

What's in store



The new capitalist socialism

To add a bit of guerilla theater to its spring "Want It!" ad campaign, Saks Fifth Avenue commissioned Shepard Fairey to illustrate top trends, including short-sleeve jackets, oversize jewelry and bright lips. Fairey, best known for his street-art portrait of Barack Obama, designed graphic black, white and red images based on the 1920s Russian Constructivist art movement. The bold motif also appears on a limited-edition tote, \$20. (\$15 from each sale goes to Helping Other People Everywhere, a nonprofit that links artists with socially conscious projects.)

— CLIFFORD PUGH



Naeem Khan
at Saks Fifth Avenue

Fashion events

Tootsies (4045 Westheimer, 713-629-9990) hosts trunk shows from vintage experts What Goes Around Comes Around and Jill Reno (April 3-4), Majorca (April 10-11) and Robert Rodriguez (April 16-17). Fit specialist Oscar Adames appears April 16-17 for a J Brand trunk show and fitting appointments.

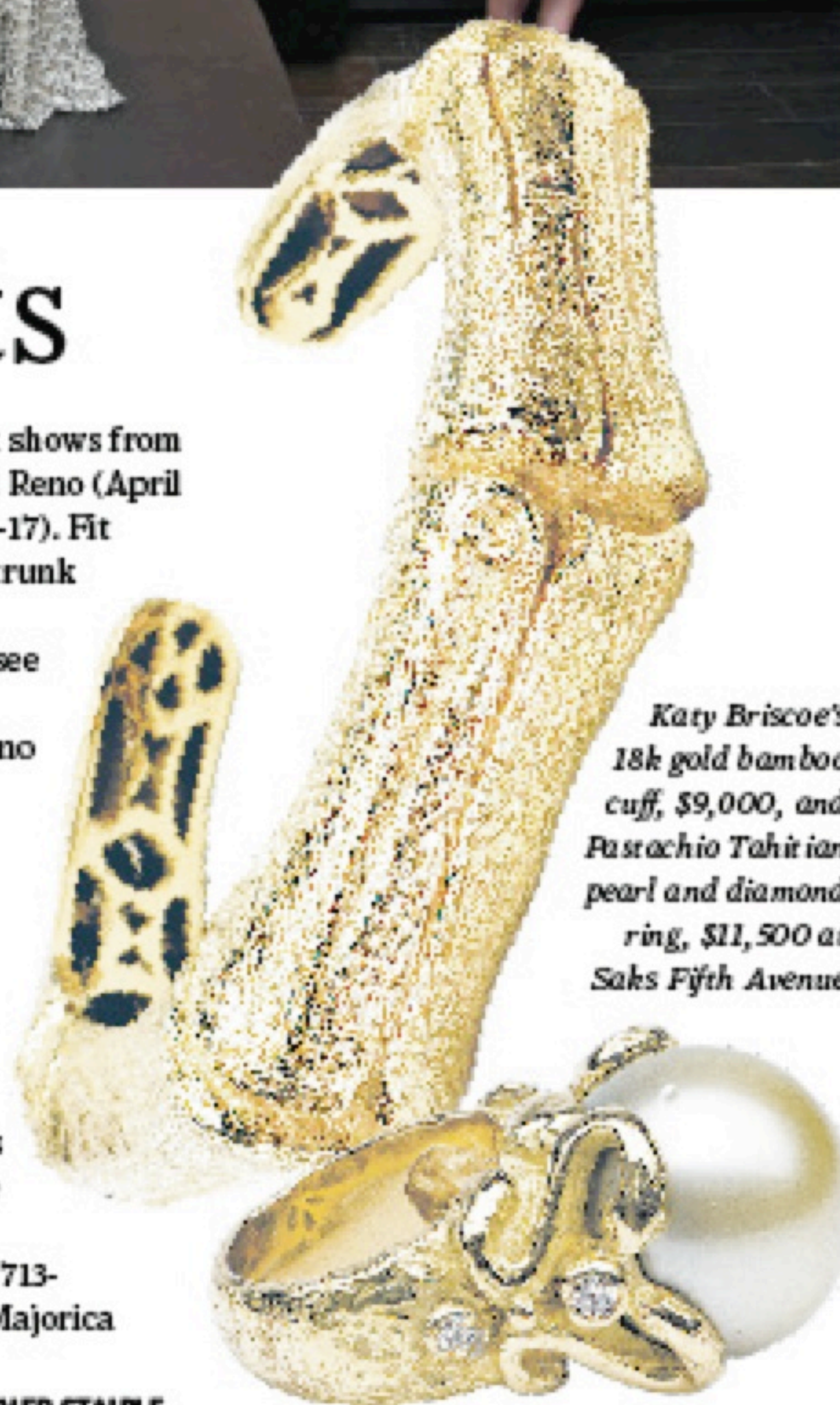
At **Saks Fifth Avenue** (5115 Westheimer, 713-623-4893) see trunk shows from Naeem Khan (April 2-3), Katy Briscoe (April 3-4), Bottega Handbags (April 9), Konstantino (April 17), John Hardy (April 18) and Nancy Phillips (April 30). Jared and Sam Lher visit April 30.

