



ALL ABOUT OSCAR

The stars were out and celebrating during Academy Awards weekend, from the Hollywood Hills pre-parties to the red carpet at the Kodak Theatre, pages 16 to 19.



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WWD MONDAY

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Accessories/Innerwear/Legwear

Looking Great

Ralph Lauren showed a dazzling fall collection, full of beautiful clothes with no shortage of embellishment. There were terrific haberdashery tailored tweeds for day and luxe, sophisticated looks for evening. Here, one example: a beaded, illusion-detailed gown. For more on the season, see pages 6 to 15.



Posnick Offers Color Essentials

MAKEUP ARTIST SUSAN POSNICK HAS DESIGNED A line of lipsticks called Color Essential with the intention of making it easy for any woman to pucker up in the season's hottest shade — no matter how concerned she might be about wearing bold colors.



Posnick's new lipsticks.

"Red is so hot on lips this spring, but most women won't wear it," said Posnick. "This lets women wear red but it's a soft red — the perfect red that any woman can wear." Posnick will begin shipping that red in late March along with one coral, one pink, one nude and one berry lip color.

Each of the five opaque Color Essential lip hues was formulated with a neutral base to flatter most skin tones. "We tested them on hundreds of women," said Posnick. "It goes with our whole philosophy of keeping it simple."

The lip colors extend Posnick's namesake line of foundation, concealer, eye color and lip stains sold in such specialty retailers as Fred Segal and Forty Five Ten.

Containing an array of moisturizers and vitamins, the lipsticks retail for \$17 each and are packaged in a metallic aubergine tube with a magnetic closure.

"We expect the lipsticks to do over \$1 million because they are getting such a great response and are unique in their category," Posnick said. "Our feeling is that women might pick up more than one if we price it reasonably."

— Holly Haber

SkinCeuticals Sales Hit \$3.1 Million in Italy

MILAN — Less than two years after launching in Italy, SkinCeuticals' business here has blossomed.

The L'Oréal-owned skin care brand reached Italian counters in mid-2007, saw its 2008 sales triple to more than 2.4 million euros — or about \$3.1 million at current exchange, according to industry sources — and is on pace to double that figure this year.

FASHION SCOOPS

CROSS STITCH: The Dow Jones Industrial Average slid to its lowest level in six years Friday morning, but Thursday night the fashion flock toasted the opening of the optimistically monikered The Smile, a boutique and cafe on Bond Street. Also being feted was Wool & the Gang, a knitting collective and clothing line founded by **Lisa Sabrier**, **Carolyn Main** and **Nadège Winter**. Guests including **Mary-Kate Olsen**, **Michael Stipe**, **Chiara Clemente**, **Waris Ahluwalia** and **Eleanor Ylvisaker** perused the knitting kits and were given wool headbands and roses. "I actually don't know how to knit," said **Erin Wasson**, who will soon be headed to reprise her RVCA presentation in London.

"I prefer cross-stitching — you can do so much more. My mom taught me how to do it." Meanwhile, designers **Maria Cornejo**, **Thakoon Panichgul**, **John Whittleage**, **Jeff Halamos** and **Sam Shipley** checked out The Smile's two-level brick-walled space. The concept store was founded by **Carlos Quirarte** and **Matt Kliegman** and features a cafe and bar run by **Melia Marden** (daughter of **Brice**). According to Quirarte, the store will feature exclusive and limited edition items from the likes of **Adam Kimmel** and **Earnest Sewn**.

"It's all just friends," explained Quirarte, who happened upon the landmarked 1830s location after the restaurant Double Crown opted not to use it. After cocktails, partygoers like **Vladimir Roitfeld**, **Tatiana Santo Domingo** and **Andrea Casiraghi** and **Lily Donaldson** thronged the second floor of the Bowery Hotel, where **Matt Creed** DJ'd and the band Chief performed.

LONDON SHOWS' NEW HOME: London Fashion Week is heading to the bright lights of central London. After being held at the British Fashion Council's tents at the Natural History Museum in South Kensington for four years, the London shows will move to Somerset House, an 18th-century neoclassical museum and cultural space near Covent Garden, in September. "We are pleased to be working in partnership with Somerset House to develop London Fashion Week's profile and...utilize the architecturally interesting spaces to make the venue our new home," said **Harold Tillman**, chairman of the British Fashion

Council. London Fashion Week's move to Somerset House will also coincide with an exhibition staged by photographer **Nick Knight**'s multimedia Web site SHOWstudio, which will be held there from Sept. 18 through Dec. 20.

VENETIAN KINDS: Get ready for gondola chic. **Karl Lagerfeld** is already thinking about his cruise collection for Chanel, and plans to show it May 14 in Venice, on the famous Lido Beach.

FANTASY ISLAND: Tapping into a growing mood for escapism, new offerings from Dior's "Coffret de Victoire," featuring one-of-a-kind pieces designed by **Victoire de Castellane**, include six oversize bracelets inspired by the idea of a lovesick traveler collecting souvenirs for his sweetheart on a trip around the world. The treasures will be presented in a giant Dior-gray jewelry box at the house's Paris headquarters March 9, a spokeswoman confirmed.



Dior jewelry's Idylle aux Cyclades bracelet.

HYERES TODAY: Belgian **Kris Van Assche** will preside over the jury at the 24th International Fashion and Photography Festival in Hyères, France in late April. The designer, who is also Dior Homme's artistic director, will be joined on the jury by actress and filmmaker **Zoe Cassavetes**, photographer **Nan Goldin** and Dazed & Confused's editor in chief **Jefferson Hack**. Their task will be to select a winner from among 10 budding designers. Talents discovered at the festival in the past include **Viktor & Rolf** and **Gaspard Yurkievich**.

EYE ON THE PRIZE: Red carpet, or runway? Alas, **Nicole Farhi** had to opt for the latter this past weekend. The designer, who is married to the Oscar-nominated playwright **Sir David Hare**, showed her fall-winter collection Sunday morning in London. That left her little time to hop a plane to Los Angeles and watch her husband quite possibly pick up the best adapted screenplay Oscar for "The Reader." "We tried to change the slot so I could run from backstage with my suitcase!" said Farhi. But the flight times meant she would not have arrived in time for the Oscars. "In the end, I decided to stay," she said. "I am very sad. David told me not to stay up, but to sleep — and he will call if he wins."

Crowds Flock to YSL Art Exhibit

PARIS — Thousands of people visited the Grand Palais said he plans to bid on some of the chairs. "This is a