

BEAUTY • FASHION • LIFESTYLE • EVENTS • PROFILE • DIY

Gothic Beauty

Magazine

ISSUE 32

creative
Date Night
Ideas to help
ignite romance

Rewind Time
the Heritage Square
Museum brings
a past era to life

Pinar Eris
Street Couture
with a Touch
of Mischief

say **Hello** to
jewelry's newest
Drama!

PLUS William Control, Katatonia
& Abney Park

PUBLISHED BY HOLIDAY MEDIA

\$5.95 US \$6.50 CAN £7.25 UK



7 25274 96232 9

Retailer file under Pop Culture or Fashion



CONTENTS

ISSUE 32



on the cover

Photo by
Annie Bertram

FASHION

- 24 Pinar Eris
- 42 Isabelle Batz
- 48 Azrael's Accomplice

LIFESTYLE

- 6 The Heritage Square Museum
- 10 Handmade Culture on the Net
- 12 An Exploration of Institutions
- 30 Plan a Romantic Date Night
- 62 Gothic Gardening

DIY

- 14 Make Your Own Coffin Purse

EVENT

- 18 The 2010 Gothic Cruise

Issue 31 Corrections

Dark Fusion Boutique photographer credit goes to Kenneth Barton.
Jessica Darwin photographer credit goes to Debby Rotkowitz.
Page 28 Jennifer Garcia incorrectly listed as the model credit when in fact she is the photographer credit.
The Ludovico Technique Music Review label is Beyond Therapy / Crunchpod.

STAFF PICKS 34

SHOWCASE

- 22 Atelier Gothique
- 46 Timeless Trends
- 52 Hello Drama

STYLE

- 76 Megan Massacre

MAKEUP

- 32 Illamasqua

INTERVIEW

- 20 William Control
- 36 Abney Park
- 58 Katatonia

REVIEWS

- 60 Product Reviews
- 66 Music Reviews
- 69 Book Reviews



By Alison Schwartz

It can be a difficult task to stand out in this industry, yet Isabelle's ambitious imaginings make it seem effortless. She is always coming up with new designs, even while dreaming. Her cultural background, as a native of Columbia, is very important to her and heavily influences her use of bright colors. Despite always feeling imaginative, "the biggest challenge is coming out with something unique while maintaining my own vision and style. I also want to make clothing that I personally would wear, if I expect others to want to wear it."

Isabelle's story is an inspiring one. She started out as many other DIYers — making clothing and wearing it out to various New York City goth/industrial club nights. After a time, she caught the attention of Stitch, a buyer for the popular NYC gothic fashion boutique Gothic Renaissance. He saw photos of her clothing online and saw a ton of potential in her creations. Last September, he made Isabelle an offer to sell her first clothing line in the store. Ever since, she has been making quite a name for herself in the NY scene. Her designs have appeared in numerous fashion shows, including Fashions on Lex at the respected NY Fashion Week and Xris Smack's 14th anniversary fetish party fashion show. Because of the convenience of the internet, alt clothing fanatics are able to order her clothing and flaunt it at the club no matter where they live. Whatever your fashion mood, there is everything in her online clothing catalog, from subversive vinyl ferocity in layered miniskirts to a lace and tulle bustle belt that will add that lovely touch of elegance to any outfit. Batz accessories are also to die for, with vinyl collars and fetishy beaddresses.

Isabelle's highly coveted skirts, dresses and tops all are composed of classically alternative materials like vinyl or tulle, but are stitched, laced, pieced, cinched and zippered in ways that are imaginatively elabo-

There is a certain 'norm' when it comes to alternative clothing — a vast majority of black with maybe a few color accents that are usually within the red or midnight blue family. Columbian designer **Isabelle Batz** is far more daring, using colors and texture in her designs to reinvent alt style.

rate. The range of colors and eccentric patterns coincide with her personal style; she tends to steer clear of "doom and gloom" kind of clothing, though she acknowledges a place for it in the alt fashion spectrum. But, she would rather create clothing that makes the wearer feel a sense of hope and confidence in themselves, rather than having him or her blend into the shadows. Indeed, the bold vampy vixen that loves to make a statement and have all eyes on her when she enters the club is the kind of lady decked out in Isabelle Batz. It is all about self-

expression, and with the diversity of her designs, you are bound to find something that resonates with you personally.

