

S U Z A N L E E

Press Kit 2018

Suzan Lee
2915 Redhill Avenue
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
suzan@suzanlee.com
bridget@suzanlee.com
949.514.9951

"I appreciate anyone who has a strong sense of self without being 'me' centered—someone who is confident, exudes grace and is centered with faith is my ideal style icon." —DEBBY DAVIS

The Designer

Debbie Davis was just a child when she realized she had a passion for style. She later learned she also has a talent for design—something she inherited from her mother.

"She was an excellent pattern maker, designer and seamstress," says Davis. "She would make me these amazing full skirts with 'cropped overalls.' And Davis always surrounded her ensemble with handbags. Some of my most memorable treasures are vintage handbags from Chanel, Dior and Gucci that I've collected," she notes. Today, she's putting her passion and talent into practice, designing handbags under her own brand, Jessica Grant. You'll



LOS ANGELES



The women first womenized, that they make the world go round, that they make businesses thrive, that they make families whole, and that they generally make anything they put their minds to and anything they dare will prosper is, to put it succinctly, prove-see-nonsense. Remove women from the social equation and you would probably need a Hammer nail to claim up what was left. Remove our "Women of Influence" from the Los Angeles business, social and philanthropic landscape and you have a distasteful Caltech too unwilling to powder. These inspiring and admirable boundary breakers, trailblazers, and just plain pioneers in every way. They love L.A. & L.A. loves them back. Here's to these grace our city in both a personal and an honor. Here's to you, and to all of your countless contributions!

CARA KLEINHOUT
HILARY LENTINI
KARYN GROSSMAN
KIKI RAMOS GINDLER
LAUREL SERMAN
LEISA AUSTIN
RACHEL ROSENBERG
ROSEMARY LOW
SUZAN LEE PAEK
TAMI HALTON PARDEE



WOMEN of INFLUENCE

Luxury and comfort are within reach, as soon as length does you might say. A longtime handbag collector herself, Susan founded Susan Lee Handbags (formerly Susan's Great Handbags) in order to make sure that as time and only comes in practical purpose, but it also an extension of its women holding it. She wants the confident woman who carries one of her bags to be a trend setter, not a trend follower. And when you consider Susan's sense of style and individuality, you get that completely.

What impresses you?
Good design impresses me.
Here when someone comes up
with a better, efficient way to get
something done, and it is well
received by those who appreciate it.

Who do you admire the most?
I admire those that faithfully do their work behind the scenes, not asking for recognition, but simply caring about the job that needs to be done.

What are your best and worst qualities?
Sensitive, caring, go-getter.
Sensitive, stubborn, go-getter.

What would you most like
to be remembered for?
My faith.

One item/service you
could never live without:
My mobile phone!

One thing you
would change
about yourself:
I wish I were taller...only
I never bother please...



ADW IV O.C.

ENGAGE Engage in...
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Engage in...

LUXURY

ON THE WILDSIDE "I love things that are elegant but simple, classic yet chic," says Susan Lee, creative director and founder of Susan Lee (susanlee.com), a line of exotic handbags (\$1,000 to \$4,000). "One should not have to work so hard at style. It should come naturally, comfortably." And it seems that Park has found the key to effortless style. Perhaps that's why the Newport Beach native is touting the launch of a new line of bags exclusively at South Coast Plaza's The Wilshire. From sleek to punchy pink monochrome to red hot clutches in lizard leather, Park's bags are not for the faint of heart. "One doesn't have to wait for a special occasion to carry something exotic," she says of the materials, which she sources everywhere from Colombia to South Africa. Up next: Travel Line by Susan Lee, a chic carryall designed for the avid traveler. —*Ellen Mitchell*

VITAPHIL SEA
LOW TIDE THREADS

For those in need of a summer wardrobe refresh, **Giorgio Armani** (armani.com) at South Coast Plaza has released a capsule collection of nautical-inspired silhouettes that blend coastal Italian flair with Californian coolness. Rendered in navy blue and white, the sport-infused line ranges from mod swim trunks to a women's Panama hat. The same high-caliber materials associated with Armani suits, such as cashmere and fine cottons, help bring a little luxury to typically quotidian summer staples—in particular, a terry cloth towel printed with a landscape evocative of Palm Springs, sure to transport you to somewhere exotic, even if you're just using it poolside. —*Emily Hannon*

FITNESS FLASH

MUSCLE UP!

When it comes to activewear, sacrificing fashion for fitness is a thing of the past. Here, three reasons to sweat in style.

Reach your peak physique with help from Nordstrom and **Sweaty Betty** (shop.nordstrom.com; sweetybetty.com). The retail favorite recently debuted the London-based athletic brand at its South Coast Plaza and Fashion Island locations, with O.C. ladies flocking for burn-scaping leggings, sports bras, tanks, activewear and more. Select pieces feature a signature Union Jack print, a nod to Betty's British roots and its 20th anniversary. Meanwhile, nearby neighbor Neiman Marcus is celebrating the exclusive in-store launch of L.A.-based active brand **Caribon** (caribon.com; vicaribon.com). As one of only five locations to house the line, the Fashion Island department store offers O.C.'s sweat set the chance to browse the more than 20-piece assortment of fashionably functional sports bras, cropped tops and leggings, in pinstriped, ruffled and camo. Finally, Laguna Beach's **Goldsheep** (goldsheepclothing.com), best known for its whimsical patterned leggings, has released the seasonal Greetings from Goldsheep collection at Newport Beach's Eucalyptus on 17th. Take off with aviation-themed pants featuring peacock prints or pilot wings, then dream of your next getaway with summer palms inspired by the Hamptons and mosaic tiles inspired by Greece. Going, going, gone. —*LM*

THREE GOOD IDEAS
BFFs Giorgio Armani, South Coast Plaza

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THE LIST SPRING 2017

Sandra Cook	Andy Weick	Chris Lansing
Eric Bornemann	Zachary Crane	Anna Kendrick
Sonia Batra	Vienna Kelly	Aaron Burke
Fabrizio Bianconi	Silvian Weir	Todd Nickey
Colette Stachel	Isa Rae	Aaron Taylor-Johnson
Marc Ange	Stefan Siegel	Bony Phillips
Sarah Hendler	Brittenlee Fredericks	Kathleen Whitaker
Daniel Sheehan	Valerij Pobege	Gabriela Artigas
Kirsty Stone	Isla Fisher	Jenny Hall
Buck Damon	Gabe Hirsch	Phillip A. Washington
Tania Shayan	Tom Ford	Kate Halliatt
Darren Julien	Remington McKenney	Bruce C. Munster
Mahershala Ali	Larry Nance Jr.	Pamela Burton
Elaine Kim	Justin Hurwitz	Amy Kloboc
John Moore	Burly Jenkins	Mia Gibbbs
Horacio LeDon	Aimee Bender	Danielle Brysha
Mark Rubenstein	Ladan Shayan	Changah Rhee
Sienna Miller	★ Suzan Lee Pack	Marianna Hewitt
Pietro Navarra	Sharon Kohl	Jackson Le Guier

