

# THE FACE

MAGAZINE



*Issue 5 — 2017*















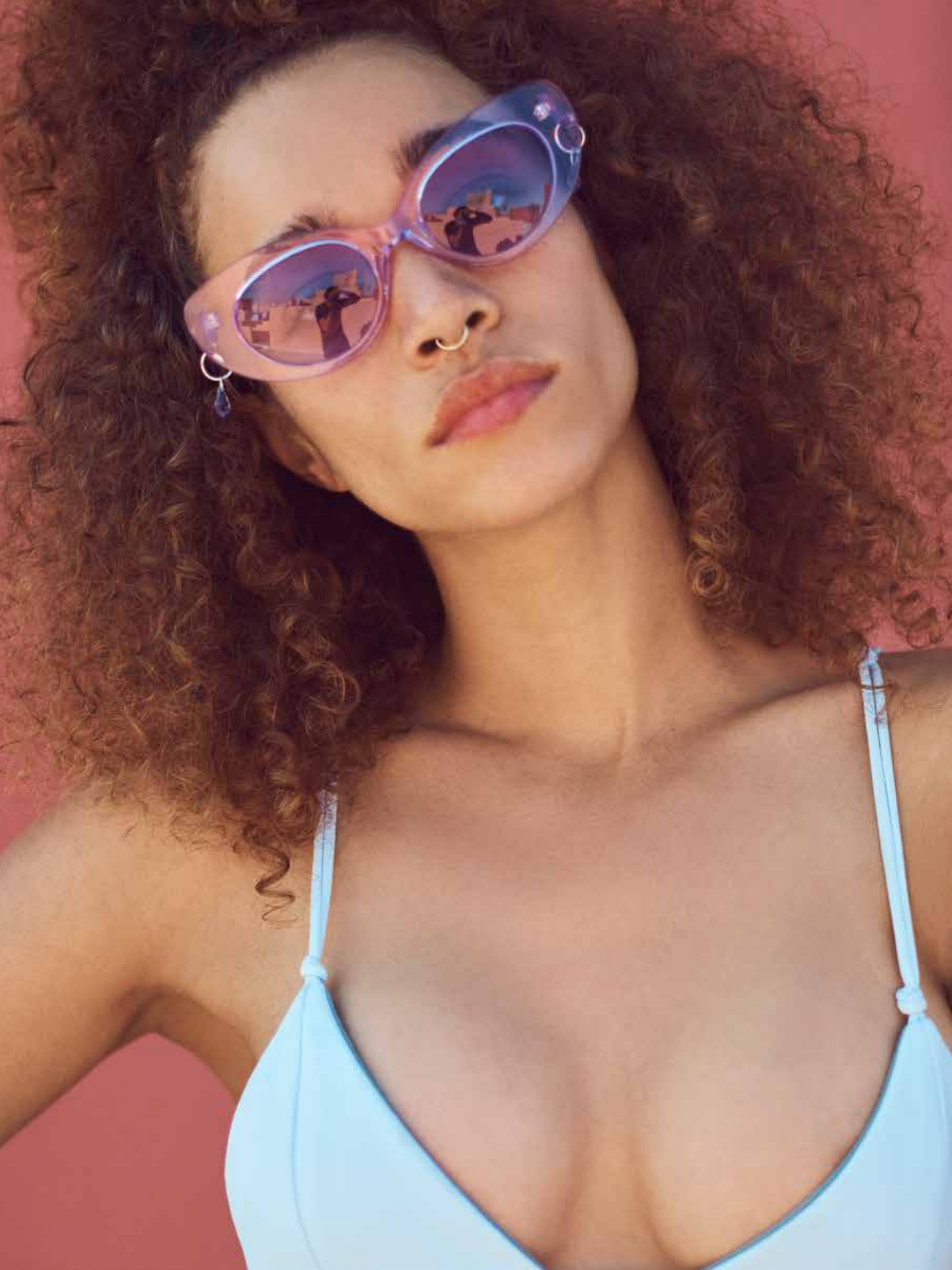












# THE FACE

*Issue 5 — Spring 2017*

26	POTTSY
32	JOSEPH MCRAE
38	RINAT BRODACH
44	JEFF TROTTER
56	GRAY WALKER
64	SUMMER GARDENS
78	THE PINK HANGER
86	LEO AND SAGE
90	THE LA EFFECT
96	ETHAN GASKILL
104	JEFFREY KALINSKY
110	ABIGAIL CLARK
114	ELLA HART
120	HANNAH SITLER
128	CHELSEA ECDAO

PRESENTED BY ANDRE MICHAEL + CIARA BIRD · COVER NICOLAS POTTS

©2017 ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

THEFACEMAG.COM | INFO@THEFACEMAG.COM | @THEFACECLT



JACQUIE AICHE

HANDMADE WITH LOVE IN CALIFORNIA  
JACQUIEAICHE.COM





**LE MERIDIEN  
CHARLOTTE**

T +1 704 372 9610  
lemeridien.com/  
charlotte

**START YOUR  
JOURNEY**

Awaken your senses with stimulating experiences, inspired cuisine and moments of discovery at every turn. Let Le Meridien Charlotte help you experience Charlotte through new eyes.

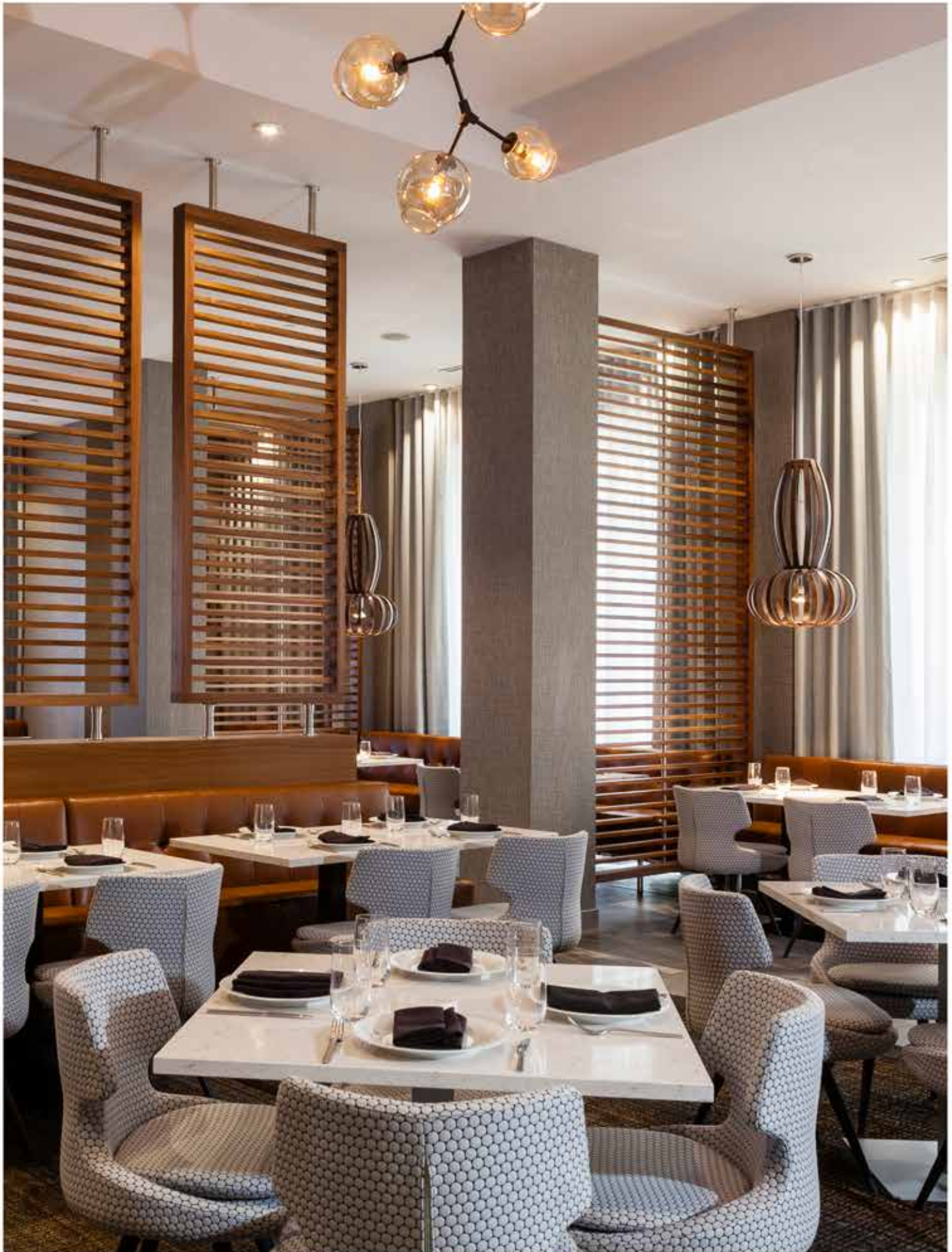
Engage your senses at [lemeridiencharlotte.com](http://lemeridiencharlotte.com)

*Le* **MERIDIEN**

N 35° 13' W 80° 50'  
**DESTINATION UNLOCKED**

**spg.**  
Starwood  
Preferred  
Guest

©2016-2017 Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Preferred Guest, SPG, Le Meridien and their logos are the trademarks of Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. or its affiliates.



Evoke Your Senses at [lemerdiencharlotte.com](http://lemerdiencharlotte.com)

EVOKE



Evoke Your Senses at [lemeridiencharlotte.com](http://lemeridiencharlotte.com)

*Le* **MERIDIEN**  
CHARLOTTE



Evoke Your Senses at [lemerdiencharlotte.com](http://lemerdiencharlotte.com)

LONGITUDE **80**

Galaxy Note 7



**SAMSUNG**

*Johnny Fly Co.*  
ECO-FASHION



[johnnyflyco.com](http://johnnyflyco.com)

Lake Norman Antiques & Design





**MADISON**  
*on madison*





# POTTSY

*How would you describe your work to someone who has never seen it? Pictures of beautiful landscapes, beautiful people and beautiful light.*

*At what point did you realize that photography is what you wanted to do as a career?* I grew up around photography with my dad Tony, and his uncle David, both being well known Australian photographers. I also recently discovered my grandfather who was a pilot, was also an incredible photographer. He would travel all over the world and set up a tripod to take these really beautiful kind of “selfies” with amazing backgrounds and activity in the late 60s. I’ve actually been scanning all the negatives and am planning to exhibit his work and do a book. When I finished school I went on to get a degree in Digital Media which led me to become a photo retoucher working for great photographers. After a few years behind the scenes I developed a hunger to shoot myself.

