

# STYLE

## TRENDWATCH

### Focus on fur

Today's the day 4,000 fur buyers and sellers converge on Place Bonaventure for NAFFEM, the largest trade show in North America for fur, shearlings and leather. About half the visitors, viewing about 300 collections, come from the U.S. There are European buyers, too, and a contingent of 30 buyers and journalists from Russia, said Alan Herscovici, executive vice-president of the Fur Council of Canada. Up to \$100 million in sales are expected, he added, noting the difficult U.S. economy may affect the numbers. Pictured here is a magenta coat of a metallic-silk blend with a dyed silver Saga fox collar and hat, part of the Mazzi Overwear collection from Verona. Distributed by Montreal's Jean Crisan company, the line will be shown at the highlight of the four-day event, the Rockin'@Versailles fashion show spectacular. Go to [Naffem.com](http://Naffem.com) for more details.

EVA FRIEDE



Coat from Verona's Mazzi Overwear collection.

## SHOPPING NEWS

### Sample some knitwear

Touch of Me, the Montreal line of cute contemporary knitwear, opens its doors for a sample sale Thursday through Saturday. Hours are 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday. It's at 3981 St. Laurent Blvd., Suite 750. Payment by cash or cheque.

EVA FRIEDE



A look from Touch of Me's fall collection. Spring samples go on sale this week.



Suave model Hondo Flemming talks into his super-spy wristwatch as part of a James Bond tableau at the Daffodil Ball, held at Windsor Station last Thursday.

PHOTOS: VINCENZO D'ALTO THE GAZETTE

## MEET THE DESIGNERS

### Open house call: a chance to peek inside fashion ateliers

Artists, architects and designers open their doors Saturday and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. for the second edition of Design Montreal Open House. On the fashion front, Helmer, Philippe Dubuc, Yves Jean Lacasse, M0851, Véronique Miljkovitch, Mylène B., Bodybag by Jude, Tavân & Mitto and Dinh Bà are among the labels whose designers are offering the public a look at their work and creative process. For details, go to [www.designmontreal.com](http://www.designmontreal.com).

EVA FRIEDE



A creation from Dinh Bà's spring/summer collection, seen in October. You can view a presentation of the designer's creative process Saturday at Dinh Bà Design, 1709 Amherst St.

DAVE SIDAWAY GAZETTE FILE PHOTO

## A RAINBOW OF INTRIGUE



Myriam Amar in chartreuse Tara Jarmon frock.



Sophie Grégoire (left) and Tania Dupont go for Quebec designers.



Tasha Kheiriddin in siren red strapless ball gown.

### More than yellow at James Bond-themed Daffodil Ball

EVA FRIEDE  
GAZETTE FASHION EDITOR

Enter the Daffodil Ball, James Bond 008 edition, and consider – for your eyes only – the trends at the annual cancer fundraiser. The event, held last Thursday at Windsor Station, is the social event of the season, so no wonder the style quotient is key – paramount, some might say.

Here's where the long gown rules, with a view to kill, except for those few intrepid souls who dare to bare a spot of leg. As for standard evening black, well, why would one choose black just as spring has sprung and fashion is blooming in a rainbow of hues? Mellow yellow, screaming scarlet, prints and blue belles galore were seen in the crowd, along with at least three silver sequined goddesses.

"I say fun and flirty," said Myriam Amar, in a knee-

length chartreuse Tara Jarmon frock.

"This is the kind of ball where you go all out," said Tasha Kheiriddin, in a siren red strapless ball gown from San Remo. "It's more elegant," she said.

Another major trend? Wearing Quebec designers. Sophie Grégoire, television interviewer and wife of Justin Trudeau, wore made-to-measure Renata Morales in marvelously embellished mauve, while Tania Dupont chose a grey silk pleated creation by Denis Gagnon.

Trudeau, in a kilt, explained that the tartan was of his mother's clan, the Sinclairs. "He has to wear red now all the time," Grégoire quipped, referring to the Liberal stripe of Pierre Trudeau's son.

Event maestro Dick Walsh, the man with 30,000 golden daffodils, never forgets his fashion roots, so a live tableau of models in Zuki furs and to-die-for Shan bikinis was perfectly cast against a shiny chopper and Aston Martin.

Most perfect model? The suave, sophisticated Hondo Flemming (and I didn't invent that surname), talking into his wristwatch, in a white dinner jacket.

Just one more trend? The absolute inability to resist a bad Bond pun. After all, you only live once. Okay, make that twice.

The event raised \$2.3 million for the Canadian Cancer Society.

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## Word of the Day

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iconoclast  
eye CONNA klast

DEFINITION: a person who attacks cherished beliefs or conventions.

She was an iconoclast for supporting privatized healthcare.

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# GRAND OPENING

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