MODERN LUXURY CHARITY & SOCIAL Datebook

Charity & Social Datebook 2017



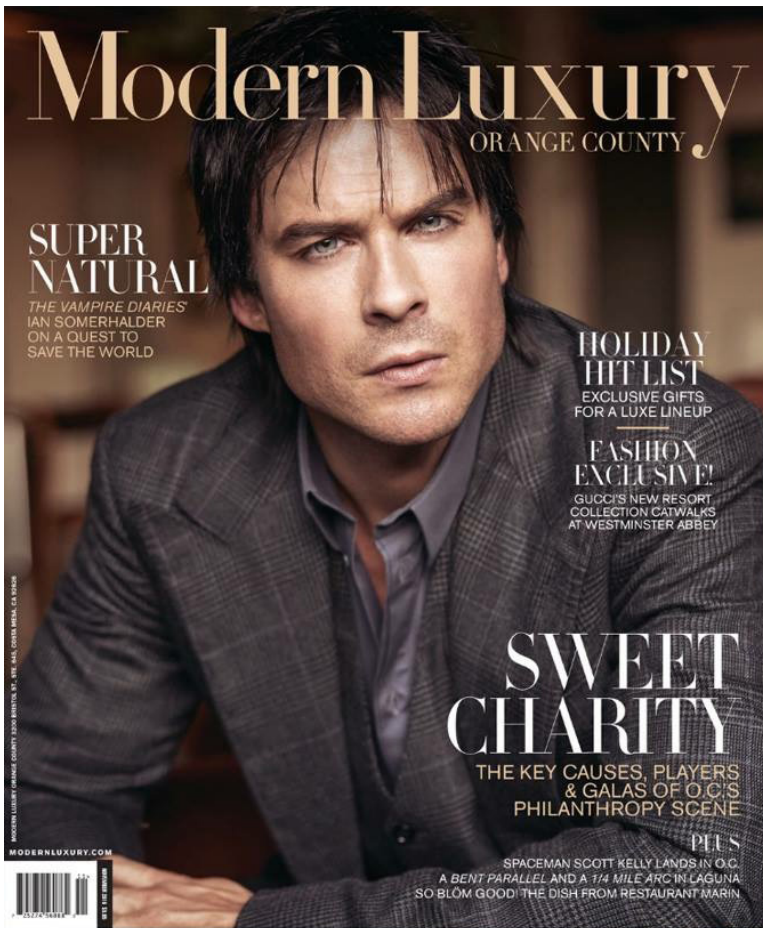
The Best DRESSED

A gown by Oscar de La Renta. A white-hot dress accented by turquoise earrings. A sheath that sparkles from top to bottom. And a vintage-inspired ensemble that puts us on red alert. These are just a few of the details that O.C.'s fashion-forward and philanthropic ladies don when it comes time to toast their charities of choice.



1 Heather Madden at the CHOC Cherishes Children Gala 2 Alex Parker and Irene Marino at the Harvesters Fashion Show & Luncheon 3 Laleh Redjaian and Kristina Lee at Irvine Public Schools Foundation's Spirit of Excellence Gala 4 Luana Alvear, Courtney Baber and Taylor Hiskey at the Laura's House Gala 5 Suzan Paek at JDRF O.C.'s Dream Gala 6 Courtney Herrmann at Komen O.C.'s Pink Tie Ball 7 Briana Varcasian and Arezo Namazi at The Center for Autism & Neurodevelopmental Disorders' Hope & Help Gala 8 Gloria Timmons at The Winery Restaurant and the Marconi Foundation for Kids' Sunday in the Vineyard 9 Ashley Wahler, Denese Biggert Wahler and Michelle Miller Wahler at the American Heart Association's Heart Ball

PHOTOS BY ANN CHATILLON, DOUG GIFFORD, JOE HODSON, RYAN MILLER OF CAPTURE IMAGING, LIA STUDGE/WEBKIT PHOTO BOOTH, HAPPY PHOTOS, CARLA RHEA, NORY AND LUGA TVISS, JOHN WATKINS AND ANJIE WOOLUP



Students team with Newport designer

Youngsters' drawings lead to creation of two purses to be auctioned off to benefit Mariners Christian School.

BY PRISCILLA VEGA

Drawings by two Mariners Christian School students inspired two leather purses made by a Newport Beach handbag designer for auction at a school fundraiser.

And a limited number will be sold online to help raise money for the Costa Mesa campus.

Suzan Lee Paek of Suzan Lee Designs chose fifth-grader Mary Jane Pfaff, 11, and sixth-grader Kawaii Sanita, 12, as winners in a schoolwide contest in which more than 100 designs were submitted by students in kindergarten through

eighth grade.

The contest was formed in hope of "encouraging the next generation of artists," Lee Paek said.

Some students turned in pizza- and hot dog-shaped handbags, while others attached swatches of fabric they had in mind.

Lee Paek said she took the top 10 designs in the contest to her manufacturer in Seoul, South Korea, and she ultimately chose Mary Jane's and Kawaii's entries because they would work well with the python and lizard leather she uses to make her handbags.

"I didn't want to create something that wouldn't sell at their auction," Lee Paek said. "I wanted to monetarily give back to their school and make sure it was something a person could carry and use."

Starting bids on the purses at



Courtesy of Julie Hellriegel

MARINERS CHRISTIAN School fifth-grader Mary Jane Pfaff, 11, left, and sixth-grader Kawaii Sanita, 12, were winners in a schoolwide contest to design leather handbags in partnership with Newport Beach designer Suzan Lee Paek.

Friday night's auction: \$500.

The bags also will be available for purchase on Lee Paek's website, suzanlee.com.

Mary Jane's winning design was a purple and yellow cross-body handbag with a silver buckle.

It was one of seven drawings she submitted for the contest.

Mary Jane said she envisioned creating a bag that would go with a fancy dress. She researched popular de-

See *Handbags*, page A7



Photos courtesy of Suzan Lee Paek

FIFTH-GRADER Mary Jane Pfaff designed a purple and yellow cross-body handbag with a silver buckle.

SIXTH-GRADER Kawaii Sanita drew a handbag with a collage of colors to create a "simple but classy" look.

HANDBAGS

Continued from page A1

signers and looked at Lee Paek's website for inspiration and guidance.

"Now that I see how good it turned out, I can totally see myself making more different designs," Mary Jane said. "I have so many ideas. I just need to put them down on paper and create them."

Kawaii drew a handbag with a collage of colors to create a "simple but classy" look. Lee Paek added a floral patch to the final product.

"Making art and drawing is fun for me," Kawaii said. "I like expressing my imagining into designs, and at home I design purses and dresses."

"I'm sure they're told by parents that they're talented," Lee Paek said. "But it's very special when it comes from a stranger."

She said she wishes she could have created bags from all the submissions she received but hopes the experience will encourage

the students to pursue their art.

priscella.vega@latimes.com
Twitter: @vegaprisella



Luxury Accessories



Photos by KEVIN CHANG | kevinchang@latimes.com

NEWPORT COAST RESIDENT: Suzan Paek runs Jessica Grant, a line she started whose products include high-end handbags, from her home. The company also sells totes, large purses, briefcases, clutches, wallets and keychains.

Handbag hobby pays off

Newport Coast mom Suzan Paek names Jessica Grant line of purses after two of her children. Her products sell in local upscale boutiques.

BY ALISHA GOMEZ

"I love color," Newport Beach resident Suzan Paek says as she fiddles with a slew of Jessica Grant handbags spread across her dining room table.

"That's the premise of my bags," Paek adds, who started the line — which is named after her first two children — of women's high-end, luxury handbags nearly a year ago.

The handbags — with names like Sookee, Kate, Rebecca and Moira — come in bright colorful designs, various shapes and sizes, and

On the Web For a photo gallery, go to www.daily-pilot.com.

use exotic leathers like alligator, crocodile, snake skin and ostrich. Paek runs the business from her home and the handbags are manufactured in Seoul.