*What do you want to communicate with your work?* That there are fleeting moments of beauty found everyday, you just have to keep your eyes open.

*What do you wish you would have known going into this?* That you have to have your own identifiable aesthetic. It’s a lot harder than it seems, especially when there is so much out there to shoot. It helps you in your career if you can find one look that your passionate about and just do that well.

*Your projects are a collaborative process. What’s it like to always be working with new stylists, models, and designers?* Working with other creative people and collaborating on a project is a great feeling. I find that I’m always learning something new or looking at a project in a different way through someone else’s eyes.

*How do you approach a new project?* I think about the mood I want to convey. The feeling I want to evoke. I don’t necessarily think about questions, I’m kind of a “get in there and shoot until I see it” photographer.

*What qualities do you like to see in models?* Personality, Interest, and Quirkiness. It takes more than just being beautiful.

*Where is your favorite place to shoot?* New York City Rooftops.

*Your muse?* I shoot my Fiancé the most, she’s my muse. Favorite model, hands down Edita Vilkeviciute.

*What photographers from the past or present have influenced you the most?* William Eggleston, Helmet Newton, Wim Wenders, and Peter Beard.

*What’s the most rewarding part of your career?* Not working for the man. Being able to control my own schedule is the best feeling. I started my company Can’t Touch This Inc in 2011 and I’ve never looked back.

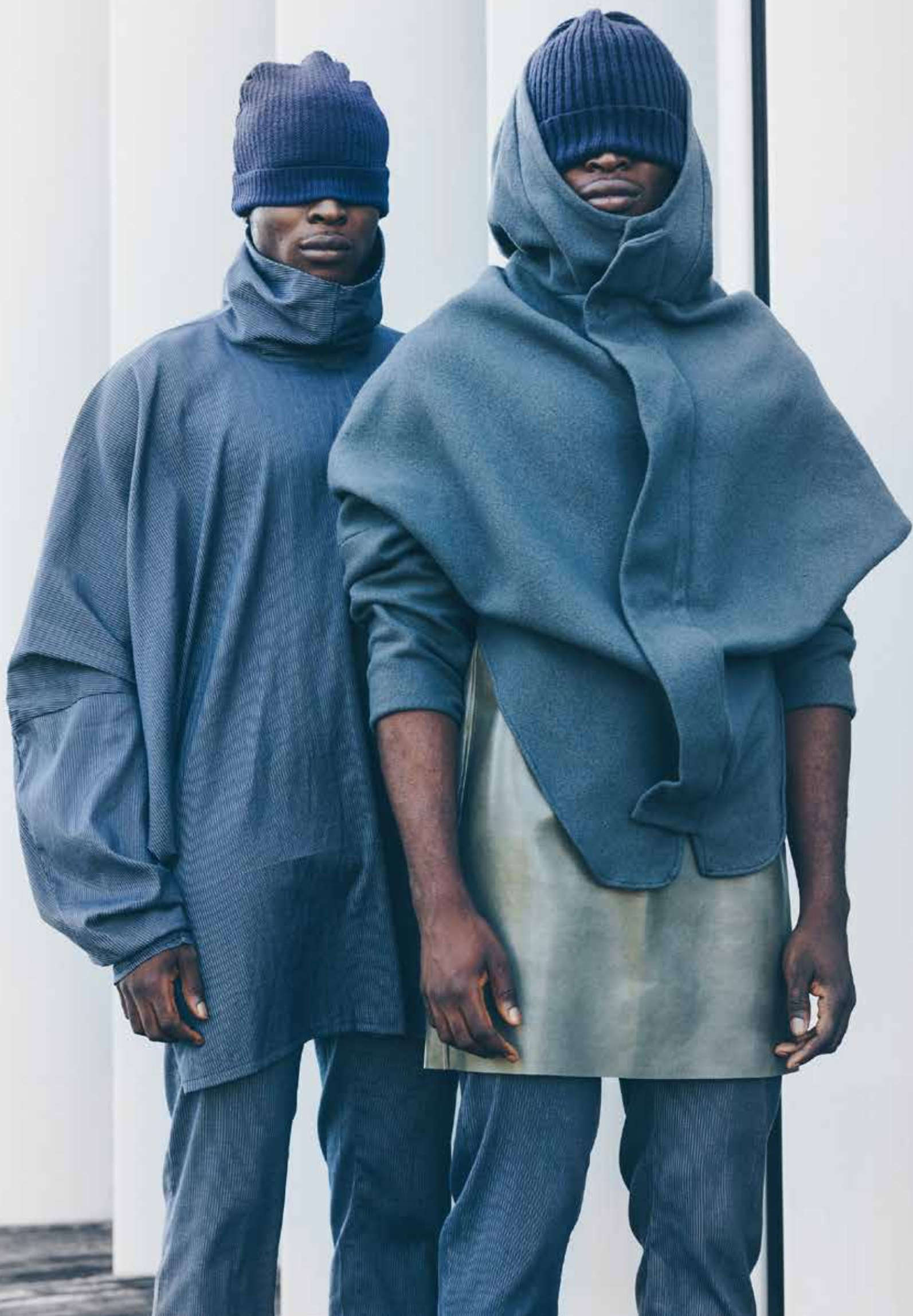
*Plans for the future?* I’m getting married in September and I’m really looking forward to having kids, starting that new life and someday moving back to Australia. Until then, I’m the happiest continuing to do what I’m doing; traveling, shooting and expanding my company, while creating work I love.











*photography* JEFFERY MATTHEWS    *words* HEATHER MARIE COMBS

I AM  
MY  
BRAND.

Revealing words that stayed with me through my tell-all conversation  
with the creatively talented designer, Joseph McRae.

*Impactful. Honest. Unapologetic.*

The most raw, true glimpse of what to expect in a  
Joseph McRae collection.







Visionary and creator, McRae is on the path to pursuing his dreams by designing an outlet of expression and creativity. “Fashion is where I can pour my all. My work is very emotional. It tells a story, kind of subconsciously, of who I am at the moment,” McRae explains. Looking to faces like Kanye West because he fully embraces his creative outlet regardless of what people have to say about it, he finds inspiration in his own life, leaving his experiences to inspire his work. Avoiding the urge to fall in line behind trends, he invites the designs to come as they will. “It’s crazy,” he laughs, “it literally just comes to me. I create and I allow it to be its own. I take the fabric and I allow it to be what it becomes through the workings of my hands.”

Predominantly a menswear designer, *“I really like the idea of twisting androgyny, taking the kind of nuances out of women’s wear and incorporating that in to very masculine menswear. Like in my latest collection, one of the key items were high waisted, wide leg, wrapped pants, which is not a normal staple for a guy, but the way it was styled was a very cool, something different.”*

When styling models for his shows he shades the eyes leaving it up for interpretation. Wanting the clothes to speak for themselves he paints the person supporting the crafted garments as a blank canvas and the art is placed on them to be the moment. “It is simple and my clothes tell the story,” he shares. Fueled by the launch of his very first collection, TriBeKa HAZE, in March of 2015, he sealed the first place win in the advanced category at a fashion exposé for students in Raleigh, where he attended University. “I would have to say that was my most memorable moment because that was when I knew this is what I want to do and in a sense, this is who Joseph McRae is.” Since then, McRae has graced the fashion scene with Démo Dé by Joseph McRae and Camille, his first collection for women.

As far as taking his designs to the next level as a business, “I am kind of hesitant at this point,” McRae reveals, “I am allowing it to kind of stand on itself. I don’t want to lose my creative ability and that outlet for me by transposing it into like my care taker in a sense. So right now, my hopes and dreams are for people to know who Joseph McRae is and to accept it for what it is whether they like it or not.”





*photography* LEIGH MOOSE    *words* MADISON BARRINGTON

# RINAT BRODACH

Born in Israel into a family of Moroccan and Eastern European decent, Rinat Brodach knew from a young age that design was what she wanted to do. From the age of 12 she knew that when she was old enough, she would move to America to pursue her dreams of being a fashion designer. Although her sketching and design began as a child, it was not until 2008 that she began practicing the art of draping.



**I**n 2005 Rinat moved to San Francisco to attend the Academy of Art University where she received her BFA in Fashion Design. By the time her senior year rolled around her thesis collection was honored with a yearlong scholarship in Paris. So off she was, again, on the pursuit of this fashion design dream. In 2010 she attended the Chambre Syndicale de la Couture Parisienne where she actually decided to stay an extra year before returning to the United States in 2012 when she landed in New York City in hopes of starting her own brand. In a way she feels as though she is carrying out a family legacy by pursuing this dream. She began telling me a story about her great grandfather, “Before World War 2 My great grandfather in Czechoslovakia was the town’s tailor. I have heard stories about him, how he would take chalk and draw immediately on fabric creating patterns. Unfortunately I never got to meet him, or many other members that were killed in the war. I sometimes think I am doing what I am doing to continue a legacy, or to finish what he was never able

to.” Not only does her family history and culture inspire Rinat, but she also pulls inspiration from life events, music, art, and her grandmother Sylvia who survived the holocaust.

If you’ve seen Rinat’s collections, or been lucky enough to see a show, you know that the fabrics she uses always look luxurious, and somehow find the perfect balance of comfortable and chic. When asked what her favorite fabrics are she replied, “Depends on the season! For Fall/Winter I love using thick wools to create volume. For Spring/Summer I really love using jerseys.” There are so many amazing pieces to choose from over the course of Rinat’s design career, but she said her favorite piece has got to be The Rob. The Rob is a coat that can work for both women and men. She really dove into this androgynous aspect in her previous collection. When we asked about the inspiration for her last collection, Rinat responded with a heartfelt reply, “This collection is inspired by my mother’s cancer.







