

exact fit. (In this social media-driven world, there's little point in buying new shoes be if you can't share them with 400 of your closest friends via Facebook and Twitter.) The shoes will be made at Bally's Swiss atelier and sent to your door, but Scribe subscribers will have to leave the sofa at some stage – the final tweaks to your order have to be finalized at your local store pair. bally.com



WHEN IN ROAM: JAPAN'S BEDWIN & THE HEARTBREAKERS INVADES LONDON

Bedwin & the Heartbreakers, a standout name in the current world of American workwear and preppy-influenced Japanese men's brands, has been an insider favourite for a while. This season, Masafumi Watanabe's 18-year-old brand is going overground in the UK, with a new presence at Mr Porter and a pop-up shop at Garbstore, which opened last week and will be at the West London store until March 17. couvertureandthegarbstore.com



SILVER JUBILEE: LEWIS HENRY NICHOLAS, ENGLISHMAN IN NEW YORK

Jeweller Lewis Williams studied his craft at Central St. Martins and the London Guildhall, but he was lost to British bling after only his first proper job in the business when he went to New York after successfully applying for a role of goldsmith with award-winning, super-hip jeweller Philip Crangi. "It was a fantastic opportunity," Williams says, "because Crangi is a superb designer." Accordingly, Williams stayed with Crangi for five years, but then "last summer I made the decision to start my own label." And he did, and named it Lewis Henry Nicholas (i.e., everything but the surname). Though the majority of his solid silver pieces are for women, Williams has also developed a dozen or so men's designs

with a entirely distinctive looks and very British inspirations (Victoria and Albert, Roman coins, big cat's heads that evoke Edwardian door-knockers). Brooklyn native Williams has around half a dozen stockists in New York and has just landed his first stockist back home in blighty: onlineboutiquekabiri.co.uk. lewisghenrynicholas.com



SLIP AND HAPPENING: PRISM'S LEATHER ESPADRILLES

Espadrilles are the simplest of shoes, but locating a suitably durable pair is often a difficult thing to do. Last summer, Fin's shoes offered the solid-soled "Finspadrille" as a solution; this year, Prism and too-cool US boutique chain Opening Ceremony have collaborated on a pair with substantial soles and a leather, not canvas, upper. They've been hand-stitched in Spain and are now available in a range of colours. Though they were conceived as a limited edition collection, they've sparked so much interest since the initial announcement that they've been reassigned to Prism's permanent collection. prismlondon.com



FANCY PANTS: WOLSEY OPENS A NEW STORE

Wolsey, a venerable English underwear brand with a 250-year history of dressing explorers, army majors and other old-school heroes, has recently been rediscovered, reborn and expanded into a full menswear offering. This March sees the brand opens a new store on London's Brewer Street, which will be split into two halves. The "Mainline" collection is more rooted in heritage pieces and techniques, while 1755 is a tailored and contemporary premium collection. All of the fixtures in the store will be based on the original features of Wolsey's historic Leicester factory.

Photography: Lysan Marchessault

LONDON FASHION WEEK PREVIEW

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, the closing day of London Fashion Week, is Men's Day, when many British designers (including several interviewed in this issue) will be showing their autumn/winter worries on catwalks and in presentation spaces across London. Here, we preview the near and further futures of British menswear at London Fashion Week, and asked some of London's established men's names to share sneak previews of their plans.



Clockwise, from left: Christopher Shannon AW 12, Christopher Raeburn AW 12, Casely-Hayford AW 12.

TOPMAN AND FASHION EAST

Agi & Sam, Astrid Andersen and Shaun Samson are the latest brands chosen by the British Fashion Council to have their own shows on Menswear Day at London Fashion Week. This will be the first time Agi & Sam and Andersen have taken part in the MAN/Fashion East shows, but Shaun Samson is actually returning, having triumphed with a Latin American-inspired London show last September.

The committee behind the choices includes Nicola Formichetti (the Japanese-Italian, London-based super-stylist who is also now Thierry Mugler's new creative director, and Lady Gaga's wardrobe master) and Charlie Porter (once of the Guardian, now of Fantastic Man). They selected Agi & Sam "for their ingenious use of bespoke print and ability to make striking yet accessible pieces," Astrid Andersen for her "unique take on men's sportswear" and Shaun Samson for his inimitable take on streetwear-surfwear fusion. For more information and a full show schedule, go to

londonfashionweek.co.uk. For live updates during the week, head to our online hub at becauselondon.com/o-man

LONDON COLLECTIONS: MEN

Last month, in Paris, the British Fashion Council officially announced the future of men's fashion shows in London, from June 15–17 this year, and in every January and June thereafter, a new men-only fashion week will take place in the capital, featuring a roster selected by such luminaries as Tom Ford. The finer details are due to be revealed at London Fashion Week next Wednesday by fellow London Collections panel member, and GQ editor, Dylan Jones, but what is clear already is that Savile Row tailors, heritage labels and the Brit brands who currently show their menswear overseas are all invited – suggesting that there may well be as much as an emphasis on the balance of trade and the power of tradition as there will be to new British designers.