

News

PARROTS



RAG AND BONE MAN
NATHANIEL LEE-JONES HAS
RECENTLY OPENED A STORE IN
LONDON'S EAST END.

"My Dad ran three or four shops," Nathaniel explains, "one when he was partnered with the man that ran Mr Freedom in the '60s. They had loads of Memphis furniture and punk stuff like leopard print shower curtains." Nathaniel's own shop with no name – recently opened on Hackney Road in Shoreditch – takes its cue from such unlikely combinations. Jam-packed full of objects found in house clearances on the Kent coast, expect to find china shaped like cauliflower sat next to vintage YSL shoes and photos of '20s flappers. "It might look like a junk shop but there's a high concept behind it," informs Nathaniel. "You take miscellaneous bits of other people's lives and then re-present it for sale." Nathaniel learnt how to present "art, antiques and attire" with aplomb during his time on London's markets. "I started at Portobello and then went to Spitalfields," he explains. "That's where things took off. I had loads of regular clients and it got me thinking that what I did was quite special. I had a talent for it." He's

about to turn this talent into a marketable service, and set up a retail stylist business. With neon trimmings on all corners and macabre details like a skull lit up theatrically in a glass case, the shop is a showcase for his skills. "It's not only the stock that's for sale, it's me," he says. "I have creative energy that can turn what looks like loads of junk into something good, turn knick knacks into treasures." Nathaniel also plans to hand these skills down to his twin sons Duke and Joe – the adorable six-year-olds who caused a stir eating Jammy Dodgers in i-D's *Ki-Ds* issue. With their mum Pippa Brooks from Soho boutique The World According To... and their dad single-handedly making junk shops hip again, retail is in their blood. "I've taken them to house clearances and they go round collecting bits and pieces," he laughs. "They'll be the best shopkeepers in the world." If Nathaniel doesn't earn the title first, that is. Lauren Cochrane
 Photography Etienne Gilfillan



M.I.A'S CLOTHING LABEL OKLEY RUN IS INSPIRED BY THE SONGSTRESS' VISIT TO A REMOTE ISLAND IN THE CARIBBEAN. It was here she met Okley Leslie, a 16-year-old albino boy who she believes embodies and represents all the elements of her designs. During her trip, M.I.A made a film about Okley's life on the island that doubles up as a campaign promotion for her line. Key pieces in the collection include African style print bomber jackets for the boys and geometric jumpsuits for the girls.
 Zainab Jama

miauk.com

FRENCH & ENGLISH CONFECTIONER'S IS NOT A LOAD OF OLD
 COBBLERS. IT'S A LOAD OF NEW ONES (BOOM, BOOM).

An online portal re-establishing the lost British art of hand-making shoes, French & English Confectioner's is the antithesis of mass-produced footwear. The launch collection includes five styles of limited edition handmade beauties, each one inspired by some of their favourite pop songs. "Talking about being obsessed with shoes is such a cliché now," says F & EC's Lucie Gonnord, the words 'Carrie' and 'Bradshaw' no doubt causing her a moment of private tinnitus. "I'm almost too embarrassed to say that I always have been." Schooled at Cordwainers, London's finest footwear institute, Lucie set up the company to make a conscious move away from the faddishness of contemporary shoe design. "Each shoe that I'm making here has a thought, an idea and proper craft behind it," she informs. "Most shoe designers are happy with a pencil, paper and a trend. I want people to buy a pair of shoes they will still love in five years time and not be embarrassed by one season later." Lucie's watchword is 'classic.' "Shoemaking is such a great British tradition and now everyone that used to do it has either faded away or turned into repairers. It'd be nice to think that something good could come out of it." And it has. French & English Confectioner's are reclaiming the streets, from the heel up, with a little bit of soul. Paul Flynn

frenchandenglishconfectioners.com



MAISON MARTIN
MARGIELA PRESENT LINE 12,
THE LATEST OFFERING FROM THEIR
NUMERIC UNIVERSE IN WHICH EACH
OBJECT IS CLASSIFIED FROM 0-23.

12 is Margiela's first fine jewellery collection, produced in conjunction with the Italian manufacturer Damiani and operating under a XXL aesthetic. Using existing jewellery clichés in gold, rose gold and silver, Chevalière signet rings become bracelets, earrings complete with butterfly back are transformed into oversized rings and pendants and huge oval link chains are available to wrap around the neck, finger or wrist.
 Dean Mayo Davies

maisonmartinmargiela.com



PEG LEGS

A BOTTLE OF RUM