It is inspired by my mother and all women that first deal with Cancer. On this journey she discovers a lot of different emotions including shock, grief, empowerment, strength, loss of identity, etc. *"I started to think about that point where a woman loses her hair. This leads to a loss of identity, in a way she loses sight of her sexuality. Does she feel more masculine? More feminine? At this point in the collection I thought about these feelings. This led me to crossing over into menswear in a way that also makes women feel bold and empowered."*

With lofty goals and the talent and drive to achieve them, I know we have only seen the very beginning of what Rinat Brodach has to offer the world. Her designs have already graced the runway at New York Fashion Week, and she plans to continue to show all over the world. We asked Rinat one final question, is there anything else she wants the readers to know? *"Treat others like you want to be treated,"* she replied.

[rinatbrodach.com](http://rinatbrodach.com)

PHOTOGRAPHS  
ZEKE RUELAS

INTERVIEW  
CIARA BIRD

# JEFF TROTTER *design*

*What is your favorite thing about living and working in Los Angeles?* I'm actually a native of West Los Angeles, born and raised, so L.A. is and always has been home to me. I'd have to say that my favorite things about living and working here are the amazing weather, the endless amounts of inspiration I'm constantly exposed to all around the city, and being fortunate enough to have my family close by.

*What led you to start your firm?* After working in the design world for a number of years, spending time learning, practicing, and perfecting my craft, I realized that I was ready to set out on my own. I was ready to be in a position to fully execute and deliver my creative vision for clients so Jeff Trotter Design was born!

*Did you always know you would work in design?* My passion for design is innate. For as long as I can remember I've always appreciated architecture, art, and all things design. When I was old enough to realize that I could parlay my passion into a full time career and get paid to do something that I truly loved, I knew I'd found my calling and never looked back.

*Do you have any studio rules? Describe your work space.* Studio rules... Always have music on and strong coffee available. Marble is always a good idea in every project somewhere. Keep everything in its place. I'm very type-A and a perfectionist, so I need my spaces to be "magazine ready" at all times. It's a blessing and a curse.











*"I'm extremely visual, so I really enjoy  
and respect the art of capturing a moment or subject  
on camera and transforming that into art."*

*Daily rituals?* I'm an early riser, so before the sun comes up I've already checked my emails, curated my Instagram posts, made breakfast and am on my way to gym. I'm a total creature of habit and routine.

*What is your favorite part of the design process?* I can honestly say I love the entire process. From conception to installation, each step is rewarding in its own way. That being said, there's nothing better than seeing my client's face when I'm able to reveal their finished spaces to them.

*What fuels your passion for design?* My innate need to create fuels my passion for design. I feel most alive when I'm taking all of my ideas and visions for a space and manifesting them into reality.

*What items are essential for you to get started?* I don't necessarily require items as much as I require intentions. The first thing I ask a client is "What is your intention for this space?". When I have a clear direction from a client on what they need and desire from their space, I'm better able to deliver successful results.

*How is your personal style reflected in your work?* I'm all about tailored, livable, luxury in all ways. I love clean and classic tailored lines, rich textures in touch and feel and always keep in mind functional livability. I gravitate towards restrained color ways and timeless pieces. The way I dress is a pretty accurate reflection of the way I design.

*What's your uniform?* I wear a lot of all black, white, grey and denim. You can usually find me in a pair of distressed jeans, a simple tee, one of my leather jackets and a pair of Saint Laurent sneakers. I have a weakness for pretty much everything Saint Laurent.

*How long did it take for you to develop your signature style?* I'd like to think that my "signature style" is constantly evolving and changing so it's hard for me to put any kind of timeline parameters around it. I always just trust my gut when designing and create what feels right at the time.

*Do you find that you think about decorating your own spaces differently than when working for a client?* It's always easier to take bigger design risks when I'm creating a space for myself, so, yes. When working with clients, I take their needs, wants, likes and dislikes and then filter them through my design eye. I want to deliver them a space that's a reflection of their style and mine. When I'm working alone, I'm able to experiment more and take the risks that may terrify a client.

*Is there anything in particular that you are currently collecting/ searching for/obsessed with?* Right now I'm obsessed with interesting equestrian photography. I've always been drawn to horses because they're so strong and powerful yet beautiful and graceful at the same time. I came across this amazing photographer named Shelli Breidenbach, who captures stunning portraits of horses in such unexpected and artistic ways. Right now I'm currently obsessed with collecting her work and using it in my designs.

*Do you have a specialty? What is your favorite room/space to decorate?* I'd say my specialty is renovating. Since the inception of my firm, almost every project I've taken has been a large scale or gut renovation. I just love redefining structures, and working with my architects and contractors to create spaces from scratch. I'm usually the first hired on a project so I'm really able to put my stamp on it from the ground up. As for room preferences, I do a ton of kitchens and bathrooms. I love tile and stone so both of those spaces allow me a ton of creative liberty.

*Tell us about your clients, do you like to start from scratch or work with individuals who already have a vision?* No two clients are alike. Everyone comes in and wants to work differently with me. Some like to back off and trust me to take full control, while others like to be really involved in every step of the process. I think the key to being a successful designer is learning how to navigate both avenues and being adaptable to a client's personality and the way they work. The only thing I really ask of a client is for them to trust me, after all, they hired me for a reason.







*Do you have a go-to color palette or texture?* I tend to gravitate towards more neutral palettes, usually heavy in texture, while using color sparingly in a restrained but intention way. I love all tones of grey and high contrast color combinations like black and white. I always use something marble in my designs, whether it be on countertops, flooring or in accessories. Natural materials like jute, seagrass and driftwood are my frequent go-to's to help ground a space and give it a warm and livable vibe.

*What other art forms/ kinds of artists to you have a high appreciation for? Why?* I've always loved photography. I'm extremely visual, so I really enjoy and respect the art of capturing a moment or subject on camera and transforming that into art. Images can be incredibly powerful artistic statements and I love incorporating photography into my designs. I think that's why Instagram in particular has become so popular worldwide. For me, it's become such a rewarding way to communicate and document my design aesthetic. Whether it's photos of my work, work that I'm inspired by, fashion, or snapshots of my daily life, I find it really fun to communicate visually through photography.

*Where is your favorite place to escape?* Internationally, my favorite place to escape to is Capri or Positano on the Amalfi Coast. I was there last summer for an amazing trip with friends and it took my breath away. Ideally, I'd love to escape there several times a year. Domestically, my favorite place to escape to is my bedroom. I really believe that your home should be your sanctuary and there is nothing better than a lazy Sunday in bed, catching up on my DVR and napping.



*Photo courtesy of Tony Duran*

*@JeffTrotterDesign  
jeffrotterdesign.com*

# the art of style



[www.TheArtOfStyleBoutique.com](http://www.TheArtOfStyleBoutique.com)

19 W Hargett St Raleigh NC 27601 919.755.3333



PROUD REAL ESTATE PARTNER  
OF THE ATLANTA FALCONS



*Supporting the community  
and our home team.*

**WE ARE ATLANTA REAL ESTATE**



Get the home team advantage at  
**HARRYNORMAN.COM**

ATLANTA NORTH 770-622-3081

ATLANTA PERIMETER 770-394-2131

BIG CANOE 770-893-2400

BLUE RIDGE 706-632-7211

BUCKHEAD 404-233-4142

BUCKHEAD CHASTAIN 404-233-1492

BUCKHEAD NORTH 404-814-9000

BUCKHEAD NORTHWEST 404-261-2700

COBB MARIETTA 770-422-6005

EAST COBB 770-977-9500

FORSYTH/LAKE LANIER 770-497-2000

HIAWASSEE 706-632-7211

INTOWN 404-897-5558

LUXURY LAKE & MOUNTAIN 706-212-0228

NORTH FULTON 678-461-8700

PEACHTREE CITY 770-632-8526

SANDY SPRINGS 404-250-9900

SAVANNAH 912-233-6609





PHOTOGRAPHS  
DUSTIN PECK

INTERVIEW  
CIARA BIRD

# GRAY WALKER *interiors*

*What is your favorite thing about living and working in Charlotte?* I love Charlotte for many reasons. I am southern and have always felt the vibe here suited me personally. It's a small city with a lot to offer. I met my husband here while I was working for a large design firm and he was a young bond trader at Nation's Bank... that was a LONG time ago. We stayed here to raise our boys and be close to my hometown Columbia, SC. Charlotte is a small southern city with LOTS of style. The women I work with are quite chic and have incredible taste. It's great being in a city with and understanding and appreciation for art and design.

*Did you always know you would work in design?* I knew I loved art the design part came after I got my BA in art history from The University of Georgia. I studied photography in Italy while in my last semester at Georgia and knew I really connected to the concept of composition. When I came back home I went to work for the interior design firm that did my parent's home and it all clicked. I figured out the composition concept for me applied to furniture and fabrics within rooms. I went back to school and got my BFA in interior design.

*Do you have any studio rules? Describe your work space.* I don't follow rules myself. I hate rules and laugh to my husband about









how I would be fired if I had to work in the financial world he lives in. I guess my pet peeve is things going back where they are supposed to be. After meetings things are thrown all over my studio... I am really picky about every piece of fabric, trim, paint chips going back to their spot. My studio is organized but I am not a rule girl. I like pretty and organized.

*Daily rituals?* Wake up see my husband and youngest son off by 7 am. I then head to my desk and check emails and scroll through Instagram before 8:15 workout. By 10 or 10:30 I can be dressed at a meeting ready to go for my day. Dry shampoo and make up can do wonders. I work back and forth between projects at my desk. I research product like a crazy woman. I find something I like and I want it or I want to place it in someone's home. I think about my work all of the time. Around 5:30 I will start to think about dinner getting ready. After dinner I take a very hot bath every night. I am a homebody and love being with my family just hanging out!

*What is your favorite part of the design process?* I enjoy all of the phases ... I do love a photo shoot because you see your work in a very glamorous way. Photography isn't real life but it is just amazing to see your work in 2 D with the right lights, angles and lots of flowers.

*What fuels your passion for design?* My creativity and desire to make something unique and spectacular.

*What items are essential for you to get started?* A fabulous painting, rug, antique... Items that really speak to me when I do an initial meeting with a new client. There is always something that a client has that excites me.

*How is your personal style reflected in your work?* My personal style is about serenity and glamour. I like a space that is easy to read and relaxing. That serenity needs a little spunk and that is when I throw in my classic glamour. Clean, chic, glamorous spaces.