Neiman Marcus (2600 Post Oak, 713-621-7100) offers trunk shows from Roberto Coin (April 10), Elizabeth Locke and Judith Ripka (April 16). Eskandar and Ippolita visit April 15; Ellen Tracy visits April 18.

At **Muse Boutique** (2411 W. Alabama, 713-520-6873) see the Doncaster trunk show (April 15-18).

Leonard Rutan (3733 Westheimer, 713-524-9988) stages trunk shows from Alta Moda (April 6-10), Nina McLemore (April 20-15) and Fiandaca gowns (April 27-30).

Elizabeth Anthony/Esther Wolf (1180-08 Uptown Park, 713-622-1331) hosts Escada (April 7-8) and Trixi Schober and Majorica (April 21-22).



Katy Briscoe's
18k gold bamboo
cuff, \$9,000, and
Pastachio Tahitian
pearl and diamond
ring, \$11,500 at
Saks Fifth Avenue

— HEATHER STABLE

Brighter days ahead

Miracle cures for blotchy skin do not come in over-the-counter jars or tubes. Experts say your best defense against hyperpigmentation, and a good way to help diminish it, is a constant lavish-ing of sunscreen.

But the plethora of brighteners at beauty counters offer two basic types of help. In one class are products designed to reduce skin discoloration by inhibiting melanin production and exfoliating the outer layers of skin. In the other are hydrators with reflective ingredients designed to play tricks with light, so your skin looks fresher.

Testament to the demand (and intense branding), complete brightening regimens with cleansers, toners, serums, lotions and masks are springing up. Aveda's Enbrightenment line, Dermatologica's ChromaWhite TRx system and Kiehl's Bright collection (plus its smartly-named Highly Efficient Skin-Tone Corrector) are among the latest options. And — just in case your diamonds aren't reflective enough — Bulgari has entered the skincare market with three regimens, including one called Lumiere, a radiance booster. Their prime ingredient is "Bulgari Gem Essence," made with liquified and powdered sapphire, malachite, tourmaline and citrine.

Of course, nothing will brighten your look like a smile. Go Smile's new seven-day Smile Whiten-



BRIGHTEN UP: (from left,) back row: Shiseido White Lucent Brightening Eye Treatment, \$50, Macy's; Kiehl's Bright Brightening Botanical Hydrating Mask, \$40, Kiehl's; Bulgari Serum de Lumiere, \$170, Neiman Marcus; and Aveda enbrightenment brightening correcting lotion, \$50, Aveda; (in front) Go Smile ampoules, \$89 per kit, Nordstrom; Kiehl's Highly Efficient Skin-Tone Corrector, \$50, Kiehl's.

ing System consists of easy-to-use ampoules that lighten teeth without causing sensitivity.

— MOLLY GLENTZER



SOAPY WONDER: \$40 for 25-gram size; \$105 for 80-gram size, thewonderbar.com. Soap dish, \$12.99, Macy's.

Detox in a bar

You might expect Houstonian Tiffany Masterson to have dark circles under her eyes these days. The 40-year old mother of four, a real-estate agent, has spent a lot of late nights alongside her family, folding cardboard bits into tiny purse-shaped boxes and placing in each one a 25-gram bar of muddy-looking soap.

But that soap, Masterson says, has made her skin look better than ever — better than it did with Botox and even an Obagi and Retin-A regimen.

It's called thewonderbar, and Masterson is helping to introduce it to the U.S. Made in Malaysia and imported by a Masterson family friend, the soap contains a mix of detoxifying, herb-rich Heilmoor clay from Austria and an algae-based nano-concoction called Chlorey'nahre designed to enable the skin's dermis to absorb the clay's benefits.

Masterson claims the pores on her nose have tightened, and a deep line on her brow has diminished. "It makes your skin tight," she says. "I never use powder anymore."

Her enthusiasm helped her sell her first two shipments within days. Now the fledgling company is expanding, with a lotion and other products under development.

Masterson discourages combining any other products with thewonderbar other than a simple moisturizer or sunscreen. The small bar should last about six weeks, she adds.

"There's really nothing like it," Masterson says. "A lot of people don't want to use harsh chemicals on their face or to use six products every night."

— MOLLY GLENTZER