All the skins used are by-products of human usage, she says.

What started as a hobby has turned into a full line of upscale totes, large purses,

See **HANDBAG**, page A6



FASHION:

Jessica Grant handbags are made from exotic leathers, such as ostrich, crocodile and snake skin.

HANDBAG

Continued from page A1

briefcases, clutches, wallets and keychains. Paek plans to launch a men's line in the fall, called Nathan Robert, after her two younger children.

She's also looking to collaborate with a New York designer who specializes in ready-to-wear collections.

Jessica Grant bags sell for \$900 to \$4,000 at only a few boutiques like MI Place in Newport Beach and Laguna Hills, and through her website, jessicagranthandbags.com.

All of her bags are functional and feature organized sections inside, leather suede interiors and magnetic closing clasps. So far, she has about 30 different designs. The Kate handbag started the line, Paek says, and debuted in September.

The handbag, luggage and accessory market —

specifically stores that sell such items — is a \$9.5-billion market in the U.S., according to a report by IBIS-World, a market research company. Handbags account for about 28.5% of that market, and Coach Inc. dominates with about 36.5% of market share, the report said.

For Paek, her customers are an even smaller portion of the accessories market: those who are true luxury shoppers. Her goal is to get the handbags in an upscale department store like Saks Fifth Avenue.

High-end, designer handbags are what she loves. She's been collecting them for quite some time now. Her most treasured find: a Gucci crocodile bag that is about 50 years old. It was a gift from her mother, who passed it down to her.

Fashion is a bit of a family business as well.

"My mom has been a

fashion designer and had her own label in the Asian market," she says.

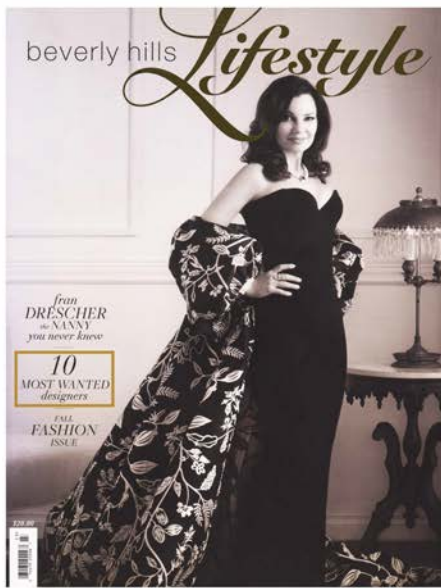
Paek picked up some of those skills. She was donning a dress she made herself the day of the interview, and has been asked by some to create dresses for them.

For now, she's sticking to handbags. Seeing Jessica Grant come to life is a dream come true for Paek. She previously was an interior designer at her husband's real estate company, First Landmark Development Co.

Before starting the business, she discussed it with the most important people in her life: her kids, who range in ages from 11 to 20.

"I'm trying to juggle it all; be a wife, a mother ... and [having the handbags] manufactured in Korea means lots of travel," she says. "Before I started this I talked about it with my kids and told them, 'This is what I really want to do,' and all of them said, 'We want to support you; go for it.' I'm very blessed."

"All of her bags are functional and feature organized sections inside, leather suede interiors and magnetic closing clasps."



MOTHERHOOD COMES FIRST FOR THIS BUSY LADY

SUZAN PAK MAKES SURE HER FOUR CHILDREN KNOW THEY ARE LOVED

BORN IN SEOUL, KOREA TO A DESIGNER MOTHER AND REAL ESTATE ENTREPRENEUR FATHER, SUZAN AND HER JUST-BORN SISTER PATRICIA MOVED TO THE U.S. when she was two years old. Sister Linda quickly followed. Settling in America, Suzan grew up there, studied psychology at UC Irvine and married Richard Paek in 1990. Richard and Suzan began their family in 1992 with the birth of their daughter Jessica, and Grant, Robert and Nathan quickly followed.

After 25 years of motherhood and an incredible divorce, Suzan has some good advice for parents. "Nobody has a perfect family," she says. "But everybody should focus on raising a great family." Continuing, she says, "We have to love our kids. If we don't, the next generation is doomed. About all kids need to know they're loved. If they know that, they flourish. If not, they look for acceptance elsewhere."

Suzan says they moved to Orange County because of Jessica, now 25.

"We needed to find a school where Jessica could thrive," she says. She was reading sixth grade level in third grade, and Pajaron School in Huntington Beach was the answer. Since then, she graduated with honors from Chapman University with double majors in history and English literature, and today is associate editor of *UC Sports League* (UCL).

"I'm so proud of her," Suzan says. Suzan says that Grant, 23, is her creative child.

"We love Nathan and he is a tremendous athlete/leader. I think he'll be a great fashion designer one day. Right now, he's working and planning on attending art school."

Robert, 20, according to Suzan, was born with simple allergies. "He could never eat school meals because of his allergies," she says. "I call Robert Mr. Gregarious. He is so loved because he empathizes with people and especially those that suffer. Through all his hardship, he has developed a huge compassion for people."

Robert is now in his second year of the University of Colorado at Boulder. Nathan, 16, is a student at Corona del Mar High School, is Suzan's sports child. "From age three, he wanted me to read him the sports stuff," she says. "When I couldn't do it at the time, he wanted to read it in a week so he could read them. We read at both hockey and football for years and was ranked at the state level in hockey at age 14 until he had to make a choice because of competitive practice and game time. He chose football. At 4'11" and 160 pounds, he's a terrific catcher," she says proudly. "Richard and I are there for his games."

When the kids were all at home, this amazing mom always prepared home-cooked meals. "I love to cook for them," she says. "And, because they did school lunches, especially Robert with all his allergies, I prepared packed lunches every day for years."

"My kids always equate love with food," she laughs. "Nathan says that when you eat home-cooked meals, you know it's always prepared with love."

"It's not the best cook, but they all love to come home and read the fridge."

ARTICLE DONNA RUNCE



Suzan Paek



Suzan with her daughter Jessica



Robert, Nathan, and Grant Paek with their dog



Nathan, Grant, and Robert Paek



Suzan Paek with her children



Suzan Paek with her children

MOTHERHOOD COMES FIRST (CONTINUED)



Suzan Paek at a school fundraiser



Suzan Paek with her children and friends

Suzan says it's her heart to be out of town, Jessica comes to the house and cooks for Nathan.

Suzan's life has become quite busy since 2010, when she launched Suzan Lee Designs, a fashion label that specializes in exotic leather bags and accessories for women and men. Slowed down by her father's health and eventual death, her bags and accessories are now available throughout the country and online, just launched in the Webstore this May, they will be available in Nathan's March store.

Suzan's philanthropic efforts are worldwide. Locally, she has been a longtime supporter of Second Harvest Food Bank and its support group, volunteers. The Orange County Food Bank, UCI Irvine County Leadership Society and Women of Chapman, UCI Irvine School of Social Science (Dean's Development Board, Orange County Museum of Art, and Young President's Organization) count her as a former spouse board member.

A local project, dear to her heart, came about when Suzan spoke to head Master Thy Moore of Mother's Christian School in Costa Mesa. He told her about the kids creating and making things as part of a design curriculum. She suggested a design competition, where

the kids draw a handbag, she selects the top two, and creates the handbags to be auctioned at the school's fundraiser.

