, not articles of clothing," says Tom Miller, author of *The Panama Hat Trail*. "What's special about them is the craftsmanship, the raw material that they start out with, and the care that goes into weaving and finishing the hats—it's a whole process."

For travelers interested in purchasing a hat in Ecuador, Miller recommends visiting one of the several high-end stores in Montecristi. In general, the tighter the weave, the higher the quality. The weave of fino is so tight—up to 50 strands per square inch—that the hats take on the texture of fine linen.

If a \$5,000 price tag puts a Montecristi fino out of your reach, Panama hats made with only 20 strands per square inch can cost \$500 and are still considered quite good, just not quite so fino as fino.

—Aaron Dyer

The Panama hats shown here are available at jhatcenter.com. Price range from \$400 to \$1,200.



GO Finds // Stuff with a Story

IRELAND Shear Warmth

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANITA CALERA
STYLING BY LILI ABIR REGEN

The traditional sweaters featured here are \$60 and up, and include a mix of cable and honeycomb stitches. In Ireland, buy them at Murphy's of Ireland, Main Street, Ballyvaughan, County Donegal, 05203 74 9131-029-045. In the U.S., visit murphyofireland.com

Residents of Ireland's Aran Islands, a trio of islets at the mouth of Galway Bay, know a thing or two about braving the elements. For centuries, the farmers and fishermen who live there have dealt with buffeting winds and driving rains that surge across the Atlantic.

Their principal means of defense? A "fisherman's" or Aran sweater. Producing the thick woolen sweater is a time-intensive craft, since authentic Aran sweaters are knit entirely by hand. "A proper Aran might have 100,000 stitches," says Mary Conneely, of Cottage Handcrafts in County Galway, "and if you care for it, it will last a lifetime."

Lone has it that each Aran clan developed its own distinctive stitching for sweaters, with patterns that included ancient Celtic symbols, cables (evocative of seawater's ropes, diamonds [ferns], or seagulls [the island cliffs]). These patterns have been passed down through generations and remain powerful symbols of a family's heritage. As a nod to the stitches, the Aran clan also believed to have helped identify bodies of seafarers who washed ashore after accidents at sea.

Today, visitors to the islands clamor for genuine Aran knits. As with many traditional crafts, though, machine-made varieties have flooded the market in recent years, and for discerning shoppers it's best to buy from a shop that's ready to pay a little more for the perfect article.

—Bibi Gilks

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