*What's your uniform?* I don't have a uniform . I wish I did. I will say in the summer in Charlotte you will most often find me in an easy cotton dress because the heat forces me to keep it simple.

*How long did it take for you to develop your signature style?* I actually think it took longer than I would have thought. I am currently redecorating my entire house to be reflective of my signature style... I started my own business in 1996, you do the math. I am not going to promise I won't do this again!

*Do you find that you think about decorating your own spaces differently than when working for a client?* YES! It is so much harder. I actually have to stop and make myself think as hard as I do on my client's homes. My brain just whizzes around all of my options and I have to lasso my



thoughts in and stay focused on the entire house and how it will read as a whole. I am so DONE with my renovation and ready to think about my client's exclusively. It's hard to be your own interior designer I think I will hire one next time.

*Is there anything in particular that you are currently obsessed with?* I am currently decluttering and simplifying. Ask me that in a year.

*Do you have a specialty? What is your favorite room/space to decorate?* I love a master bedroom. I have fun decorating spaces that can be feminine and elegant.

*Tell us about your clients, do you like to start from scratch or work with individuals who already have a vision?* My clients usually have a vision and hire me to execute the design and add my signature elements.

*Do you have a go-to color palette or texture?* I can honestly say I don't ever do the same things with colors and texture over and over. Though I am into metallics big time lately.

*What other art forms/ kinds of artists to you have a high appreciation for?* Ballerinas. They are athletic, graceful and disciplined.

*Where is your favorite place to escape?* The Amalfi coast in Italy.









*summer*  
GARDENS

*photography* TORNÉ VELK  
*styling* MICHELLE MEYER  
*assistant* MAROLIZE SOUTHWOOD  
*hair and makeup* MELISSA VAN ZYL

*featuring* CAITLIN DOBSON AT FUSION MODELS  
*wearing* BABETTE





























*photography* LEIGH MOOSE & OZZY OJITO

*featuring* ZETA CRUZ *hair + makeup* TATIANNA MARIE

*words* C.DAREN

# THE PINK *hanger*

*Ten Years of Fashion, Trends,  
and Styling for Clients.*



One of the first things that you notice when walking through the doors of this women's fashion and accessories store is that blush pink is everywhere. As Whitney Avishar, founder of The Pink Hanger states when talking about how the name of the store was chosen, "When I envisioned the store, I thought blush pink walls and blush pink hangers; I wanted it to be girly and feminine. -"This is my girl outlet," she laughed.

Whitney Avishar decided about ten years ago to open The Pink Hanger in a red brick shopping center on Providence Road and it's still thriving today. In 2010 Theresa Todd joined as part-owner, Jennifer Ugland began in 2008 and became part owner in 2016 this team brings customer service to the next level.

The Pink Hanger is a boutique for every woman -- made for you, your mother, and your grandmother. "For the past ten years, the owners have made it their mission to have the latest trends, as well as the classic lines, in store. A sense of pride shows on Whitney and Jennifer's faces as they begin to recall clients that they have cultivated over the ten years. "It's a little bit of everyone," Jennifer said when talking about their client base. "Any trendy mother... also her daughter, or to buy gifts for her

mother. Our age range is from the high school to one of our best customers, who is 78 years young. A little bit of something for everyone," she continued.













When you open the door at The Pink Hanger, it is as if you are transported back in time to when customer service was based on making sure the client felt that they are the most important person in the store, no matter how busy it may get. The staff is not there just to “make a sale;” instead they are there to make a difference in the shopping experience. Often in the retail business the phrase “up-sell” is used, but often, not here. Sales professional are not at The Pink Hanger to just sell. They are there to make sure the clients leave happy with items they truly look great in. “A client may come out of the fitting room with 20 items and ask ‘do I need all of this?’; Some competitors say of course, but we do not. We want them to buy only the items that truly make them feel and look the best” Jennifer and Whitney stated.

Another aspect that is unique to their establishment is that the staff works together, it is about the client and not a cutthroat environment that just makes sales. Because of this style of sale, which is lead from the top down, they don’t see much turnover of employees. “We are not competing with anyone,” said Jennifer. Clients see that we “enjoy each other’s company, and it puts them at ease. They know it is about them,” she added.

Whitney recalls that Jennifer had to keep sending clients to a big box store to get a certain item, which they used to not carry, after a short discussion the item was ordered. “A one

stop shop” stated Jennifer. The store continues to strive to be that one location which a client can purchase everything they would need to have a complete finished look without having to shop anywhere else.

The ownership and staff make lasting relationships with their customer base, so much so, that clients look to them to advise on the newest trends and trust they will be sold items that make them look their best. Whitney and Jennifer both love to hear back from clients and enjoy getting photos from them wearing the outfits they helped style. The entire staff at The Pink Hanger feels that the biggest reward is knowing we helped a client feel special.

*2935 Providence Road, Unit 103  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28211  
704.366.7272  
pinkhangeronline.com*

*photography* OZZY OJITO    *words* MADISON MOOSE BARRINGTON

*models* ELLY NOAH *and* EMMY HENDRIX *of* 3BBM

*makeup artist* KAITLYN KISER    *hair styling* ANDRAYAH PONCE

# LEO *and* SAGE

If you are an avid online shopper, odds you're familiar with the ultra modern brand Leo and Sage. We were lucky enough to have the chance to chat with Pauline Nakios, creative director and co-owner of Leo and Sage, to learn more about what it really takes to run a successful fashion brand.





*What is your position at Leo and Sage?* I am the owner, along with my husband Thomas, and Creative Director of Leo & Sage.

*When did you all start the company?* We launched the line Fall 2015. While the brand is new, we are no strangers to the industry. Our line, Lilla P, has been around for almost two decades.

*What did you do before Leo and Sage?* I started Lilla P in 1998 while living in Atlanta. Thomas left his job in finance and joined me full time in 2006.

*What makes Leo and Sage so special?* Leo & Sage is a curated collection of knitwear and ready to wear. We use beautiful fabrics and luxury yarns. The line is approachable and appeals to a broad range of women. We nod to the trends in a sophisticated and understated way.

*What made you start Leo and Sage?* Knitwear became such an important part of my other brand, Lilla P. I wanted to expand the category but in order to use luxury yarns such as cashmere and wool, I needed to do it under a new label. The direction of the line and the price point warranted a new brand and identity.

*Did the company see immediate success?* Like anything new, success takes time. I was thrilled with the reaction to the brand and the interest it garnered from the retailers and consumers, and to me that is success.

*What were some of the biggest challenges in starting the new brand?* Starting a brand is not easy. With years of experience in the industry, so many of the "start up" challenges were circumvented. One of the personal challenges I had was ensuring that Leo & Sage and Lilla P were kept separate. They are two different brand with two distinct directions, but I had to make sure I was able to give them each their own identity. I also didn't want the industry to see Leo & Sage as Lilla P's sister brand. I wanted consumers and retailers to see Leo & Sage on its own.

*Are the clothes manufactured in the US?* We make our clothing in China and in India. We use a lot of Italian yarn as well.

*Where did the name Leo and Sage come from?* I am a Leo, and my husband is a Sagittarius.



*What do the next five years look like for the brand?* We are about to start shipping our third Fall Collection this July. The next five years will be about building brand identity and creating pieces that are timeless and on trend- essential building blocks for today's wardrobe that can be worn for seasons to come.

*Has there been a moment in the brand's history that has felt like a "we made it" moment?* As a young brand, participating as a featured designer and a judge of emerging designers at this year's Charleston Fashion Week was an incredible experience. We are always pushing harder and harder so I'm not sure what a "we made it" moment would be like for an entrepreneur who is always striving for more.

*Why the emphasis on knitwear?* I mentioned this above, but I saw the importance and relevance of knitwear in my other brand, Lilla P. We wanted to offer luxury yarns and intricate details and that was the clear signal to us that we needed to launch a new brand that was about luxury yarns and fabrics.

*How do you feel about the direction of fashion right now with the idea of fast fashion, 10+ seasons, and even the ability to purchase right off of the runway?* I understand the direction of fast fashion. I worry about the over consumption and waste factor of throw-away clothing. I prefer to buy better and have pieces last for seasons. I also miss that waiting period when we would get a glimpse of what's to come and have to wait for it to hit the stores. It would be nice to dig our heels in for a moment and take a big long breath.

*What do designer/brand do you really admire?* I have been admiring Delpozo and Solace London. I always love Co and Joseph as well.

*Is Leo and Sage only available through E-commerce? If not, where can we find you?* We do have an online presence but the focus is selling to independent specialty stores. You can email us for retailers near you — [sales@leoandsage.com](mailto:sales@leoandsage.com)

*If you had to choose three of the main factors that go into making a new company successful, what would they be?* Determination and creativity are key. Additionally, you have to have great product and a strong financial knowledge. It's impossible to succeed without both.







# THE L.A. EFFECT

*photography* NICOLAS POTTS











# ETHAN GASKILL

Ethan Gaskill is a 22 year-old creative that has already been narrowing in on his passion and honing his craft for seven years. Coming from Wilmington, North Carolina, Ethan had some amazing opportunities to explore his creative side, such as attending school for film and video production and then working on television sets like *Sleepy Hollow* and *Under the Dome*. Since then he has had the chance to shoot for fashion brands and modeling agencies not only regionally, but in impressive markets like New York and Los Angeles. The energy that exudes from Ethan when talking to him about his future is nothing short of inspiring. With lofty goals and a talent to obtain them, it won't be too long before everyone will be wanting to shoot with Ethan Gaskill.

**How long have you been a photographer?** Since I was 15, but I've been doing paid work since I was 18.

**Is that your only job?** Photography is not my only job. I enjoy having diverse interests. I work in the real estate market as a home investor with my parents, I own a recycling business on a private island, and I also work a few days a week at a local boutique called Oliver. Each job keeps me on my toes and helps me grow in different ways. I think by participating in multiple industries it helps me to understand various types of people, personalities, and clients. It also helps me to fund my passion and purchase the necessary equipment and tools that I love to use.

**Do you only shoot fashion? If not, what else do you do?** I do not only shoot fashion. I do about 4-6 weddings a year, but aside from the wedding related work I also shoot some beauty, lifestyle, and commercial work.

