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Carter&Bennett
CONSULENZA E SERVIZI PER LA COMUNICAZIONE

Shoe craftsmanship

John Lobb x Paul Smith

Paul Smith adds colour to the renowned shoemaker John Lobb. In a special collection that was shown for the first time during the Paris Fashion Weeks this summer, the British pattern king has freely interpreted three models from John Lobb's collection. The result is a tasteful combination of British shoecraftsmanship and Sir Paul's playful design ideals. Classic with a twist, indeed! OE

"CIVIL SERVANTS WEAR A SUIT AND TIE AS IF TO SAY WE ARE THE SAME."

Chinese artist Ai Weiwei, currently to be seen in the acclaimed documentary *Ai Weiwei: Never Sorry*, on the insidious significance of the suit in Peking. Clothes design forms a part of Ai's multifaceted artistry. In the performance work *Fairytale* (2007), he designed the clothes for 1,001 compatriots that he had transported to the *Documenta 12* art exhibition in Kassel, Germany.

Design

BARFLY TABLE

The 1970s: Drinks were mixed with Explorer vodka in the den with no style whatsoever, and James Last got you up dancing. Perhaps it was this way in Sweden, but hardly in continental Europe. Early that decade, for example, Spanish BD launched a table by Ettore Sottsass. An Italian who had also designed the tomato-red *Olivetti Valentine*, a typewriter which many aspiring writers would chop off their little finger to own.

The table which was exhibited at the 1972 Milan Fair was named *Mettsass*, and was done in best pop-art style: taking some everyday item you have to hand and blowing it up to huge proportions. At the same time, however, it spoke to the barfly who also wanted to get that cocktail feeling in his bachelor pad: from the side it looked like a giant martini glass. Now, the same BD has taken the table, made in bent sheet metal and glass, and started production once more. The red colour you can get it in is, by the way, coded: RAL 3001. Cheers! PD

Style

KNITTED

The Norwegians can make more than just traditional sweaters. Berg & Berg, the Norwegian accessory brand, launches a luxurious collection of knitted garments this autumn, all manufactured in renowned Hawick, Scotland, in materials such as cashmere and lambswool. OE

Design

Shrine

Italian La Cividina says that designer Antonio Rodriguez is inspired by the shapes of the 1950s. But the eye-catching element in his chair and other furniture in *Serie 50* is rather the unbridled anti-nostalgic and organic minimalism, which made the era so beautiful. At least in films.

So this is a piece of furniture, designed today but seemingly sprung from a time when horrendous styles such as shabby-chic and neo-vintage were not yet invented. Seen at its best in the angle where the photographer seems to be on his knees in front of it. As if before a shrine. PD

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