



Ready-to-Wear

PHILLIP LIM MAN OF MODE

written by Diana Nguyen

"I NEVER LOOKED BACK. I NEVER HAD THAT FEAR. SOMETIMES, FEAR PARALYZES—IT'S TRUE—BUT I'VE NEVER LOOKED BACK!" —PHILLIP LIM

Orange County native and rising designer Phillip Lim tells all in a one-on-one with *Ocean* about his journey to success. Dive into the mind of a man who really knows how a woman's body works.

Ocean: You live in New York now, but you're originally from Orange County. How did you transition from California to New York? Have you found different inspirations for your collections in each city?

PL: It feels good to be home for a visit. When I was living here, I didn't really appreciate the quality of life. I was fine working in LA, but when an opportunity arose, I moved to New York.

The climate in New York is very different from Orange County, which influences my designs. But you can't get caught up in the fashion. Being from Cali keeps me grounded.

Ocean: Mandy Moore and Lucy Liu are just two of the many beautiful women who have publicly proclaimed their love for 3.1 Phillip Lim. What advice do you give your clients in approaching your collection?

PL: It's just clothes. If you approach it with that idea, it can be really fun.

Ocean: You have said that you design clothes "that people wear." Your collections really play with shapes and silhouettes. What makes you so in tune with women's bodies?

PL: It is just the dynamic of playing with shapes. There is a need for versatility. The collection represents a lifestyle. My clothes do not define a woman but only enhance her best attributes. I concentrate on refinement and editing the creation of the aesthetic. All women look like themselves.

Ocean: Spring 2007 was the first time you had a runway presentation at New York Fashion Week. What inspired your spring line?

PL: The image of a white rose was my muse. It represents so many romantic things—naïveté, innocence, first love.

Ocean: What does the future have in store for you?

PL: First, I want to stay still for one moment and take it all in. Then, we'll expand our men's collection and [get into] shoes, handbags and other accessories.



Ocean Shopping Spree

Ready, set shop! We test-drove one of So Cal's best shopping streets for the season's most fashionable trends.

written by Erin O'Neil Photography by Heather Ezell

What better way to embrace summer than by spending an afternoon exploring the boutiques of Balboa Island's Marine Avenue.



Jonovich Hawk, \$418



Sydney Michelle

307 Marine Avenue
Balboa Island
949.673.2150



This charming but tiny boutique is like a closet packed with beachy, chic couture. With a new store in LA's Beverly Glen area, owner Courtney Ellis is enjoying the success of her five-year-old endeavor. Enjoy the welcoming atmosphere of the Balboa Island store, where you can find fabulous labels such as 3.1 Phillip Lim (a fave at this store), Rich and Skinny and Vivienne Westwood.