**What made you want to become a photographer?** Going back to my passion for storytelling - in the beginning when I decided to work in the film industry, I figured film was the most obvious medium to tell a story or make compelling imagery. I quickly came to find that unless I had a crew that was willing to do free work on occasions, lots of hard drive space, and tons of extra time, it was going to be very difficult for me to pull off a lot of my visions. I wanted to be able to express my ideas, stories, and creative vision with ease, so when my friend introduced me to the idea of fashion photography and how large of a narrative role the genre had, I immediately became hooked. I quickly noticed I could produce interesting work and all I needed was myself, a subject, and a basic understanding of how lighting worked. I attribute a lot of my knowledge to what I learned in film school. It's important that all of my images have a bit of a filmic or cinematic feeling to them.

**Do you have a favorite photographer of all time?** My current favorite photographers are Juergen Teller, David Sims, Matteo Montanari, and Alexander Saladrigas.

**What inspires you?** I'm really inspired by the past, but also the future. More than anything though, probably nostalgia. I take time to acknowledge what worked in the past, but I also want to stay cognisant of what could be big, or on trend in the future. I look at a lot of old photos and really admire how effortlessly cool people used to be. We live at a point in time where the bar keeps getting higher and higher for people to be cool or fresh, so now everyone tries really hard!

I feel like in the 40's, 50's, and 60's everyone was naturally cool, even the people who may of not been popular or deemed as the "cool kids," everything just used to be a "look."

I remember even looking at photos of my grandma when she was young, she was laid out on the beach at the age of 16, smoking a cigarette, wearing a black one piece bathing suit and Rayban Wayfarers, holding a bottle of coke. It's like every single moment used to be photographable: the cars, people, buildings, events, etc. I like to use a lot of those timeless elements in my work and fuse them with modern day things.

**Describe your editing process?** My editing process has been the biggest hurdle for me over the years. I'm constantly growing, changing my tastes, and realizing what looks good or bad. I look back at old work and wonder, "Why in God's name did I think that looked good?" I think the thing that has helped me the most is to keep things simple and always edit with the idea that less is usually more. My friend Alexander Saladrigas recently told me to always put my photos up with a white border around them to see how they look. Sometimes when I stare too long at the computer I lose sense of what looks good or bad. His idea of using the white











border helps to see your final photo up against a clean canvas to provide a clearer idea of where your highlights, shadows, whites, and blacks are. I would say most of the looks on my images are produced by crushing the highlights a bit, increasing the contrast slightly, and playing with desaturation. Sometimes I'll go into the curves adjustments and manipulate things further but it all depends on the lighting.

**What type of camera do you use?** I use a Canon 5D Mark III, and the lenses I own are 50 1.4, 85 1.8, 70-200 2.8, and 24-70 2.8.

**Did you go to school for photography or did you teach yourself?**

I have done photography courses for film photography once at my local community college, but I am for the most part self taught. I cannot take all the credit though, as I've had a ton of influences and amazing friends who have been gracious enough to teach me some of their tricks and encourage me when I feel bad about the work I'm producing, or the speed in which I'm growing.

**Were you creative as a child as well?** Very. I was always drawing, writing the scripts for plays and movies, and making my friends act them out, building huge creations with legos, etc. I was the kid who constantly got in trouble for daydreaming or making sketches on the backs of my tests and notes.

**What's your favorite thing you've ever photographed?** I'd say one of my favorite shoots I've ever done was a model test with a girl named Maryna (New York Model Management). I just love every photo from that day. We met in the downstairs lobby of my friend's apartment in Brooklyn. We shot on my friend's balcony, on the rooftop, and in the streets. It was also the first shoot I had ever shot and developed film for.

**What is something you wish more people knew about you?**

I wish people knew that, just like them, I've struggled too. I think it's easy for people to view others and see the outside picture and quickly come to a judgement about what they perceive that person's past or life is like. I know how hard it is to make a name for yourself—I'm still working on that and probably will be for 5-10 years. I know how hard it is to work day and night just to earn an income that hardly gives you room to invest into your passions. I know how hard it is to stress and worry over the time you've invested into your craft and the emotions you're pouring out to try and create work that you feel 100% represents your visions. I know it's hard. I just want everyone to know that even when the odds seem entirely against you, you must be the person to stick it through and not give up. That determination is what's going to set you apart and shape you into the brilliant artist that you know deep down inside you are.

Jeffrey



*photography* LEIGH MOOSE    *words* MADISON BARRINGTON

# JEFFREY FASHION CARES

Paris Fashion Week, Milan and New York jet-set their way to Atlanta every year. The last Monday in August has become one of the most anticipated dates of the year because of Jeffrey Fashion Cares. Many view the high-end runway show, live auction and philanthropic event as the kick-off to the Fall fashion season in the city. With designer labels such as Gucci, Celine, Christian Dior, Givenchy, Valentino, Dries van Noten, Saint Laurent Paris, Balenciaga, Christian Louboutin and Manolo Blahnik, Jeffrey Fashion Cares is most definitely the hottest ticket in town.



**T**he visionary behind Jeffrey Fashion Cares is its founder, fashion icon and philanthropist, Jeffrey Kalinsky. He has two namesake boutiques, one in New York's meatpacking district and the other in Atlanta at Phipps Plaza. Jeffrey Fashion Cares, which showcases the latest looks of the season, occurs twice a year - in NYC at the US Intrepid as a menswear show and the other runway is in Atlanta and is celebrating twenty-five stylish years. While the NYC event brings out the likes of Vogue's Anna Wintour and celebrities such as Chloe Sevigny and Zachary Quinto, it is the Atlanta event that got everything started. Jeffrey Kalinsky spoke with us about the early years, when Jeffrey Fashion Cares was called "Shoe Cares." Kalinsky got his start in the shoe business so his charity fundraiser was naturally all about shoes - fabulous shoes, of course. He pointed out that one of the greatest challenges in those early years was figuring out how to create an entertaining and engaging fashion show with shoes. Well, anyone who knows Jeffrey knows he's always one step ahead - no pun intended - and he figured "it" out. I once asked Jeffrey how he keeps the show fresh year after year and he humbly put it back on his amazing team and their hard work, but modesty aside, it's Jeffrey Kalinsky's vision, aesthetic and drive that keep him and his endeavors on the forefront of fashion.



*"Our job is to travel the world and be shoppers for our shoppers," says Jeffrey. "We try every single season to buy the most beautiful things in the world," he added. And on that last Monday in August, you can see all those "beautiful things" parade onto a 140ft runway. One of my favorite moments of the show, besides all the to-die-for looks, bags and shoes, comes at the finale walk where Jeffrey makes a runway stop to kiss his mother while she hands him a bouquet of roses.*

*Jeffrey acknowledges that breast cancer and AIDS have affected so many lives and that by coming to Jeffrey Fashion Cares, you are participating in something good. In its history, Jeffrey Fashion Cares has become the largest combined AIDS and breast cancer benefit in the country. Lila Hertz, who has chaired the event for fifteen of its twenty-five years, shared an optimistic message, "We are so proud of the contribution we have made to the breast cancer and AIDS charities over the years. However, our work is not done—there is still much to do for these two diseases. So, we want everyone to join us to celebrate our silver anniversary and contribute to help us reach our goal of one million dollars. Together we can do it!"*

Jeffrey Fashion Cares benefits Susan G. Komen Greater Atlanta, the Atlanta AIDS Fund (AAF), and the Medical University of South Carolina. For more information, visit [jeffreymode.com](http://jeffreymode.com)

