

Reviews by Jeerawan Duangnam

The Goods

Software

ALL FROM DOWN UNDER
New talent comes in with the tide as waves of Aussie street- and beach-wear brands hit Thailand's fashion shores. Cutting-edge Australian designers **Bettina Liano**, **Camilla & Marc** and **Josh Goot** will be showcasing their new collections at **Playground Store** in Thonglor, Bangkok. (playgroundstore.co.th)



ONE FOR ALL

In the modern world, the sexes share responsibilities and swap roles - so why not bags? The **Universal Line** by **Celine** (celine.com) is made from ultra-robust, waterproof fabric, and doesn't mind if the seat's up or down.



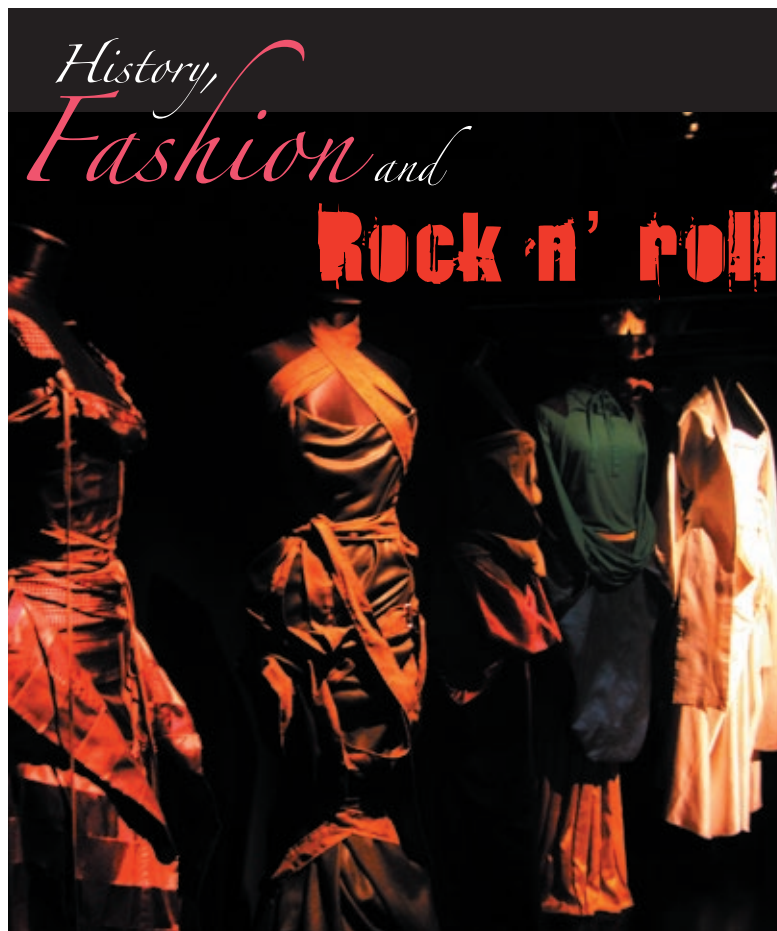
Hardware

HARDER, FASTER, STRONGER

...That's the **DEFY Collection 2006-2007** from **Zenith** (zenith-defy.com), coming at you in two lines; **DEFY Classic** and **DEFY Xtreme**. Traditionalists will want to check out the four flavours of **DEFY Classic** (**DEFY Classic Open**, **DEFY Classic Aero Chrono**, **DEFY Power Reserve** and **DEFY Classic HMS**), while **DEFY Xtreme** is for technology-obsessed guys (that's **DEFY Xtreme Tourbillon**, **DEFY Xtreme Open**, **DEFY Xtreme Chronograph** and **DEFY Xtreme Power Reserve**).

SATAR JEWELLERY

For both day and evening wear, the **Aqua Collection** from **Omega** (omega.com) is an interpretation of the smooth and fluid lines found on Omega's famed **Seamaster** watches. Nine varieties of gold rings (with or without diamonds, and in three different widths), and four types of satin-strung pendants are easily mixed and matched for timeless elegance.



Working in collaboration with the **Victoria & Albert Museum** in London, Bangkok became the seventh city to host a round-the-globe **Vivienne Westwood Exhibition**, which runs from 22nd July to 24th September, 2006 at **Thailand Creative & Design Center** (tcdc.or.th).

Working-class-girl-turned-legendary-fashion-designer **Vivienne Westwood** crafted collections that were each one greater than the sum of its parts - that is, the chains, studs, leather and platform shoes - to create fashionable reflections of politics, culture and society.

Do not expect traditional haute couture in this exhibition, but rather collections of zeitgeist style. The **Mini-Crini** collection was inspired by the ballet *Petrushka*: Westwood devised a 'mini-crini' that combined the tutu with an abbreviated form of Victorian crinoline.

Named after the woollen fabric hand-woven in the western isles of Scotland, the **Harris Tweed** collection celebrates Westwood's love affair with traditional British clothing and her growing obsession with royalty.

Westwood's **Evening Wear** collection takes this traditional fashion category to its limits, employing gold lurex, ribbons, feathers, taffeta and lace to recreate *la belle époque* of unrestrained grandeur.

Vivienne Westwood's clothing lines are not about beauty as such, but limits, and how to supersede them; may they inspire the new generation of Asian designers aiming to take the fashion world by storm.