Some classic prints that Isabelle loves to experiment with are Asian patterns and leopard print. What makes these old alternative mainstays new again? The placement of the boning in the leopard corset tops of the "Wild 4 U" line and the variations on color tone make them one of a kind. The Asian patterns of Isabelle's "Oriental Vibe" series feature vinyl detailing that creates a streamlined silhouette that flatters



any figure. Sometimes a twist on the old classics is all one needs to stay classy while being fashionably rebellious.

For the even more adventurous, there are many more options. One piece that is particularly show-stopping is her Hard Candy zipper mini dress. With its fluorescent pink and orange accents, this fishnet dress with vinyl trim and diagonally cascading zippers is both alluring and unabashedly original. The placement of the zippers draws the eyes immediately to the hourglass frame of the body, where the hips and the torso curve outward. The sherbert color combination softens the effect, resulting in an overall look that could be a casual daytime dress or vamped up with dark makeup to transform it into a sultry night outfit. The zipper dress is among Isabelle's favorite designs because of its bright hues and futuristic aura. She also loves her popular Cyber Vixen line, which contains vinyl and PVC mini skirts and corsets in radioactive, neon colors. These pieces are club-ready and fierce. For something a step further, the clothing in the "Psychedelic Furs" line is classic cybergoth, with faux fur of various bright colors. There are also sexy vinyl pants with cute detachable furry bottom cuffs.

As mentioned before, it is incredibly important to Isabelle to maintain her own vision when not only designing her clothing but also when having it photographed. She boasts having a regular makeup artist she works with, Venus, whose creativity and passion coincide with Isabelle's concepts. For example, Venus' makeup for the clothing in the Midnight Avenger line gives the photo and ensemble a superhero vibe. She considers Venus and herself a creative team, that delivers a polished and appealing final product so people will take note and want to own her creations. She is also very involved with the photoshoot herself, and has ideas on posing her models. She knows how she wants her work to be perceived by the eyes and mind of others and will do her best to ensure her creative objective is successful. Her enthusiasm and creative spirit are infused in every piece, which makes all the difference in how her clothes turn out.

On the horizon for Isabelle Batz is the production of a lot more clothing. She will be releasing a swimwear line sometime soon, tentatively called "Moonlight Bath." When asked why she chose to venture into swimwear design, she explained, "That's something that isn't really out there. Alternative swimwear would be very popular though, I think." If her swimwear line is anything like her other clothing, it will be very popular indeed.

Page 42: Tatjana Sinkovica is wearing the Orion Dress (\$150). Photo by Zandieh Studio. MU&H by Venus Pain

Page 44: Keri Taylor is wearing the Leeloo's Tripping Mini Dress (\$200). Photo by Paul Tirado. MU&H by Venus Pain

Page 45: Realize is wearing the Red Amazona Corset (\$120), Hard Candy Buckled Cropped Pants (\$250). Photo by CandyLust. MU&H by Venus Pain



For clothing that celebrates color, Isabelle Batz is incomparable in the alternative fashion realm. Her pairing of dark glamour and futuristic elements make her a designer to pay attention to. Stay tuned

"I would love to thank these people who had helped me to get to this point with my fashion line; My husband and family for all the support and patience. My very talented good friend and make up artist Venus Pain, Stitch the buyer from Gothic Renaissance for giving me the incentive to start a fashion line and Xris Smack for giving the opportunity to showcase my clothing line at his events Smack and Stimulate." ♦

isabellebatz.com