"The kids are over the top excited about the competition," she says. "Through her business contacts, Suzan is working with the likes of Ralph Lauren, David Yurman, John Varvatos, Fendi, Christian Dior, and more. She parlayed these contacts into the lovely handbag fundraising parties for the nonprofits annual fashion show and luncheon benefit."

Suzan's national and international philanthropic work includes the Vietnam Foundation for the Family USA-based president, close to the present, Alpha International, which helps countries with food insecurity; chairman, Council of Korean Americans, INCORP; Co-Chair 2010, UN National Prayer Breakfast member and co-chair of first Asia Summit at NPH in 2010, Korea National Prayer Breakfast in Seoul, Korea, UN representative.

But, not matter, wherever this amazing woman is, her heart is with her kids.

"One thing that really makes me proud, if I were my kids age, I'd want them to be my friend," she says. "That clearly sums up this mother's heart."

THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

Tuesday, April 1, 2014

A CHAT WITH SUZAN PAEK

Something exotic is in the bag

The designer has a rare feel for the skins she puts on her Jessica Grant handbags.

BY LISA LIDDANE
STYLE WRITER

Name a major designer handbag brand – Vuitton, Prada – and Suzan Paek has it in her walk-in closet. But alongside the famous names on the shelves are clutches, totes and top-handle bags in candy-colored crocodile and ostrich, all bearing the name Jessica Grant.

Newport Coast-based Paek, a fixture on the local fundraising and society scene, designs the exotic-skin handbag line named after the oldest two of her four children. Priced from \$3,590 to about \$4,390, the line is available in Orange County via jessicagranthandbags.com and at Mi Place boutiques at The Center at Rancho Niguel, Laguna Niguel and in Corona del Mar Plaza.

This year, Paek is launching a new fashion venture that's been in the works for about two years – Nathan Robert, a men's bag line named after her two younger children.

Paek, a former interior designer, talks about the journey to becoming a bags and leather goods designer.

Q. How did you start your handbag line?

A. It's a silly story, but it's the actual truth. With my charity work with the Harvesters of Orange County, I got to meet a lot of wonderful people in fashion. I was invited to attend a fashion show in Seoul, Korea, and it was the first-ever Fendi runway show in Asia. It was going to be held on the Floating Island off the Han River. I asked my mother, who manufactures in Seoul, to come with me. While we were there, I accompanied my mother on one of her "buys" – she was buying sun hats for her boutique. She was negotiating prices and taking so long and I wasn't interested in buying sun



CHAS METIVIER, CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Suzan Paek designs and sells a line of luxury handbags made of exotic skins such as crocodile and ostrich.

hats.

Right next to the vendor was a retail store that was selling exotic leather handbags. The gentleman who worked in there was really nice. I was looking at his bags – they were really well made but they were antiquated in style. They were 40 to 60 years behind the times – stuff my grandmother used to carry. Because I'm a designer, I sketched some bags. I said, "If you modify this, change that around, you would have a winner." He said, "Well, thank you." We left and we came back four days later to finish up the negotiation for the sun hats. The gentleman at the store motioned for me to come over. He pulled out this bag from the behind the counter and it was the bag that I drew for him.

"You did this in three days?" I said. He said, "Yes, we weren't busy and I wanted to try it out."

"So, do you have email? And if I scan you some more designs, you could do them?"

He said, "Yeah." I asked, "Who do you manufacture for?"

"Some people in Korea and Japan."

"So, you don't manufacture for anyone in the U.S.?"

"No."

Q. How long after that did you launch your line?

A. That visit was in May 2011. In a course of three months, I had perfected my work with him and we had 20 prototypes. In September that year, I attended Fashion Week in New York. I took my bags and showed some photos to my friends there and asked them what they thought. They said, "You could do this." So I came back and continued to work on them. That first year, the Harvesters had their fashion show and I made these keychains and gave them to our highest donors. Mi Place took my bags and they've been taking my bags ever since.

Q. Have you always had a passion for handbags?

A. I started collecting bags when I was 18 or so. I used to go to second-hand stores and get vintage bags. I went for the shapes and colors. And then I went for materials. I have roughly 200 bags. The

ones that I loved the most were the ones that were hard to find and made of exotic leathers – a nice crocodile bag or a snakeskin bag.

Q. Why are you drawn to exotic leather?

A. I think it's because the leather itself is so beautiful. You don't need to do a lot of embellishment with it. The bag itself is a statement piece.

Q. Where do the exotic skins for your line come from?

A. Sustainable sourcing is important to me. I buy my ostrich from South Africa, from the same place where Hermes buys its ostrich. Ostrich meat is heavily consumed there. The crocodile is from Colombia and crocodiles are harvested there for meat and leather. The snakeskin is from Singapore.

Q. How has the line evolved in more than two years?

A. I'm introducing a men's line. I've added some styles and removed others in the women's line. I've designed more modern pieces, included a softer clutch and iPad cases. My newer products include a work briefcase which zips all the way down, messenger

bags, backpacks – these are all for spring and summer. I'm designing prototypes for Maxfield and Fred Segal. It took me a couple of years to find my voice and figure out where I want to be and how to design.

Q. Do you have a signature bag?

A. My Michelle bag. I love it because it's a good size. It has an edgier look than anyone from a 20-year-old to 60-year-old can carry. It's versatile.

Q. How do you see women using your bags?

A. They're not ladies' bags to wear only to special occasions. I want my products to be used daily. The ostrich leather will last three times longer than cowhide. Crocodile is almost indestructible unless you put a blowtorch or knife to it. They're more of an investment than anything. I'm a mother of four children; I need a bag that's practical. If it can't carry me through the whole day, it's useless. It has to be functional and durable.

Q. Where does your handbag fit in a competitive arena where big designer labels

dominate and are coveted?

A. For me, I've been collecting for so long and it's nice to have an assortment that includes Chanel and Louis Vuitton. When you have a certain amount collected, you want something to stand out. You want something different. You don't want something that everyone else has. I've noticed that the women who buy my bags are the ones who have a lot of other designer bags and want something unique."

Q. Looking back, do you think you were destined to become a handbag designer?

A. I wonder about that and think about that. My mother was extremely fashionable when I was younger. She couldn't find what she liked and she'd buy fabric and cut her own patterns. She was an excellent seamstress, so she'd make her dresses. She'd cut the fabric and have these discards that would fall to the ground. I would pick up the fabric scraps and would sew

them into a bigger patchwork and then sew the patchworks into handbags for my dolls. As I got older, I would sew them for my friends. I would always make little bags out of fabric. I would always tag along whenever she would go to downtown L.A. for textiles. I loved doing that.

Q. Do your mother and daughter critique your designs?

A. Constantly. My mother aims for the more traditional bag, my daughter wants something hipper. Both my mother and my daughter covet one of my newer designs. That's when I knew I got it.








Item of the Day

September 22, 2011 by Accessories Staff

 Be the first to comment!

Tags: [Item of the Day](#), [What's New](#), [Crocodile](#), [Exotic Skins](#), [Handbags](#), [Jessica Grant Handbags](#)



Kate style from Jessica Grant Handbags

Exotic skins, often in bold, bright colors, are a hallmark for structured line **Jessica Grant Handbags**, which features crocodile and ostrich sourced from Columbia to South Africa.

But for those who gravitate to more neutral tones, this Kate bag has a nice feature: it's trimmed in black piping, offering almost a "fashion outline" on the whole silhouette.

