

# planet FLARE



## OTTAWA

Twenty-one designers, three days and countless stilettos left fashionistas buzzing with excitement at **OTTAWA FASHION WEEK** last fall. Spring '12 highlights included bamboo jersey frocks and feather headdresses from Stacey Bafi-Yebo and tailored tribal ensembles from Jana Hanzel and Emilia Torabi paired with Chapeaux de Madelaine's flirty fascinators (above), as well as David McCaffrey's sumptuous silk bridal and gala wear. Other favourites included the futuristic yet feminine pieces from London-based designer Simon Ekrelius, made from an unlikely combination of cotton, organza and plastic.



## Montreal

**LE CHÂTEAU** IS POISED TO SERVE MONTREAL'S POLISHED SET with the opening of an expansive concept boutique at Les Promenades St-Bruno. The sleek white space, made up of multiple "mini shops," carries the mega-brand's haute-than-ever house label (think silk, cashmere and Italian leather), along with footwear from popular shoe brands including Franco Sarto and Vince Camuto. 255 Boulevard Des Promenades.



## TORONTO



After 17 years of building an international following, the Canadian duo behind fashion connoisseur favourite Mercy are putting down roots at home. Jennifer Halchuk and Richard Lyle's boutique **Gaspard** not only carries quilted skirts, waxed rainwear and riding jackets from their own line, but also European imports such as the classic prints of London's Ascher Studio and Italian knitwear label Roberto Collina. 913 Queen St. W.

Rozemerie Cuevas continues to challenge shopping convention. Her new 8,000-square-foot flagship on the outskirts of Vancouver's Olympic Village, **Jacqueline Conoir**, combines the intimacy of an atelier space (Cuevas works just upstairs) with the comforts of traditional retail therapy. A sweeping back area will host a series of emerging local artists. 164 West 5th Ave.



## VANCOUVER



Set within the plush Loden Hotel, Coal Harbour's new bistro **TABLEAU** serves up a Parisian-inspired menu featuring the freshest fare the West Coast waters and farms have to offer. This gem won best new restaurant in *The Georgia Straight* newspaper's "Best of Vancouver" spotlight, and with mains that range between \$16 and \$25, picking up the tab is easy as *un, deux, trois*. 1181 Melville St.



## LOS ANGELES

Tucked away between the raucous bars of the Sunset Strip and the serene promenades of Beverly Hills, the **Petit Ermitage** is a scene unto itself. The West Hollywood boutique hotel boasts a private art collection (Joan Miró, Willem de Kooning), in-suite fireplaces and 24-hour butler service. But it's the Private Rooftop Club that really draws visitors, with its sexy cabana, heated saltwater pool and panoramic views of the Hollywood Hills. Not only is it a celebrity hot spot (Eva Longoria hosted Victoria Beckham's baby shower here), but it's also a hummingbird and butterfly sanctuary—good company no matter your cup of tea. 8822 Cynthia St.