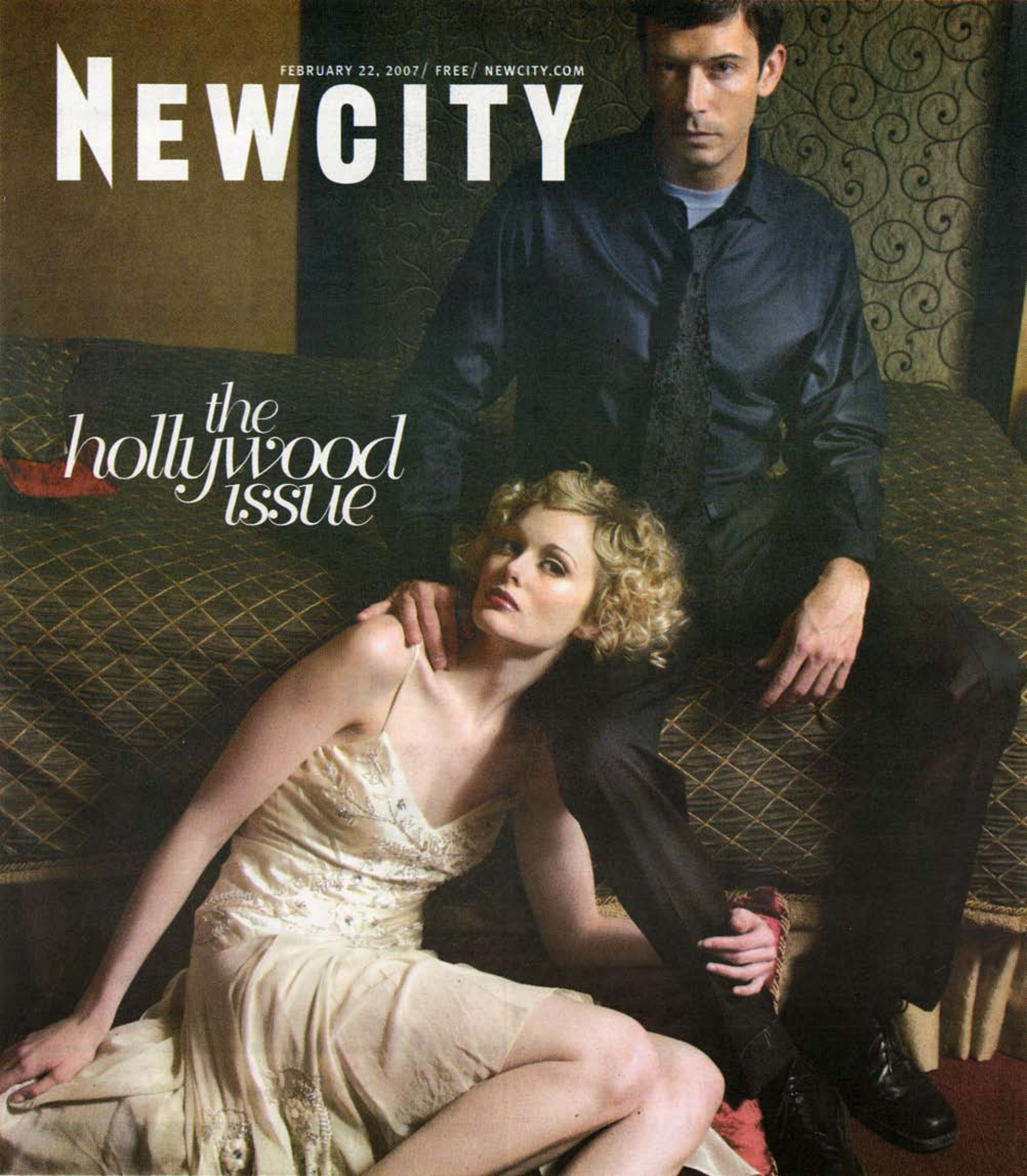


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NEWCITY

*the
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ISSUE*



Dream Gowns

IT'S A LONG WAY FROM CHICAGO TO THE KODAK THEATRE, but with nine words—"and I am telling you I am not going"—Jennifer Hudson took the silver screen by storm. While we have no doubt that the extraordinary chanteuse will win her first Oscar this weekend, we have no idea what she's going to wear. In anticipation, we asked local designers Cyndi Chan (www.e-intime.com) and Yana German (www.yanacollection.com) to dream up Oscar dresses for our hometown Dream Girl. And Jennifer, if you're reading: the designers are hanging onto their sketches in case you want to sport one of these creations next year.



Cyndi Chan describes her design:

"Jennifer Hudson has beautiful skin and her body has a very sexy curve. I designed this dress to bring out Jennifer's youthful elegance. The materials I used are mostly silk, chiffon, satin and velvet. As for color, my first choice for Jennifer is light gold, but I love black on her as well. The silhouette is a halter neck with a pearl necklace chain, with silk chiffon drapes on the front. The dress is a floor-length mermaid cut with silk satin layers, and the back of the dress is V-shaped with a short chiffon train."

Yana German describes her design:

"The answer is simple: pants. Jennifer naturally radiates femininity and Chicago-style classiness. My design will underscore that femininity and accentuate Jennifer's God-given assets. The outfit will be sheer black chiffon with silk lining and embroidery with plum metallic highlights. The body is shaped by a corset and softened by the black chiffon overlay [to achieve] comfort and sexiness without compromising integrity. From the back it looks like a stunning gown, but the front shows a different side entirely: commanding, stylish and intelligent. The unique hand-muff echoes European regality and gives a Chicago girl a practical place to warm her hands." (Jennifer Berg)



SAT/24

Marc by Marc Jacobs Event

Stop by Neiman Marcus to check out the Spring 2007 collection from Marc by Marc Jacobs. The event is highlighted with informal modeling and refreshments. Make a Marc Jacobs purchase and receive a limited-edition tote or tee. Neiman Marcus, 737 N. Michigan, (312)642-5900. Noon.