"Eyes should not be distracted," says the designer Suzan Lee Paek, who avoids logos, and maintains that luxury is in the product and not in the name. "My client knows luxury but is an innovator looking for something different."

The ladylike Kate bag offers just that.

Paek named the line after her first two children Jessica and Grant.

Retail: \$3,450. Call 949-514-9951; www.jessicagranthandbags.com

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lomoi.com

Bold Baubles

Judy Klimek Lola Glamour Earrings
sterling silver hooks, sterling silver
chain and white shell pearls 2 1/4,
\$99; JudyKlimek.com

Engraved Charm Necklace

Charmed Circle Love Letters
necklaces available in Crystal
Quartz and Smokey Topaz, \$295;
CharmedCircle.com

Chic Shoulder Bag

Jessica Grant Kai Tote
available in ten different colors,
shown in Anthracite, \$3,250;
JessicaGrantHandbags.com

Fringe Bracelet

Ellen Arthur 10K gold plated fringe
bracelet with fresh water pearl, \$395;
NaomyAndAdrian.com

Nourishing Skincare

La Prairie Limited Edition
Luminous White Caviar
Collection includes White Caviar
Illuminating Cream, White Caviar
Illuminating Serum and White
Caviar Illuminating Eye Serum
and complimentary deluxe travel
samples, \$950; LaPrairie.com

Metallic Cosmetic Case

Stephanie Johnson Rodeo Drive
Pewter Collection in Katie Folding
Clutch, \$45 and Large Trapezoid, \$42;
StephanieJohnson.com



Bay Area Fashionista

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Jessica Grant Handbags for the spring 2012 season are hot and on trend

Jessica Grant has revealed her fabulous and colorful spring 2012 handbag collection and it is nothing short of *a-ma-zing!* The collection is made from exotic skins and offers a wide variety of satchels, totes, and clutches for spring. Jessica Grant has chosen pretty pastels, bright colors and luscious neutrals for her warm weather collection and has created a classic meets modern line of investment handbags.

Jessica Grant has used inviting shades of yellow, orange, pink, blue, green and red for her spring collection which are not only the hottest hues from the runway, they are the colors which have hit the streets this season. Fashionistas everywhere are being spotted with bright satchels in their hands-or on their arms. Yellow and blue seem to be the most popular shades on the street, while those opting for the runway look favor shades of orange.

Here at Bay Area Fashionista we are in love with Jessica Grant's pink and yellow, satchels and totes. Which styles are your favorite?

To learn more about Jessica Grant, please visit JessicaGrantHandbags.com

*Original version of this article was written and published by Cathy on examiner.com



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March 23, 2012

Jessica Grant reveals spring 2012 handbag collection



Cathy O'Brien

National Handbags Examiner

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Jessica Grant reveals spring 2012 handbag collection

Credits:
Courtesy of Jessica Grant Handbags

Jessica Grant has launched her spring 2012 collection online and in stores. The brightly colored handbag line offers luxurious, exotic skinned satchels, [clutches](#) and shoulder bags for the warm weather season which are both classic and on-trend for spring 2012. Two of the biggest handbag trends from the runway for the spring 2012 season included bright satchels and exotic skinned; both of which are found in Jessica Grant's spring handbag collection.

Bright colored satchels are arguably the most important trend for the spring 2012 season. Not only was this style dominant on the [runway](#), it has also become dominant on the street. Fashionistas everywhere are carrying bright satchels in shades of orange, pink, yellow, green and blue. Jessica Grant has a large selection of classic satchel silhouettes for the spring 2012 season in both neutral hues and the season's hottest shades.

Jessica Grant reveals spring 2012 handbag collection

Credits:
Courtesy of Jessica Grant Handbags



Slideshow: Jessica Grant reveals spring 2012 handbag collection



Slideshow: Jessica Grant reveals spring 2012 handbag collection

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Spring 2012 handbag trends: Tangerine Tango
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Katy Perry wears a pill shaped Christian Louboutin handbag to Viktor & Rolf

Related topics:

Handbags, Jessica Grant Handbags, Clutches, Top Handles/Satchels

In addition to colorful satchels, the [bright colored clutch](#) is the second most dominant trend from the runway to hit the street for spring 2012. Jessica Grant has two clutch styles for the warm weather season in bright shades of orange, yellow, pink, red, green and blue. Jessica Grant's clutch collection is sophisticated and dressy enough to be worn with semi-formal attire, yet the bright colors can allow the clutches to be worn with dressy-casual attire during the day too.

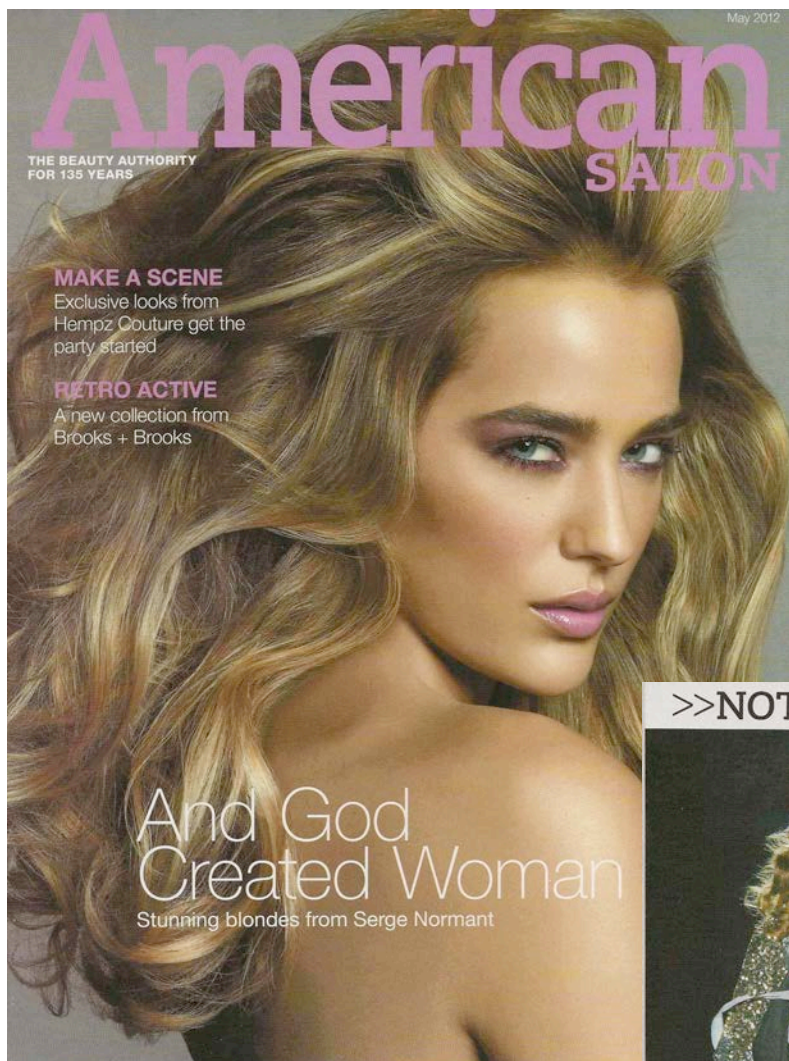
Jessica Grant's handbag collection can be found online at [JessicaGrantHandbags.com](#).

To view photos of a few pieces from Jessica Grant's spring 2012 handbag collection, please click on the slideshow to the left of this article.