# DEAN & DELUCA

PURVEYORS OF FINE FOOD, WINE AND KITCHENWARE

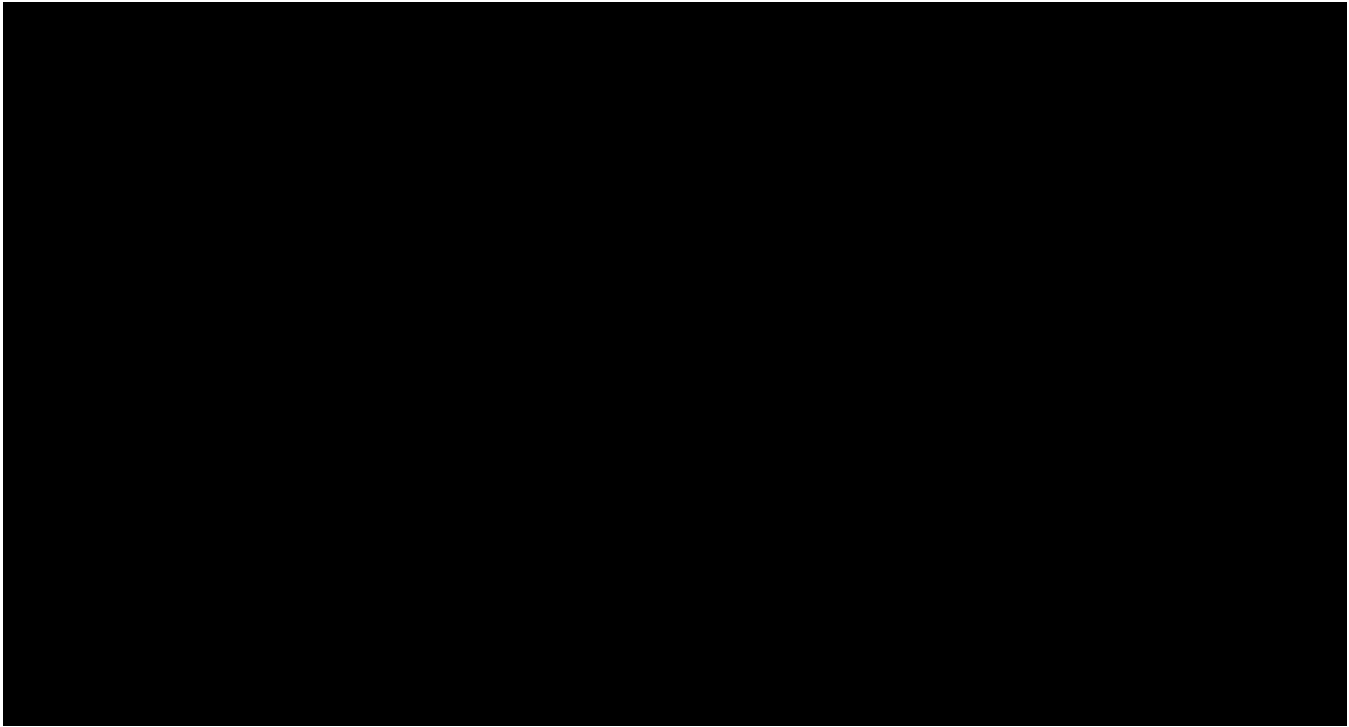




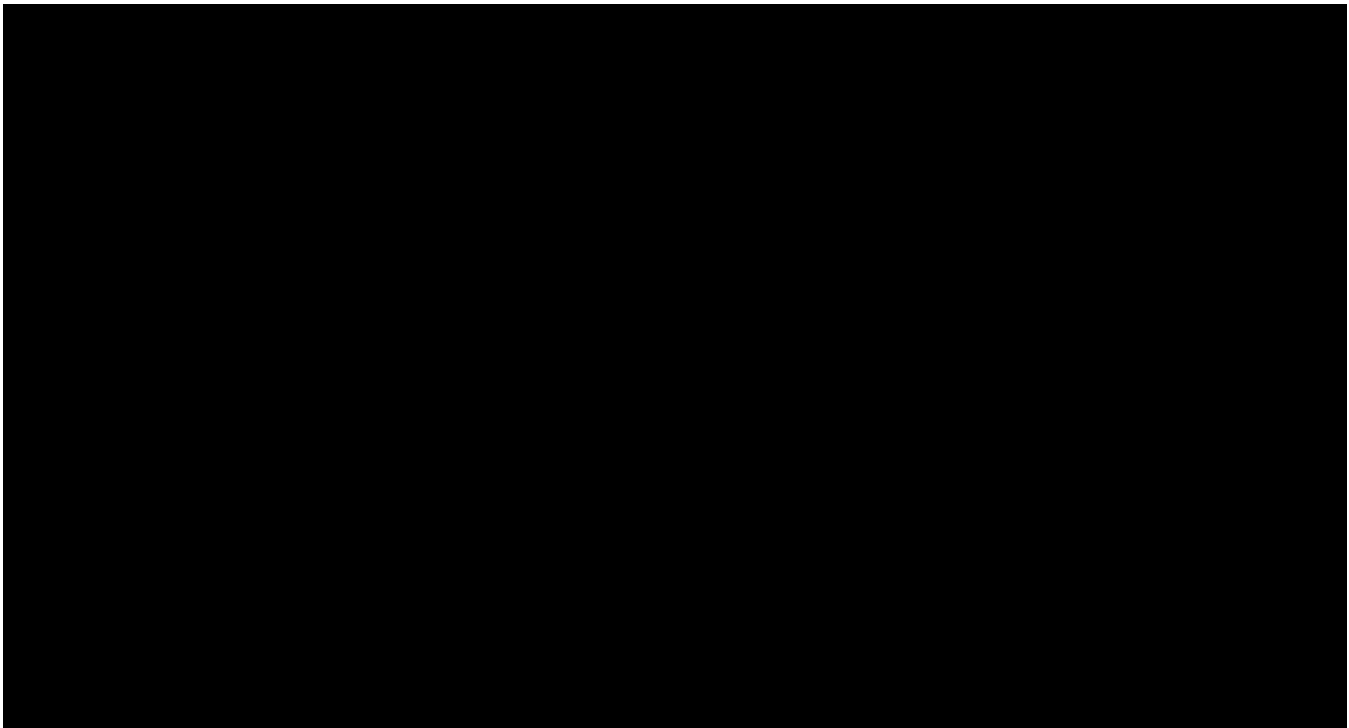
3 B B M

// 3bbm.com //

madelandcreativemanagement

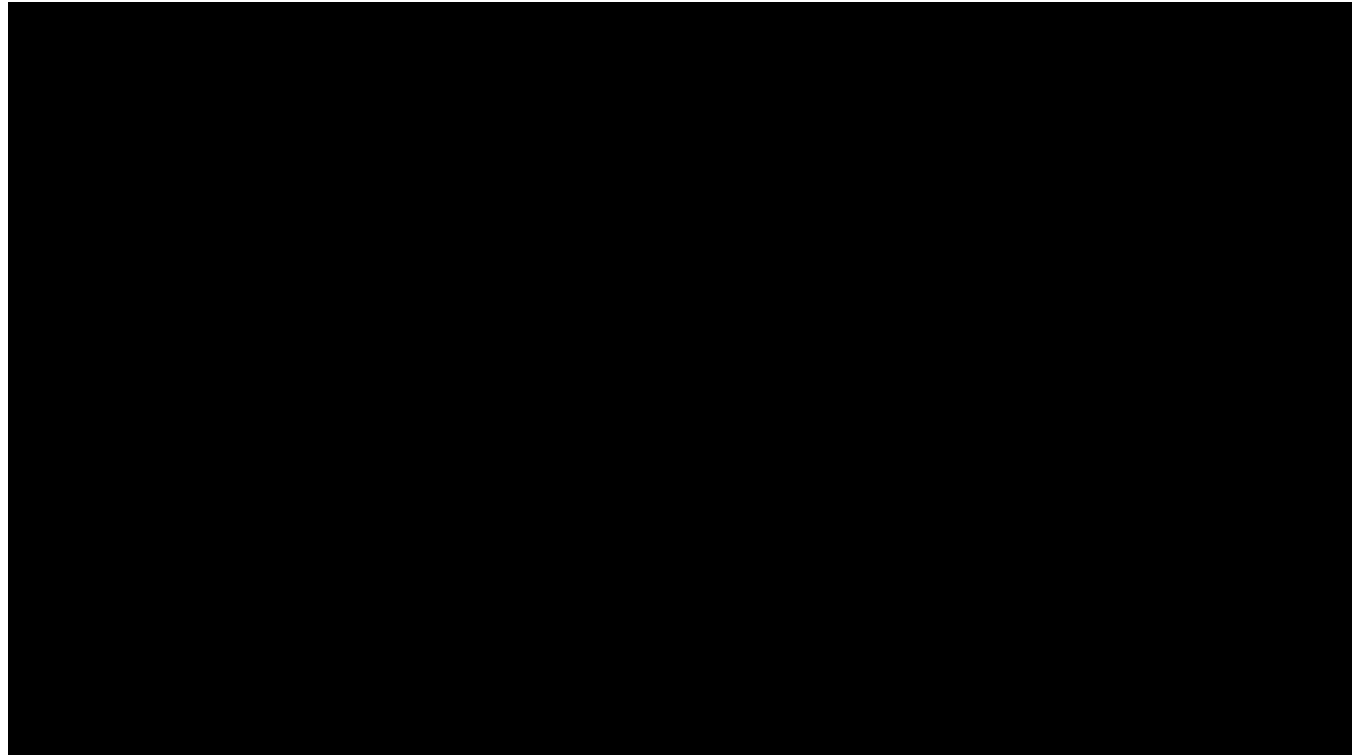


*abigail*









Twenty-year-old Abigail (Abbie) Clark started her modeling career after graduating high school doing freelance work for local photographers. As for finding the right agency, that took a little while. After seeing a posting on Instagram from 3 Blackbird Management and meeting the team, Abigail felt at home and signed with them. “I felt like I actually mattered to them and that agency was pursuing me, I like that, I can get that one on one with the directors.” She said.

Her parents were very open with Abigail about what they felt about the fashion industry and supports her decision to pursue this career path. “I have always loved the camera, since I was a little girl, I would dress up with heels and pose for the camera.” She said. Abigail has the full support of her family as she has taken a break from college to pursue her modeling career. “They take care of my dog when I have shoots” she states. Nalla is her rescue dog or as she makes clear “she is my baby”

Abigail is an artist she loves to paint and mixed media; modeling is another outlet she uses as another outlet for her to express herself. It's very artistic for me, I see the human body as a masterpiece... really love to the positions and the way you form your body to make the clothing work.” she said. “Working with photographer is an honor for me... to I love helping them make their own art.” She added.

You may notice if you meet Abigail her tattoo on her right shoulder. At eighteen she decided it was time to get one, “it is sometimes mistaken for an eyelash or even a Budweiser crown

but no it is a SUNRISE.” She laughs. “The Sun to me is a symbol of energy and light. It reminds me to wake up every morning to rise like the sun! To put light out in to the world, positive energy to keep things going the sunrises every morning no matter what and so should we.” She exclaimed.

Abigail brings a freshness and honesty to her answer when the topic of working in the fashion industry comes up. “It allows you to have a voice in a way... My goal is to be able to speak with people and make a difference in the world through this... I want to be part of a movement.” She mused. “I love fashion, I love clothes, and I love pop-culture, art, music, film. Modeling ties it all together. She continued.

Reflecting on her modeling goals, she does not hesitate, first and foremost is to walk in New York Fashion Week. “It has been my dream forever.” The ultimate fantasy/goal is to walk in the Victoria's Secret Fashion Show, I get chills watching it and would love to be apart of it.” She exclaimed. “You probably hear that a lot” she laughed.

Watch out world Abigail Clark is here and ready to be counted. She is not just a pretty face with a great body. She is ready to put the modeling industry on notice; when you work with Abbie you get not only a hard working professional, you also get an artist, a feminist, a daughter, a sister, and a someone who believes in the power the modeling world has and how it can be a force for good in this world.

