

# ARRIVALS

BY MARIANNA CERINI

*What's new on the scene*



## NEEMIC

Undoubtedly one of our favorite 'Made in China' labels, Beijing-based eco-sustainable brand Neemic never fails to hit the right spot with its collections. Its latest one is called Cocoon, and it's, simply put, a beautiful sample of sartorial skillfulness and craftsmanship. Blending the company's minimalist design aesthetics with eco-friendly, hand-made natural fabrics, a line of sleek coats, separates, denim and dresses reveals clean cuts in subdued, earthy tones – a perfect mix of simple comfort and soothing colors. In typical Neemic style, feminine and boyish references abound across the collection, with silky skirts, ultra light layers and delicate knits juxtaposed with boxy fleece sweaters in organic cotton, boyfriend coats and oversized jumpers. Attention to detail shines throughout, from upcycled leather elements to understated prints sprayed on a casual jacket. A real bastion for fashion, beauty and sustainable living, this is a brand worth plenty of attention. RMB1,438-4,420.

// neemic.asia



Photos by Noemi Cassanelli

## Porter International

Those looking for a brand new bag – or two – to get carried into the new year, might want to check out newly opened Porter International. The Taiwanese label, which, since launching in 2001, has expanded its brick-and-mortar presence in the US, Europe and most of Asia, now arrives in Taikoo Li Sanlitun South. But be warned: this is not a place for fashion braggers, so if an It bag is what you're after, you'll be disappointed. If, on the other hand, you yearn for a little modesty and a bag that'll take you a long way, walk right in. The shop is a haven of carriers, totes and briefcases that combine understated design and solid materials with high functionality – all a bag should offer, really. Prices range from RMB750-2,000.

// S6-21B, Taikoo Li Sanlitun South, 19 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路19号太古里三里屯南区 (6413 2168)



## Q Apartment

From the trend-led thrift of Trash 'n' Diamonds to newly opened retro gem Q Apartment, Shuangjing's Pingod is fast becoming home to a rather interesting vintage scene. A well-presented, well-stocked, intimate little shop – literally a living room-turned-boutique – this latest addition to the artsy compound is the personal project of former stylist Shao Qing, who has lovingly sourced each and every item during her many trips to the States, France and Italy. Choice vintage garb from different decades – spanning the 1930s, 50s and 90s – includes some exquisite pieces, shoes and accessories, and features both brand-less vintage threads and designer wares. Quality over quantity is the name of the game, and with prices ranging from RMB700 to RMB15,000, it's unlikely you'll walk out arms heaving, but what you do purchase will be the very best, and for that, this new boutique deserves a visit.

// 2606, Bldg 6B, Pingod, 32 Baiziwán Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区百子湾路32号苹果社区6B楼2606(186 1033 0793)

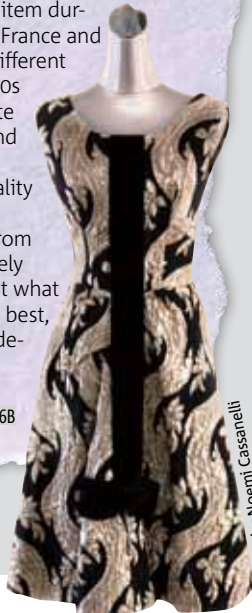


Photo by Noemi Cassanelli

## Cheap Monday

Although carried by a few, selected shops around town, Cheap Monday – that brand with the signature skull logo you may have seen in Urban Outfitters back home or on some very hipster types in Gulou – had never had a proper retail presence in Beijing. Or at least that was the case until a few weeks ago. To the delight of young indie-style aficionados, the label has finally opened its very first standalone store in Xidan's Joy City – a clear effort to establish a stronger position within the high-street market. Hailing from Sweden, Cheap Monday is best known for its denim range – the company first launched its super-stretch, skinny fit 'Tight' jean in 2004 – but has, over the years, become a much-coveted name for its edgy separates and directional footwear (read: ultra-hipster clothes).

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