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>>NOTEBOOK



THAT'S A WRAP

The turban resurgence that made headlines last year shows no signs of abating. This time around, the look was the order of the day on the spring 2012 catwalks of Marc Jacobs, Anna Sui and Luca Luca, who used the ultrahip accessory to make a stylish statement. Guess it's time to embrace hat hair! —K.D.

BASKET CASE

Helen Kaminski's Nida bag, from the designer's spring collection, is the perfect accent to this season's breezy dresses and colorful prints. Made of crocheted Madagascar raffia that is sustainably harvested, the stylish carry-all features Lurex-flecked cotton rope handles, a suede tassel and a decorative wooden bead accented with snake-embossed leather. The bag is available in small and medium sizes. helenkaminski.com —L.A.



38 American Salon May 2012



Burning Bright

Inspired by vintage mercury glass, Aspen Bay Candles' new Capri Blue Mercury Found Glass candle features an antiqued finish that delivers a warm glow when the wick is lit. Choose from alluring fragrances like Sheer Peony, Tea Blossoms and Tuscan Sun. aspenbaycandles.com —L.A.

Do-Good Drops

Good for fashion and the earth, the Raindrops Earrings from World Shoppe are a fair trade commodity made by a group of 18 artisans in South Africa. The fluidlike delicate dangles are composed of copper and brass materials. world-shoppe.com —J.T.



OFF THE CUFF



Founded by designer Suzan Lee Paek, Jessica Grant is a luxurious line of handbags and accessories that are classic and elegant with a modern edge.

We love the newest addition to the collection: bright and colorful cuff bracelets made with exotic skins like crocodile and ostrich sourced from Colombia and South Africa. jessicagranthandbags.com —L.A.

All That Glitters

Make the skin sparkle with the edgy yet ultrafeminine pure gold and silver Gold Sin Jewels temporary tattoos from Genofinity. Made in Italy, the innovative tattoos are created using cutting-edge nanotechnology that's typically utilized in the biomedical industry. The tattoos are available in a range of designs, such as floral motifs for the ankles, arms and chest, and Kanji—Chinese characters symbolizing love and joy—which are perfect for wrists and shoulder blades. The two-dimensional jewels are safe for the skin and designed to last between three to seven days. goldsinjewels.com —J.T.





Gifts for the Girls

1. Handcrafted from the finest stretch leather, the Justice One's Stretch Bag and Carole Bagchev feature a sleek interior lining. www.justonebags.com

2. Rhodunskated, Rhodunskated presents a unique art deco-inspired silhouette with countless clear crystals in its signature cut. www.rhodunskated.com

3. This must-have rhodium-plated New Red Crystal Beale sparkles magnificently in crystal mesh and pearl. www.newred.com

4. Look regal in this alluring purple Beale ring boasting a gorgeous Amethyst cat's paw nestled within a bed of diamonds. www.newred.com

5. Discover and sample some of the best beauty and lifestyle products with Birchbox, delivering trial-sized products of well-known and upcoming brands. www.birchbox.com

6. Christine Aguilera Royal Zeal is an Oriental spicy blend with both fishy floral as well as warm sensual notes, creating a luscious appeal. www.zeal.com

7. Sporting silver 5-station Moments with Gigi bracelet, featuring two sterling silver (any daisy clip, black ribbon, sterling silver, mint green, clip, and a sterling silver de Vint clip. www.gigibags.com

8. Three protective charms hang from the silver clip of this black Leather Whip Brooch. www.thermabrooch.com

9. The hand-painted Always a Bohemian wine glass is adorned with multiple, brightly colored bohemian flowers. www.alwaysabohemian.com

10. Show your love and devotion with Gattini Alphabet Rings. www.gattinirings.com

11. This handcrafted Pink One-Stop Case features cocooned animal leather with the option to personalize with a monogram. www.one-stop.com

12. Your wedding gown is sure to stand out while awaiting from a Personalized Wedding Hanger. www.weddinghanger.com





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03.22.2012

Exotic handbag line Jessica Grant is wearable art

posted by [VersaStyle](#) in [Fashion](#)

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JESSICA GRANT

LadyLUX via Jessica Grant

Suzan Paek is a mother, philanthropist, world traveler, furniture designer, handbag lover and, with the launch of exotic line [Jessica Grant](#) in August 2011, she has added handbag designer to her repertoire. The brand references the names of her first two children, Jessica and Grant, who serve as inspiration to Paek as she is designing. In creating Jessica Grant, she strived to merge comfort with luxury, producing wearable pieces of art that last a lifetime.

"I want my handbags to be an [...more](#)

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Inspired By



Suzan Paek is a mother, philanthropist, world traveler, furniture designer, handbag lover and, with the launch of exotic line *Jessica Grant* in August 2011, she has added handbag designer to her repertoire. The brand references the names of her first two children, Jessica and Grant, who serve as inspiration to Paek as she is designing. In creating Jessica Grant, she strived to merge comfort with luxury, producing wearable pieces of art that last a lifetime.

"I want my handbags to be an investment and I noticed that exotic skins were the most durable material," Paek shared. "My client knows luxury but is an innovator looking for something different."

The handcrafted collection of Jessica Grant handbags, clutches, wallets and key chains boasts luxurious materials of alligator, crocodile, lizard, ostrich and snake leather from South Africa and Columbia. Drawing on her experience as a furniture designer, Paek incorporated her passion for clean lines, classic styles and pops of color into each piece. Aside from her children, she finds inspiration in her every day surroundings and travel in foreign countries. Yet, the beauty of the collection comes from her understanding that each woman's must-have bag is different and unique to her personality.



LadyLUX via Jessica Grant

"The must-have bag is a that bag you need every day. It's the bag that will work with your every outfit and fit into your life at every given moment," declared the designer. "It's the bag that makes your outfit and can serve as a functional handbag and is your lifesaver. My kids call my bag the Bag of Wonders."

Paek looked to the women in her life and considered their personalities and needs in creating the line. The idea of unique must-haves resulted in an array of styles that include black ostrich leather drawstring backpacks, blue crocodile tail bowler bags and silver structured crocodile clutches, each appropriately named after their inspiration.



LadyLUX via Jessica Grant

"There is a story for each bag. The 'Sookee' is named after my mother. She desired a bag that was light, functional, roomy and can be carried on the shoulder or be able to collapse comfortably under the arm without being bulky," Paek explained.

Paek may not have named a bag after herself, but she knows what works for her.

"I love the Nancy. It carries me from day into evening, work meetings and after school activities without skipping a beat. I look chic in a board

"There is a story for each bag. The 'Sookee' is named after my mother. She desired a bag that was light, functional, roomy and can be carried on the shoulder or be able to collapse comfortably under the arm without being bulky," Paek explained.

Paek may not have named a bag after herself, but she knows what works for her.

"I love the Nancy. It carries me from day into evening, work meetings and after school activities without skipping a beat. I look chic in a board meeting and on the baseball field without switching handbags," she raved.



LadyLUX via Jessica Grant

Since launching last year, Jessica Grant has quickly gained popularity and has been seen on numerous Hollywood celebrities including Katie Cleary, Tatyana Ali and Carrie Keagan. To capitalize on her current success, Paek plans to launch Nathan Robert for Jessica Grant this summer.

"The new line is a young, free spirited unisex line that will include carry-all backpacks, messenger bags, envelope bags, overnight bags and briefcases, all made beautifully unique in exotic leathers, of course," Paek shared.