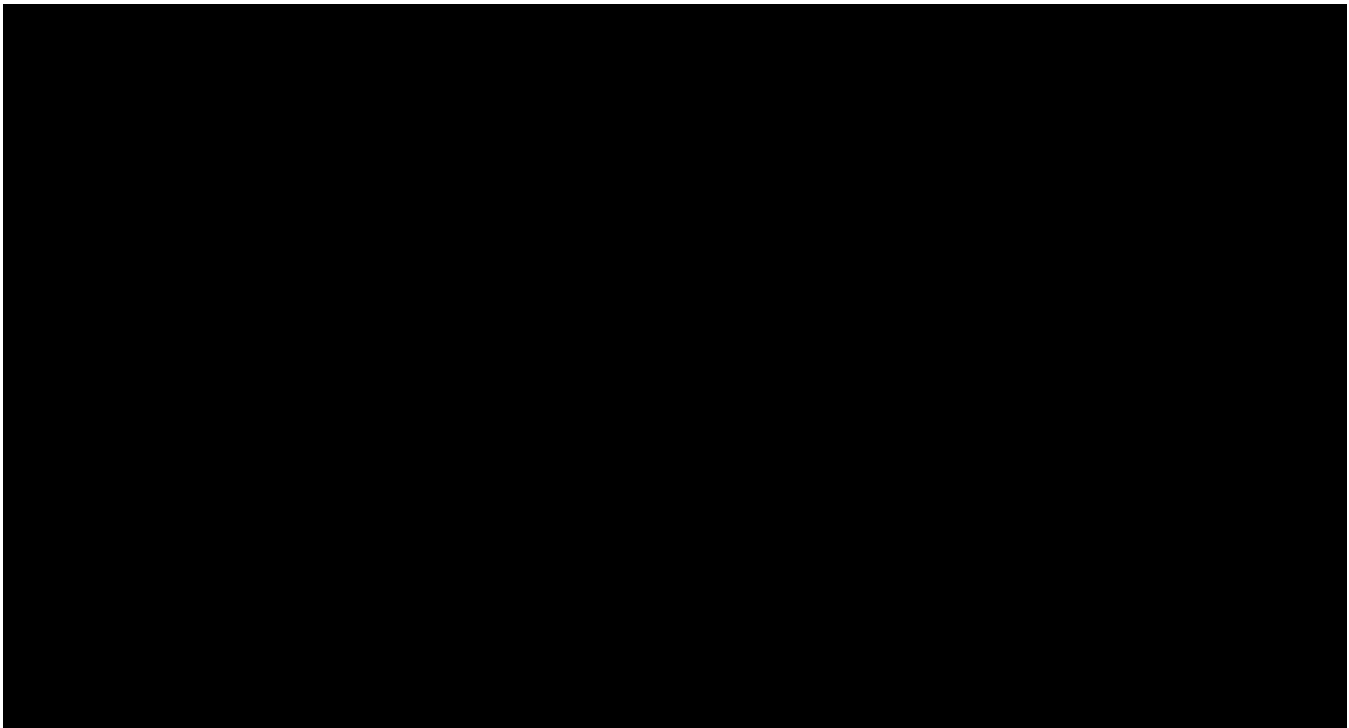








*ella*









IMAGINE THAT YOU ARE IN 7TH GRADE AGAIN. NOW IMAGINE THAT IN ONE YEAR YOU HAVE BEEN FEATURED IN A MAGAZINE, HAD YOUR PHOTOS ON VOGUE.COM, AND WALKED THE RUNWAY AT NYFW. I KNOW THAT LIFE MAY BE HARD TO IMAGINE FOR SOME OF US, BUT THAT IS THE LIFE THAT MODEL ELLA HART HAS BEEN LIVING SINCE SHE BEGAN MODELING AT THE AGE OF 11. SHE ISN'T EVEN SOMEONE THAT YOU CAN BE JEALOUS OF BECAUSE SHE IS SO DOWN TO EARTH. WHEN SHE ISN'T STRUTTING DOWN THE RUNWAY OR BEHIND A CAMERA SHE SERVES AS AN AMBASSADOR FOR DANCE HOPE CURE, AN ORGANIZATION THAT RAISES FUNDS FOR CHILDHOOD CANCER. (PRETTY AMAZING, RIGHT?) ELLA IS ALREADY GETTING ATTENTION FROM SOME OF THE BIGGEST AGENCIES IN NEW YORK. WE KNOW IT WON'T BE LONG UNTIL WE SEE HER ON RUNWAYS AND AD CAMPAIGNS ALL OVER THE WORLD!

**Tell us about yourself.** I am a competition dancer at Center Stage Dance Academy in TegaCay and I love it. I love going to the pool, hanging out with friends, and traveling. I don't really mind the drive or flight because I know the adventure makes it worth it. I am also taking an interest in volleyball.

**When was your first modeling job?** I was 11. Glenn Roberson was the photographer, and he was amazing! My first runway experience was walking in Asheville Fashion Week.

**How did you get into modeling?** Modeling has always been something I've wanted to do, but never actually tried to make it a thing for myself. Then one day my mom said, "Hey, how would you like to go to Greenville for the day and take some modeling photos?" I was ecstatic!

**What's been your favorite modeling job so far?** My favorite modeling job, that's a really hard question! My all time favorite would have to be walking in the Vaquera show in NYFW. The atmosphere was so welcoming (and a little terrifying!). This show was HUGE for me as it was my first time at NYFW. I met so many new people!

**What's the hardest aspect of the job?** The hardest aspect is probably trying to not be so stiff. I'm working on it though, and I think I am improving a lot!

**What's the best part of the job?** The best part is getting to meet new people and getting to work with different designers.

**If you weren't modeling what would you want to do?** Modeling is my dream job. If I wasn't modeling I would look into photography, or maybe become a marine biologist. I would like to study the ocean and learn all about it! I know those things are totally different, but they both incorporate something I am passionate about. You've got to love what you do!

**What do your friends think about you modeling?** My friends are very supportive. They all follow me on Instagram and sometimes even come to the shows that I walk in! I really appreciate that.

**Where do you hope to be in five years?** In five years I hope to be in living New York City. I also hope to be able to travel the world while pursuing my dream.

**Who's your biggest source of support?** My biggest supporters are definitely my parents. They always encourage me to try new things and they are always the first to congratulate me. They can always be seen at my runway shows.

**Is there a model, or someone else in the industry that you look up to?** I have two models that I look up to. One is Allie Newman, she's my godsister, and the other is Adriana Lima. They are both so amazing and inspiring.

**Do you stay on a pretty strict diet and workout plan?** I spend five days a week in the dance studio, so that is my main source of exercise. I also like to run the trails in Tega Cay to relieve stress. I eat a lot of fruits and I am trying to learn to like vegetables (they are good for you, right?).

**What's your favorite cheat food?** anything Italian!

**Who would be your dream designer to model?** My dream designer is Marc Jacobs. It would be such an honor to wear his colorful designs.

**What has been the best moment of your modeling career so far?** The best moment of my modeling career was having my image from the Vaquera Show featured on Yahoo Style and Vogue Runway. It was surreal to see myself on those social media outlets.

**Runway or print?** Hmm, runway or print? Right now I am loving the runway. I think it's because I have been a dancer all my life, and I love to be in front of people showcasing designers' designs. I hope to incorporate some more print in my career as it's an area I want to improve in.



*hannah*









FRESH OFF THE NYFW RUNWAYS, HANNAH SITLER HAS GONE FROM SMALL TOWN GIRL TO NEW YORK BASED MODEL IN THREE SHORT YEARS! HANNAH HAS ALWAYS HAD A LOVE FOR THE ARTS, BUT HAS HAD THE IDEA OF BEING A MODEL IN HER HEAD SINCE SHE WAS 14! SHE SAYS SHE USED TO WALK AROUND WITH HER HIPS SWAYING BACK AND FORTH TO PRACTICE HER MODEL WALK WHILE HER FAMILY WOULD LOVINGLY POKE FUN AND AND TELL HER "TO STOP WALKING AROUND WITH HER HIPS LIKE THAT BECAUSE IT LOOKED WEIRD." "THAT HIP SWAYING HAS SURE PAID OFF NOW," SHE SAID LAUGHING AS SHE SHARED THIS MEMORY WITH US. ONE OF THE BEST THINGS ABOUT HANNAH, AND NO IT'S NOT HER LONG LEGS OR KILLER PLATINUM HAIR, IS THAT SHE HAS MANAGED TO REMAIN TRUE TO THAT EASY GOING, BUBBLY-SPIRITED GIRL SHE WAS BACK IN KINSTON, NORTH CAROLINA, DESPITE HAVING SEEN QUITE A BIT OF RECENT SUCCESS.

***Are you in School?*** I am not in school currently. I graduated from Mooresville High School in 2016, and I have been working very hard on my modeling career since then!

***How would you describe yourself?*** The best way to describe myself would be easy going. I have always really enjoyed making people happy and making them laugh. I enjoy the little things in life. I am a believer that great things come to those who work hard and never give up. I am a huge dreamer and see myself as my biggest competition.

***What was your first modeling job?*** My first modeling job was when I was 16. I walked in the Passport for Fashion show for Charlotte Seen. It was an 80's themed show featuring clothes from Buffalo Exchange. The joy I felt that day is indescribable. I was like, "Okay, so I'm really gonna do this, it's happening!"

***What has been your favorite modeling job so far?*** My favorite modeling job so far has been walking for Lisa Hoang at Skylight Clarkson Square for her debut show! It was an incredible day and a great experience for me. It was my first time in New York City ever, even my first time on a plane! I was so giddy.

***What's the hardest part of modeling?*** The hardest aspect of modeling for me is the time away from my loved ones. It requires a lot of traveling and sacrifices, but it's all worth it in the end!

***What's the best part of modeling?*** The best aspect of modeling is doing exactly what I believe I was put on the earth for. My biggest fear is not fulfilling my destiny. Thanks to modeling, I feel so true to myself!

***If you weren't a model, what would you want to do for a living?*** If I wasn't a model I would want to be a motivational speaker. I would want to share my story with eager listeners and hopefully bestow on them the same fire I have in myself, the fire that keeps me going through anything.

***How do your friends feel about you modeling?*** My friends are very proud of me for going after my dream. They tell me they've always believed in me and saw greatness inside of me all along.

***What model do you idolize the most?*** I absolutely love Candice Swanepoel! She's so stunning and you can just feel her pure soul through her pictures and videos. I hope to do the same with my work. I love what she stands for and how she always looks so happy doing what she does!

***Do you stay on a pretty strict diet and exercise routine?*** My diet consists of a lot of egg sandwiches and fruit smoothies. Food really impacts not only your physical health but your mental health! It's so important for me to feel strong in my mind at all times. I love to run too, and I love to dance! Those are my favorite workouts. Also, fun fact! Singing is a great ab workout too, it contracts your ab muscles.

