

WHAT



SHELF LIFE

Make room on the coffee table—four new fashion tomes have arrived. First up is **La Maison** (Steidl, \$125), an 11-volume whopper that goes behind the scenes at Hermès and was shot by South African photographer Koto Bolofo over the course of seven years. Meanwhile, **Roberto Cavalli's** namesake line is hitting the big 4-0, and the master of flash is celebrating the milestone with **Roberto Cavalli** (Rizzoli, \$85), featuring 200 images photographed by Mert Alas and Marcus Piggott. **Matthew Williamson**, who wasn't even born when Cavalli presented his first collection, all in leather, in 1970, also has an eponymous hardback (Rizzoli, \$65), dedicated to the boho brand he started 13 years ago. And **Postcards From the Edge of the Catwalk** (ACC Editions, \$45) covers not one but hundreds of designers, as well as models, friends, and hangers-on, captured over the past three decades by fashion writer Iain R. Webb. S.T.



RARE BEAUTY

F.D, Fiona Druckenmiller's Upper East Side gallery of a boutique, set to open on October 28, is devoted to staggeringly rare jewelry, accessories, furniture, and other exquisite goods. There is a Cartier Tutti Frutti bracelet from the Twenties, a pair of French Art Deco bookends carved in the shape of pelicans (silver bodies, ivory beaks), and vintage Birkins galore. The oldest piece—an Indian sculpture of a fertility spirit—is from the first century, but perhaps more stunning are the two Fifties cuffs that once belonged to Ethiopian emperor Haile Selassie. While those will set you back \$40,000, and an Italian-made green enamel and diamond serpent bracelet (above) \$28,000, Chanel costume jewelry begins at around \$100. "I think it's great to wear a pair of earrings and a ring, or just a statement necklace," says Druckenmiller. "No one wants a full suite." Still, she has made sure to acquire just that in case the right client wanders in. Made with 154 carats of Burmese Pigeon Blood rubies and 129 carats of diamonds, the necklace, earrings, and bracelet—created in Geneva—go for a cool \$3.35 million. 21 East 65th Street, New York, 212.772.2440. SARAH TAYLOR



From top left: Images from *La Maison*, Matthew Williamson, and Roberto Cavalli. Right: Ethiopian gold and giraffe-hair cuffs; Art Deco silver and ivory bookends; Verdura's yellow sapphire, diamond, and white jade cuff.

BUXOM BUDDIES



Jean Paul Gaultier, who created the famous cone bras for Madonna's *Blond Ambition* Tour, has teamed up with La Perla for Collection Créateur. The 16-piece line of provocative lingerie is priced from \$198 to \$1,240 and debuts at Bergdorf Goodman, Neiman Marcus, and Saks Fifth Avenue in November. S.T.

fashion Ballerinas

Sometimes fashion can seem as interpretative as dance: Take the case of the collaboration between **La Scala** and **Tod's**. Owner Diego Della Valle has tapped the 232-year-old Milan theater to choreograph a conceptual ballet depicting five of the steps involved in the construction of a Tod's driving moccasin—the leather sourcing, cutting, hammering, punching, and stitching. (We warned you it was conceptual.) Directed by Matthias Zentner, the piece features 13 La Scala dancers; a video of the performance will be shown at a Tod's party during Milan Fashion Week, and a live version will be presented in Beijing in October. "I decided to partner with La Scala because of our shared heritage and commitment to craftsmanship," says Della Valle. Thankfully the dancers do not pirouette in pebble soles, but a \$575 ballerina shoe inspired by the event lands in Tod's boutiques in November. S.T.