Please click [here](#) to visit the Jessica Grant website.

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1. BRAZILIAN BANGLE

Swarovski's Rio bangle is perfect to gift as a bridesmaid keepsake that she can wear either casually with jeans or to dress up a cocktail frock. This stunning rhodium-plated bangle has striking mosaic-inspired crystals in a special geometric cut. It glows in magnificent blue and pink tones. Available at The Grand Canal Shopper.

2. STAMP OF APPROVAL

Diane von Furstenberg's large leather envelope clutch, called the Harper, is the statement clutch of the season. High-fashion meets high-function in this must-have bag for summer presented in a cloudy blue hue. Available at Neiman Marcus in Fashion Show.

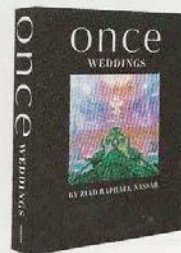


3. GREEN WITH ENVY

Taste buds quivering in expectation, jewelry gourmets are in for a treat. Giving free rein to its legendary imagination, Chopard has concocted a banquet of sweet delights, frilly combining the most precious stones with more unusual gems to create a scrumptious array of pink sapphires, amethysts, rubellites, tsavorites, tourmalines and opals. Chopard's Precious Temptations Haute joaillerie collection welcomes delectable gem delights to be savored including this heart-shaped ring. The menu also includes sautoir necklaces, earrings and rings in bruised raspberry, pistachio green and blackberry shades. Chopard is carried at Hyde Park Jewellers, The Forum Shops.

4. WEDDING WONDER

A collection of fabulous celebrations, "Once Weddings" brings together famed event designer Ziad Raphael Nassar's most lavish, inspiring ideas from the past decade. Part of Assouline's Ultimate Collection, this luxurious oversize limited edition reveals once-in-a-lifetime moments created by Nassar's artistic talent driven by passion, insight, and design. The hand-bound limited edition book is available at Assouline in Crystals at CityCenter.



5. UNDER MY SKIN

Inspired by her everyday surroundings as well as travels abroad, Suzan Lee Pack, creative director and founder of Jessica Grant Handbags, keeps lines clean, her styles classic, and uses only the finest skins available from Colombia to South Africa. Her crocodile and ostrich handbags, wallers, clutches, and cosmetic bags (pictured here) are available in bright splashes of color to highlight your style. www.jessicagranthandbags.com





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Monday, March 19th, 2012 | Posted by penelopegreen

Jessica Grant Handbags: Luxurious & Exotic



Suzan Lee Paek, Creative Director and Founder of Jessica Grant Handbags, was inspired to create an elegant, functional collection in exotic skins, which is timeless, chic, and durable. Jessica Grant is wearable art in the form of a woman's most ultimate fashion accessory.

A longtime handbag collector, Suzan wanted to incorporate comfort into a luxurious product, which would last for years. "I noticed that exotic skins were the most durable material, and I want my pieces to be an investment. My client knows luxury but is an innovator looking for something different."

Inspired by her every day surroundings as well as travels abroad, Suzan keeps lines clean, her styles classic, and uses only the finest skins available from Colombia to South Africa. The crocodile and ostrich

handbags are available in bright splashes of color and the collection also offers sleek clutches to highlight your style.

"A women's handbag is more than an accessory to carry one's personal belongings. The handbag is an extension of the woman who carries it. Jessica Grant is a representation of who I am as a designer; my belief of quality, fashion, family and culture. I want the woman who carries my handbag to love it. I want her to know that I was envisioning her when I designed it."

You can check out more handbags and accessories from Jessica Grant at <http://www.jessicagranthandbags.com/Default.asp>. Products range from \$290 to \$4,990.

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Spring Accessories



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Jessica Grant Sookee

Boasting perfect size and adequate storage, the Sookee bag incorporates sensibility and style. From blue to red, Jessica Grant has the shade you're looking for.

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we have the perfect name for your little bundle

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Spring Accessories



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Jessica Grant Black Bucket II

Another addition to the Jessica Grant line, this second bucket is spacious as it is chic. The classic lines and sharp black add to the modern style from designer Suzan Lee Pask.

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Spring Accessories



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Jessica Grant Black Backpack

Incorporating comfort and luxury, this backpack is perfect for packing what you need for a day trip or road trip. Designer Suzan Lee Paek uses skins from Colombia to South Africa in her line of bags, showcasing her inspirations from around the globe.

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Spring Accessories



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Jessica Grant Black Bucket

Designer Suzan Lee Paek's take on classic style comes in all shapes and sizes. This bucket bag fits comfortably and holds everything you need for a full day. This bag, like the rest of the line, is durable through and through and can last you for years to come.

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HANDBAGS | May 8, 2012 | ADD A COMMENT

Sharni Vinson shines with a Jessica Grant handbag at the Kentucky Derby



Cathy O'Brien

National Handbags Examiner

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Sideshow: Sharni Vinson shines with a Jessica Grant handbag at the Kentucky Derby



Sharni Vinson shines with a Jessica Grant handbag at the Kentucky Derby Photo credit: Courtesy of Jessica Grant Handbags and Amadeo NYC

Related topics:

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Sharni Vinson

Sharni Vinson was spotted at the Kentucky Derby carrying a golden, glistening Jessica Grant clutch. The Australian beauty paired her Jessica Grant handbag with an on-trend sundress in a vibrant shade of tangerine, an Amadeo Cuff from HSN and a sassy, floppy striped hat.

Sharni Vinson's Jessica Grant clutch was made from ostrich and the golden color blended well with her tangerine ensemble. The exotic clutch from Jessica Grant is a classic handbag which can be worn for special occasions during the day, as Sharni Vinson wore hers, or paired with dressier attire for evening occasions.

View slideshow: Sharni Vinson shines with a Jessica Grant handbag at the Kentucky Derby

The golden hue of Sharni Vinson's Jessica Grant ostrich clutch fits perfectly into the current metallic trend which is from the runways in Paris, Milan, New York and London for spring/summer 2012. Sharni Vinson's choice of a golden clutch was a wise one since gold is one of the hottest metallic hues for fall as well. The sparkling shade dominated the runways for fall/winter 2012/2013 and was especially popular among designers in Milan such as Dolce & Gabbana.

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Sharni Vinson's Jessica Grant ostrich clutch is named the "Lynn" handbag and is priced at \$1300. The handbag is available in a variety of seasonal and classic hues including bronze, blue, white and tangerine. Sharni Vinson's "Lynn" clutch by Jessica Grant can be found online at JessicaGrantHandbags.com and is from the current, spring/summer 2012 collection.

To view photos of Sharni Vinson carrying her golden ostrich "Lynn" clutch by Jessica Grant at the Kentucky Derby, please click on the slideshow to the left of this article.

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They've been sucking blood long before Edward Cullen.

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BECOME AN EXAMINER

Luxe Lust Pick of the Day: Jessica Grant's Pink Crocodile Clutch

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Advertising



Once upon a time, pairing red with pink was taboo. These days, stylists are taking more fashion risks with their clients, which we see during award season. Case in point, Oscar nominee, Michelle Williams rocked a burnt orange (which definitely translate as red to the at-home audience) Louis Vuitton gown with a demurely pink croc clutch. We loved this bold move so much that we think all fashionistas should have at least one statement-making clutch in their arsenal of fabulous accessories, and right now, we are loving Jessica Grant's pink crocodile clutch. It's our lust-have pick of the day for integrating red carpet moments into your daily life (or at least date night!).