***What has been the best moment of your modeling career so far?*** The best moment of my modeling career was in Davidson, North Carolina. I was having a photo shoot downtown, then suddenly I saw about five girls around the age of 9 or 10 in my peripheral vision. I could hear them saying, "Wow this is what happens behind the scenes" and "Oh my gosh this is so cool!" When I finished taking the shots I got up and said hey to them and asked them how they were. They were gleaming! It absolutely warmed my heart, and I'll never forget it.

***Do you prefer runway or print?*** I love both! Runway is a great way to show the audience the designs live. Print is showcasing designs behind a camera, so I feel print is more challenging. Runway feels like my home though, so I'll have to go with runway.



*photography* TYLER POWELL

*words* C.DAREN

# HAMPTON'S

Sitting across from the suave dressed Tyler Andrew Hampton, owner of Hampton's Men's Clothing in Mooresville, I couldn't help but feel taken back to a settings past. Dressed head to toe in a style transcending through each fashion era, Hampton continues to bring the iconic past to our modern days, and ever-evolving industry.







Thrill-seeker and handsomely dressed twenty-seven year old Hampton joined the fashion scene three years ago when he opened his first store of elite menswear in downtown Davidson, North Carolina. During a semester off from college, he looked around his hometown and surrounding area, disappointed to see there was really no place around to acquire higher end menswear. "I'm right in the middle, may as well," he said matter of factly. "Now, here we are, three years later..." Hampton just celebrated the grand opening of his relocation to Mooresville, North Carolina, right outside of fashion central, downtown Charlotte.

Drawing inspiration from beloved old movies Hampton created a ruggedly classic style lounge where men can get the look of *Gone with the Wind* star, Rhett Butler. "I always describe myself as a mix of Rhett Butler and Eric Stratton. I've got my plaid pants and my tweed jackets," he smirked, "and Butler had impeccable taste." With the belief that fashion is a means of self-expression, Hampton is drawn to the infinite possibilities behind each long-established custom suit. Changing one delicate detail can transcend the look to a whole new light. "On my sport coats, I prefer having two buttons on the sleeve,

which is a little rare," but traditional is his style. "I am pretty much a seventy year old man in a twenty-seven year old body" he laughs.

Traditional. Quality. Individualized. The three words to best describe the feel behind each and every piece of clothing. As the sole buyer, Hampton selects traditional, yet unique pieces, like the best casual sportswear along with the promise of high-end tailoring of a custom suit to last a lifetime. The passion behind this time-honored gentleman's wear is to be the destination menswear venue to live on for years to come. "At Hampton's, all of our tailored clothing is sourced from American and Canadian manufacturers, such as Hickey Freeman, Southwick, Samuelsohn, and Jack Victor. The same goes for our footwear. We carry only Alden shoes. Alden, made in Massachusetts since 1884, is the pinnacle of American men's footwear. The driving force behind my store is providing people with things they can have for the rest of their lives. I picture clothing as an investment. My goal is to provide my customers with an endless supply of clothing that always looks the same and never goes out of style."



Also sourcing from regional companies like Peter Millar of Durham, North Carolina and High Cotton Ties out of Raleigh, he prides himself on stocking as many luxury, local made products that he can. “I am a North Carolina native,” he explains, “I don’t care to purchase from overseas markets. That is just not me. I like to know the people I work with,” which is the kind of experience you can expect at Hampton’s—A friendship.

So what’s next for Tyler Hampton? Underneath the exquisitely-tailored suit, Hampton leads an exciting life of motorcycle racing, tee times, sun-filled days on the lake - “anything that keeps me outdoors and active,” he reveals. Starting early down a path outside of the modern day norms, he spent the last year of his high school career being home schooled, followed by training to be a commercial cargo pilot. “I had all intentions of going to law school and running for office, and I may still do that one day, but as more of a business owner than a lawyer.” I couldn’t help but point out how he is already dressed for the part. His final words to the readers... a welcoming invitation. “Southern hospitality is served here daily... Stop by and visit, we’d love to have you!”

*chef*  
CHELSEA  
ECCDAO

Chef Chelsea Eccdao has been working as a chef since 2011, but only for about a year in the Charlotte area. Chelsea got her start in her home state of California at Cypress College where she studied Bakery and Pastry Arts while working as a candy maker at the World's most magical place: Disneyland! If you are lucky enough to get the chance to sit and talk with Chelsea, you will feel her enthusiasm and positivity. It is obvious why Disney would want a chef like her in their kitchen. After her time at Disney, she moved into the pastry industry at the Grand Californian Hotel; then, on to the Hyatt at Huntington Beach. Last year Chelsea made her way to Charlotte, North Carolina, where she is now the pastry chef at Le Meridien.





*Have you always wanted to be a chef?* Yes, always. In eighth grade I was voted most likely to have my own cooking show. I remember falling in love with cooking in my home economics class, and I think everyone else could see it too. Once I was in high school I thought I wanted to get into fashion for a while, but quickly realized that my heart really lies in cooking. I think it just runs in my blood. My uncle owns a restaurant in San Diego and I grew up with my dad in the kitchen. I've always gravitated towards the pastry side of the industry because I feel like it is a little bit more of an art. I like being able to get creative and artistic with the food.

*What's your favorite food to make?* Oh, that's a hard question. People ask me this all the time and it's such a hard decision! I mean, I love a good chocolate chip cookie, but I'd probably say fine dining desserts. I really love making beautiful, plated desserts.

*Do you cook at home too, or are you pretty much cooked out by the time you get home?* I try to let my boyfriend do some of the cooking too, but I do cook a bit. I tend to cook more for comfort than aesthetics. I grew up making filipino food, so I still enjoy using that influence in my food as well.

*What do you do for fun?* I enjoy doing anything creative. I love drawing and painting. I also really like to get outdoors, my boyfriend and I like to go hiking a lot. Honestly, I really just like to relax most of the time, and shop of course.

*Where do you see yourself in 5 years?* Hopefully owning my own bakery! I haven't decided if I want to open it here in Charlotte yet, but that's definitely a dream of mine.

*How do you plan a menu?* I typically start by just jotting down all of my ideas and narrowing it down from there based on what's already on the menu, what the dinner menu is, what's in season, and what's accessible. If the dinner menu is featuring cherries, I will probably try to incorporate something with cherries too to stay in line with that.

*Do you have a favorite cookbook?* Oh let's see, I have a lot of cookbooks. I love The Baking Bible, it's just a great classic and has all of the basics. There is another one I love that Chef Oscar

gave that's all about modern plated desserts. It is really hard to find a really good book for fine dining desserts, and that's really a great one.

*Best piece of advice you've ever received?* I don't know that it's necessarily advice but just to keep a good attitude. I truly believe that I am where I am today because I am always willing and open to learn. I actually got my job at Disney because of my positive attitude. I was interviewing with a few other chefs who had experience, and I had none at the time. I actually didn't know when I went to the interview that we would be plating food that day so I wasn't prepared, but I did the best I could. When I left the interview I broke down crying because I knew there was no way I had gotten the job. A couple days later they called me to let me know that I had in fact gotten the position. When I went in for my first day they told me that although some of the other chef's had more experience they decided to choose me because of the way I took direction and because of how positive I was.

*What's your favorite dessert?* Honestly, I really like the manjari cake on our menu now. It's basically everything I'd ever want in a dessert on one plate.

*If you could travel to one country based only on the food, where would you go?* France, definitely! Especially being a pastry chef! I'm hoping to go in the next few years!

*Is there a cooking technique you're really interested in that you haven't tried yet?* I'd be really interested in learning more about molecular gastronomy in my desserts. It's not something that is that easy to teach yourself, so I've started looking up classes and hope to begin shortly! I'd love to be able to create desserts that the Charlotte area hasn't seen before.

*What's the most challenging dish you've had to make?* I was once asked to make a dairy free, soy free, gluten free, and nut free dessert for a banquet of 40 people in 24 hours. That was definitely challenging, I mean, that's pretty much everything used in making desserts! I ended up making a berry cobbler using margarine, sugar, coconut, blueberry, lemon, and one to one flour. I also added a second dessert, coconut panna cotta.



# THE FACE

MAGAZINE

*www.thefacemag.com*



KENDRA  
SCOTT

LE MËTIER DE BEAUTÉ

## A RADICAL PROTECTOR

OUTRUN THE DAMAGING EFFECTS OF UV RAYS AND FREE RADICALS  
WITH VITAL ET RECOVERY BOOST FACE AND BODY



FREE RADICALS DAMAGE COLLAGEN, CREATE DRYNESS IN THE SKIN AND CREATE FINE LINES AND WRINKLES. VITAL ET RECOVERY BOOST BLOCKS FREE RADICALS AND REDUCES UV EXPOSURE FROM THE SUN THROUGH THE USE OF A HIGHLY POTENT FORM OF VITAMIN E KNOWN AS VITAL ET. THIS NON-GREASY, DEEPLY ABSORPTIVE SERUM WILL PROPEL SUPER ANTIOXIDANTS AND POWERFUL VITAMINS DIRECTLY INTO YOUR SKIN.

**SAY GOODBYE TO FINE LINES, WRINKLES AND SIGNS OF AGING  
28 PATENTS, 7 DAYS, PERFECT SKIN**



Porsche recommends **Mobil 1** and **Wynn's**

## 4 doors, the uncensored version.

This is what happens when you hold nothing back. To create the new Panamera both engineers and designers were determined to reimagine what a sedan should be. The results: 550 horsepower, a top track speed of 190 mph, a 0-60 sprint as fast as 3.4 seconds, and lines that have never been more unabashedly Porsche. Even traditionalists won't be able to avert their eyes. Porsche. There is no substitute.

## The new Panamera Turbo.



### Hendrick Porsche

6800 E. Independence Blvd.  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28227  
Tel. 704-531-3344

<http://www.hendrick.porschedealer.com>

Monday - Friday 8:30AM - 7:00PM

Saturday 9:00AM to 5:00PM



PORSCHE



GLOBAL GLAMOUR  
HANDCRAFTED BY GLOBAL WOMEN ARTISANS



NOON TO SIX DAILY OR BY APPOINTMENT  
183 KING STREET | SECOND FLOOR  
CHARLESTON, SC

[WWW.IBUMOVEMENT.COM](http://WWW.IBUMOVEMENT.COM)  
843-327-8304