Neapolitan Reopening

Winnetka's painfully chic boutique unveils a newly expanded space with an extra 1400 square feet devoted to accessories. 715 Elm, Winnetka, (847)441-7784, www.neapolitanonline.com, 10am-6pm.

WED/28

Spring Open House at Bloomingdale's

Meet Bloomingdale's newest personal shopper, Joyce Sobczyk, and get personal advice on dressing up for spring. 900 N. Michigan, (312)440-4887, 4pm-7pm.

FRI/23

Orlando Espinoza Trunk Show at Malabar

Get a sneak peek at Orlando Espinoza's Spring 2007 line. The designer is on hand for fashion advice, and complimentary wine is served. 1880 N. Damen, (773)321-6685, www.malabarboutique.com or www.orlandoespinoza.com, 3pm-8pm. Through SAT/24.

clubs

TIP OF THE WEEK
DJ HEATHER



= NEW

DJ Heather/Smart Bar
Bald Eagle, Jarrett Spiegel/
Schuba's Upstairs
Buzz McCoy/Berlin
Steve Porter/Spy Bar
Roy Davis Jr./Ohm

→ =RECOMMENDED

Selected club listings and previews appear below. To submit listings e-mail calendar@newcity.com; listings must be received two weeks prior to the publication date for the issue in which you want them to appear. We do not guarantee that all submitted listings will appear in print. For expanded listings, visit newcitychicago.com.

THU/22

Asian Elements

Resident DJs Erge, Boywonder, Ill-Noyz, Q and D Double spin hip-hop, Zentra, 923 W. Weed, (312)787-0400. Go to asian-elements.com for free or reduced admission.

Beat Freak

With resident Amplatone. Martini Ranch, 311 W. Chicago, (312)335-9500. 10pm-4am.

Brock

Brock spins new wave/electro/rock and roll. The Motel Bar, 600 W. Chicago, (312)822-2900. 10pm-2am. No cover.

→ Derrick Carter

With Acidman and Tyrel Williams. Smart Bar, 3730 N. Clark, (773)549-0203. 10pm-4am. \$7 before 11pm, \$10 after.

→ DJ Solange

Sugar Cane Lounge @ Sushi Samba Rio, 500 N. Wells, (312)455-1919. 9pm-2am. No cover.

Good Times

Hip-Hop, Disco, Soul, and House with residents Mark Fulla Flavor & Tone B Nimble. Sonotheque, 1444 W. Chicago, (312)226-7600. 9pm-2am. \$10 cover.

→ JeudiSoir

With residents Eric Hurlburt, Dalton K. Finney, and guests. Victor Hotel, 311 N. Sangamon, (312)773-6900. 9pm-2am. No cover before 10pm, \$10 after with RSVP to funkyouture.net.

→ Mass Appeal

The best beats, breaks and hip-hop gems with DJ Intel & Sang. Lava, 1270 N. Milwaukee, (773)3425282. 7pm-2am. \$1 cover.

Matinee

Hosted bar 9-10:30pm. Cabaret Cocktail Boutique, 15 W. Hubbard, (312)245-3100. 9pm-2am. No cover before 11pm with RSVP to djjumpinames@aol.com.

→ No Celebrities Allowed

With residents Baltic Bloc and weekly guest DJs. Tini Martini, 2169 N. Milwaukee, (773)269-2900. 9pm-2am. No cover.

→ Power, Corruption, and Lies

Classic alternative, brit-pop, new wave, punk, madchester, indie and more! With resident DJ Brad Owen. Five Star Bar & Grill, 1424 W. Chicago, (312)850-2555. 9pm-2am. No cover.

Pro Jazz Jam Sessions

N-, 2977 N. Elston, (773)866-9898.

Reggae Gold

DJs Redlox and Papa G spin dancehall, reggaeton and bhangra. Subterranean, 2011 W. North, (773)278-6600. 10pm. \$5 cover.

DJ Heather loves soy yogurt so much she named her record label after it. Given the release of its first, buzz-worthy single, "Picture of You," the tracks are sounding equally tasty. "I came up with the name four years ago with intentions of starting a label," Heather said on her self-owned Blackcherry Recordings. "No project fit until this came along. I guess it was meant to be." "Picture" shines as a breathy house cut diced up with dirty bass and techno finesse. In its production, Heather teamed up her vocals with production input from Washington D.C.'s East Coast Boogiemens. The result was a single that attracted the remix moxie of house producers including Lawnchair Generals, Jason Hodges and Natural Rhythm. She even featured an S&B Rubdown version of the mix on the 2006, double-disc release, "House of OM: Colette and DJ Heather." Her half of the album embodies the classic flair of soulful, Chicago house while infusing new elements of nu-skool jack, techno and hints of progressive sleaze. On the speakers, her mixes flawlessly fall into a jackalicious groove of funk and bump; on the decks, her on-stage performance commands a new kind of authority that elevates the bass to new heights. Half of Sound Navigators production/DJ duo, honcho John Hawley joins the jack all the way from Milwaukee. (Jenn Danko)

DJ Heather and John Hawley spin at Smart Bar, 3730 North Clark, (773)549-0203, on February 24, 10pm-5am. \$10 cover, free before 11pm.