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Essential Elements of the Life Well Lived



SMART STYLE

Protecting your smart phone in style is all the rage, so Case-Mate has collaborated with luxury lifestyle brand iomoi to create cutting-edge, quirky, and chic phone cases inspired by Spring 2012 runway trends. \$35-\$40; at case-mate.com.



PHAT CHANCE

Pump up the volume with Baby Phat's Chance Heels, in blue or red (get both!) for Spring. \$59; available at Macy's stores and at macys.com.

TRIBE CALLED DENIM

Sold Design Lab's tribal-inspired collection makes a bold statement this season. Choose the Bleeker Street Short with Navajo embroidery in vintage tattered Greenwich Village wash, or white Virtual Stretch Soho Super Skinny with tribal embroidery. \$104-\$138; available at Lord & Taylor, Miami, and at lordandtaylor.com.



WishList

THE GOODS YOU'VE GOT TO GET THIS MONTH.



CROCODILE ROCK

Jessica Grant's new handbag collection comes in a range of colors and skins, so can punch up your accessory wardrobe with more than one. \$3,600-\$3,750; at jessicagranthandbags.com.



Cover Photography MIKE NGUYN
Hair Neeko Abriol at Salon Sessions



THE BAG
JESSICA GRANT
Dark purple python Johanna bag
jessicagranthandbags.com



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worthy splurge: gretchen tote by jessica grant

worthy splurge: gretchen tote by jessica grant

posted in designer 101, handbags, worthy splurge |

14th
March
2012

On the "worthy splurge" scale, handbags rank the highest for me. Especially timeless, standout bags that will be just as valuable to my granddaughters (or, more likely, great-nieces) as they are to me. Clothes won't always fit, shoes (no matter how babied) will eventually wear out. But bags? Bags are forever, if you take good care of them.

So, for me, the ultimate worthy splurge is an exotic bag. Something in my brain just beelines for a beautiful exotic any time I lay eyes on it - I'm like a moth to a very expensive flame. I remember being full-on obsessed with a bleu roi (ahem, royal blue) ostrich Hermes Kelly I saw for sale once upon a time. Oh, I stalked that bag...it was my desktop photo for months. It was also far, far out of my reach. But I still think about that bag, and that beautiful bright blue ostrich leather. So, you'll understand why my heart skipped a beat just now:



It's the Gretchen, from a new line of all-exotic bags by Jessica Grant (and PS, she's pretty cute in yellow too). Sure, it's still well out of the range (just shy of \$4,000)...but I can tell you it looks downright affordable next to that Kelly (and, for that matter, that Chanel I've been shopping for). It's full of that structured, ladylike goodness I go for, and that color...well, I just know I'd never tire of it.

Would you ever splurge on an exotic? What's your leather of choice? I go for ostrich or stingray every time, but I know women that are die-hard croc fans, and old-school girls that love a little lizard.



This entry was posted on Wednesday, March 14th, 2012 at 8:40 am and is filed under [designer 101](#), [handbags](#), [worthy splurge](#). You can follow any responses to this entry through the [RSS 2.0](#) feed. You can [leave a response](#), or [trackback](#) from your own site.



July 5th, 2012

Jessica Grant Handbags - Accessories Get a Refreshing Jolt of Color & Texture For Fall/Winter 2012

Press Release

A burst of vivid colors and rich textures are dominating accessories as ravishingly realized in the Fall 2012 collection of JESSICA GRANT Handbags. Kicking off her second season showcasing an exuberant mix of exotic skins in supple solid colors, detailing and uncommonly elegant shapes, the latest collection was designed to give everyone innovative style. These head turning conversation pieces definitely fit the bill in adding luxury to anyone's wardrobe by way of being what's considered wearable art in the form of a woman's most ultimate fashion accessory. Timeless, chic and durable, the new season's must-haves include: the Kate, Rebecca, Kai, Cynthia, Sara, Catherine, Sookee and the Gretchen among others. All created with a harmonious confluence of hues and texture.

Launched in August of 2011, Jessica Grant designer, Suzan Paek, drew immediate praise with a core collection distinguished by the use of classic and unique frames combined with finest exotic crocodile and ostrich skins from Colombia and South Africa adorned with chic minimal hardware. From the outset, the line reflected the very heart of Jessica's aesthetics – an astute sense of color, eye-catching visual appeal and clean lines – while paying meticulous attention to function and the highest qualities of handcrafting. By pulling together timeless elements of grace and romanticism and presenting them in a sophisticated, modern context, Jessica Grant has captivated countless women. From fashion insiders to some of Hollywood's new and younger trend and jet setters such as Sharni Vinson, Janina Gavankar, Carrie Keagan Katrina Law, Katie Cleary, Eloise Mumford and Alexandra Chando, in such a short time they have all become fans of the collection and have been enchanted by the clever fusion of classic and sophisticated shapes and modern touches. They have been spotted numerous times accessorizing with pieces from the collection both on the red carpet and on the streets Hollywood!

The Jessica Grant key chains and handbags retail from \$200 - \$4,500 and are available at specialty boutiques including Lola Regina in Beverly Hills, MI Place in Newport Beach and Danielas in Boston as well as on the website, www.jessicagranthandbags.com

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BOSTONISTA

* THE HUB'S STYLE AND SHOPPING REPORT

Stuff We Love: Bold, Bright Skins

This wow clutch from newcomer Jessica Grant is an instant outfit upgrade.

BY LINDSAY TUCKER POSTED ON 7/5/2012

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Unless you've been living under a rock, you've no doubt noticed that this summer is all about **color**. And when it comes to accessorizing, bolder is better. That's why we're lusting after this **striking "Lynda" snakeskin clutch** from Suzan Paek, the designer behind Jessica Grant handbags, which debuted in fall 2011.

Paek says that the organic wrap-around design, done up in an exotic skin, is a nod to her Korean-American heritage: "I wanted something that made a statement and encapsulated how the natural skin would be," she says. (The bags are handmade by artisans in Korea, too.)

The result? A sleek head-turner that's available in ten hues. "It's a conversation piece," says Paek. "It's something you can take from morning to evening." Indeed, it's roomy enough for all your sundries — finally, fashion and function see eye-to-eye.

Available at jessicagranthandbags.com.

FAB BAGS



Nice to see an Orange County based handbags designer creating fab looks in vivid colors and rich textures for fall. The new [Jessica Grant handbags](#) designed by Suzan Paek feature classic and unique frames in exotic crocodile and ostrich skins from Colombia and South Africa adorned with minimal hardware. Timeless chic, meticulous attention to detail and function are all elements of a Jessica Grant handbag.

Consider them luxurious pieces of wearable art. Young Hollywood's trendsetters are Jessica Grant bags out and about and on red carpets such as Sharni Vinson, Janina Gavankar, Carrie Keagan Katrina Law, Katie Cleary, Eloise Mumford and Alexandra Chando. You can find Jessica Grant key chains and handbags at specialty boutiques including Mi

Place in Newport Beach and Laguna Niguel, and online at <http://www.jessicagranthandbags.com>. The fall season's must-haves include: the Kate, Rebecca, Kal, Cynthia, Sara, Catherine, Sookee and the Gretchen.

Prices range from \$200 to \$4,500. Mi Place is at Corona del Mar Plaza at 916 Avocado Ave. in Newport Beach. (949) 219-9919. Mi Place is at 28121 Crown Valley