

COVET

Cray Cray for Prints

Patterned clothes and playful motifs are all the rage these days – so much so that, often, anything lower down the food chain than a leopard spot looks meek. Whimsical, bold and China-inspired (its name is ‘Acupuncture’) this men’s shirt by Shanghai brand Batabasta is right on trend. Embrace it boys – you’re going to look rad. RMB800.

> [batabasta.com](http://batabasta.com), contact them directly to order



Rainy Pop

Design collection Seletti Wears Toiletpaper ranges from quirky to raunchy to surreal – it’s just overall badass. An example? This ultra-pop ‘lipstick’ umbrella. Boasting bold advertising graphics from the 60s, it’s sure to make you stand out in the rain and have you wishing for a downpour. RMB380.

> [www.10corsocomo.cn](http://www.10corsocomo.cn)



UNDER THE LENS

Cavalli’s New China Girl

New China Girl is the name of Roberto Cavalli’s latest collection, unveiled at Milan Fashion Week last month. The Italian designer looked east for his Autumn/Winter 2015 line, presenting a sartorial vision influenced by the modern spirit of China, such as Ming-vase-inspired floral prints on dresses and skirts, rather than the hackneyed clichés. Other traditional Chinese elements shone throughout the lineup: coats, trousers and dresses featured gold pagoda buttons while long overcoats sported cloisonné-enamel-inspired linings. Maggie Cheung’s turn in Wong Kar-wai’s *In the Mood for Love* made an appearance too, inspiring a modern windowpane check incorporated on quite a few garments. Sitting in the front row was *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* actress Michelle Yeoh. That’s what we call a collection with purpose – a very, very obvious one.



SPOTLIGHT

Mario Duyuchen, Fashion Designer



**What’s your background?** I spent my childhood in Jeju Island, South Korea and moved to many different places growing up. I studied art and design at the Accademia di Belle Arti in Rome and, after graduating, joined the World Luxury Association as a PR. I left that job for more fashion-oriented roles – as fashion director for a bespoke Dutch men’s suits company and as fashion host for the Trend Group. I decided to go solo last year, and launched my first collection here in Beijing last December.

**What brought you to Beijing?** The desire to study modern Chinese literature.

**For your debut fashion show, you had ‘real people’ rather than models walk the runway. Why is that?** I wanted to show that my clothes can be worn by anyone – you don’t have to be super tall and skinny to sport a piece by Mario Duyuchen. I like to think that my brand belongs to ordinary people – yet when you wear one of my creations, you are no longer ordinary.

**Your aesthetic in three words.** Simple, elegant, classic.

**How would you describe your style?** I am quite old-fashioned when it comes to style. I like black and white, solid hues and silhouettes. Occasionally, I like

to use light colors to naughty things up.

**If you could dress a style icon, who would that be?** Can I say myself?

**Do you have any advice for the local fashion scene?** Less is more.  
> [www.marioduyuchen.com](http://www.marioduyuchen.com)



MADE IN CHINA

Lalu



For many, the thought of going organic feels like a confusing and expensive business, whether it’s food, clothing or lifestyle products. But don’t lose faith. Among chemical charlatans and pricey brands there are still those trusted

pioneers campaigning for products that are authentically ‘green.’ Enter beauty brand Lalu. Founded in Shanghai by Senegalese Adja Lulu (Lalu being a nickname referring to the young proprietress’ dreamy, wild and funky approach to life), the venture

does homemade skincare products that are chemical-free, 100 percent natural and so divine-smelling you might be tempted to eat them instead of smother them on your body (papaya-mango body cream anyone?). The range spans scrubs, creams and body butters, all made with luxurious ingredients like avocado, jojoba, coconut oil and sweet almond oils.

The entrepreneur is also happy to customize her recipes according to clients’ needs and skin types, and is currently working on a spring selection influenced by cocktails – think Piña Colada and Margarita-inspired scrubs. A joy to use, each Lulu treat is also incredibly affordable: scrubs go for RMB88-98 a jar, while body lotions are RMB120/160 each. A wholesome deal all round.

> Delivery charges in Beijing range from RMB12-16. To place an order, check Lulu’s Facebook page, contact her at [lalufood4skin@gmail.com](mailto:lalufood4skin@gmail.com), or add her on Wechat (AdjaLulu)

OVERHEARD

“FOR AN INTERNATIONAL BRAND – PLUS ADD GOLD INTO THE EQUATION – AND I THINK THAT COMBINATION IS GOING TO APPEAL IN CHINA”



...said Chris Jones [somewhat clunkily, we should add], an analyst for research firm Canalys, on Apple’s decision to release the Apple Watch in an 18-karat gold edition. Priced at about RMB126,800, the timepiece, which goes on sales this month, is expected to tap right into China’s appetite for luxury,

and follows the popularity of the gold iPhone. According to projections from the tech giant, the PRC alone should push its global sales to 15 million units this year. Looks like President Xi’s crackdown on conspicuous consumption is not worrying the Californian corporation one bit.