

mode

Compiled by Rhannon Bulley

SAMANTHA PLEET

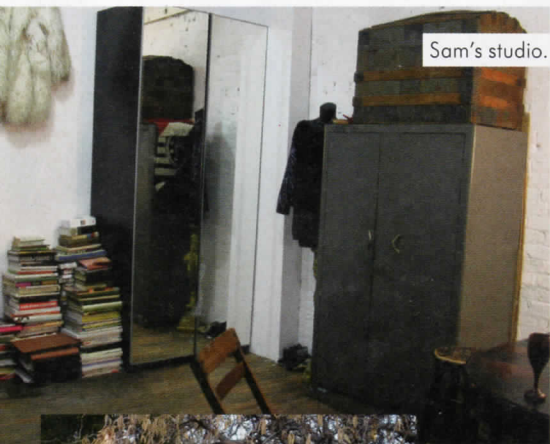
THE NEW YORK designer's world is a whimsical, theatrical one.



Sam in her apartment with a mural she just had painted by her friend Leon Benn.



Hand-painted shoes from her latest collection.



Sam's studio.



Inspiration

RIGHT "Fashion is a very magical profession. You can transform people into paupers or princes with just a stitch."
LEFT Skulls by artist Natasha Laws cement the "macabre feeling" of the Urban Outfitters pop-up store where Sam showcased her designs.



Collection

Inspired by a bohemian wonderland, Czech New Wave style and cinematography.



Q and A

Where did you grow up? Just outside of Philadelphia.
What is your first memory? Eating *petits fours* in Bermuda at three years old.
Who are your favourite musicians? Au Revoir Simone, Yeasayer, Chairlift and Grizzly Bear.
What are you reading? Philip K. Dick's *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?*
Who are your favourite artists? Marcel Dzama and Anthony Goicolea.
What is your fondest fashion memory? The day Grandmother decided to give me all of her old couture. I got some Chanel in the mix!



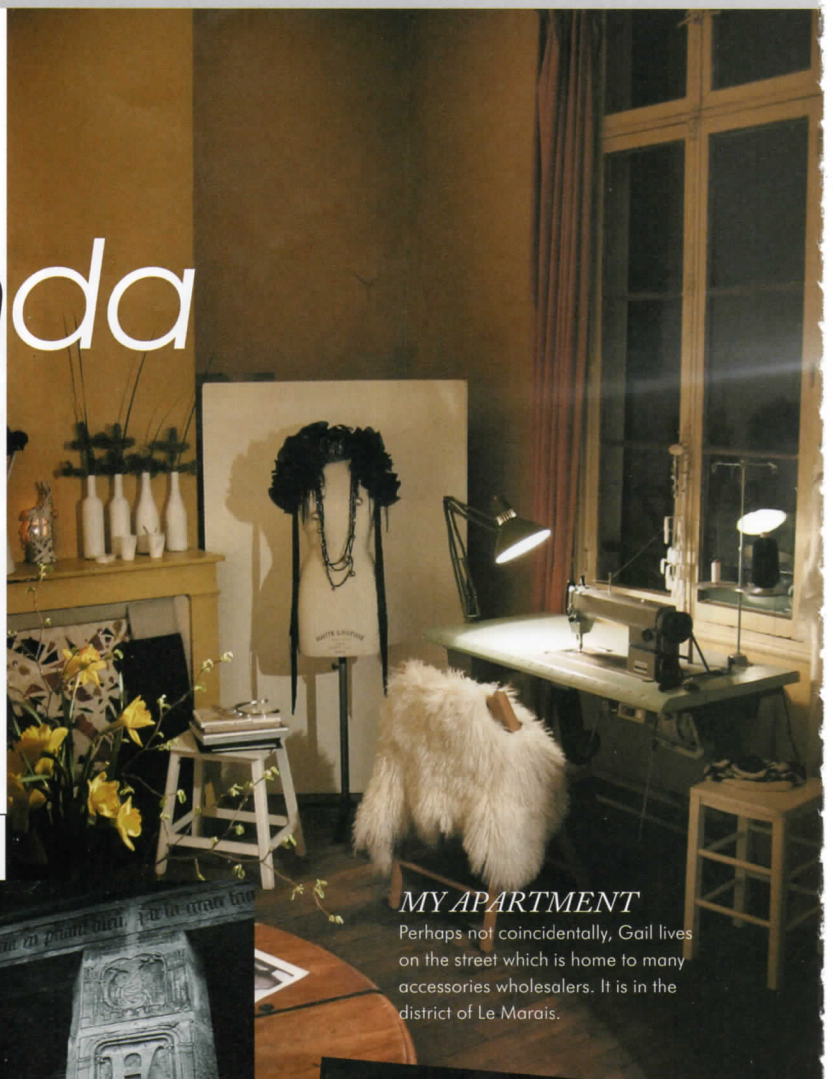
Interview Rhiannon Bulley

gail sorronda

TAKE A PEEK into la vie Parisienne of the Brisbane-born designer.

MY INSPIRATION

"Love, a foreign environment, bruised jewellery, different textiles, Gang Gang Dance's *God's Money* (pictured right), infowars.com, apple tabac shisha, Indian sexuality, exotics, apartment 17 level 4."



MY APARTMENT

Perhaps not coincidentally, Gail lives on the street which is home to many accessories wholesalers. It is in the district of Le Marais.



MY COLLECTION

"Called 'Ha Ha Battles', it is about laughing in the face of adversity."



MY RESTAURANT

"Auberge Nicolas Flamel." Dating from 1407, the restaurant was originally a place where homeless people came for a meal and to stay. In return, Nicolas asked only that they say a prayer, which is still written above the door today. Gail and her partner, Atlas, became engaged here.



MY MUST-VISIT

"The Catacombs". These are galleries where bones were stored to solve the problem of over-populated cemeteries in the 17th and 18th centuries.



MY FAVOURITE DESIGNER

"I love Martin Margiela." The incognito Belgium designer worked with the idea of deconstruction throughout his 20-year career. His avant-garde approach to fashion saw him transform old wigs, canvases and silk scarfs into handmade couture garments. ©



Inspiration

Bonnie's latest inspiration is a bunch of old Pix mags she found in a second-hand bookstore and old album covers.



ART DECO DREAMING: THE WONDER YEARS

The creators of the swimwear label Seventh Wonderland, Bonnie Coumbe and Carlos Aviles, take us for a tour of their new Sydney studio.



Sleek

We love this laser-cut number from the SS0910 range. If you need another reason to slather SPF... two words, tan lines.

FIVE MINUTES WITH BONNIE AND CARLOS

Tell us about your studio: "We loved the fact that we are in a historic building, which really complements the Art Deco style, which our aesthetic stems from. At the moment we have a very black and white space, so we plan on highlighting particular period details around the room. This is of course a work in progress, but you can see the style coming through with our black window frames against the white walls and floors."

What's next for the label? "We'd like to do a custom-made Seventh Wonderland mirror, and we are really good friends with eBay, so we're hunting for any Art Deco furniture, fixtures and fittings."

What do you listen to while you work?

- ESG (Ed: A Yen favourite – myspace.com/esgdance)
- Thievery Corporation
- David Bowie
- Air
- Bob Dylan
- Goldfrapp



The SW Key

BELOW The vintage Parisian pendant that Carlos and Bonnie have fondly nicknamed the "The SW Key" which inspired the original aesthetics of the label. ABOVE Bonnie at work. RIGHT Fans of Biba.

