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OBSERVER FASHION SUPPLEMENT BY TANK



PRICK UP YOUR EARS!

ALEXANDER MCQUEEN

SPEAKS OUT ON SERIOUS MENSWEAR AND FEARLESS FASHION

PLUS: WORKWEAR—BRIT BRANDS—HEAVY METAL—THE SEASON'S BEST STYLE

ISSUE 17: AUTUMN/WINTER '09
MEN'S FASHION SPECIAL

NEWS

THE LATEST MOVES IN THE WORLD OF MENSWEAR

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EXCLUSIVES! EXCLUSIVES! NEW MENSWEAR HEADS TO HARRODS

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Harrods has just completed an overhaul of its titanic menswear department. The emporium is now spread over two distinct areas, with tailoring on the ground floor and contemporary designers on the lower ground.

"Harrods is both local and truly international, classic yet fashionable," says Paolo Canali, president of Canali, the venerable Italian label, which is currently celebrating its 75th anniversary and one of many fashion houses marking the opening of the new department.

In fact, the queue to create exclusive limited-edition pieces for the launch feels nearly as long as the ones that stretch down the pavement during Harrods' celebrated sales. Lanvin has produced the most striking of the lot: the last word in reversible coats. It is a reversible jacket with cashmere on one side and goatskin on the other. For Burberry Prorsum, Christopher Bailey has embellished the totemic

trench with alligator detailing, while Burberry's main line is represented by a Harrods-only parka. Thom Browne is behind four exclusive Moncler Gamme Bleu jackets, and Prada has created a holdall with crocodile-skin handles. Crocodile features in Tom Ford's special editions, too: his croc briefcase is a reworked design from his Buckley range.

There's also a one-off Union Jack T-shirt by YSL, a polo-shirt tribute to the Specials by Fred Perry, the launch of Paul Smith's new line of zebra-embellished polos and an exclusive Balenciaga bomber jacket, plus treats from Acne, Trussardi and more.

Grooming treatments and a revamped personal shopping service complete the package. Finally, Louis Vuitton has set up its first-ever menswear in-store concession, giving the new department the ultimate seal of style approval.

www.harrods.com



PRISM'S NEW EYEWEAR IS A CHIP OFF THE OLD BLOCK

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Take a block of acetate that may date back as far as 1849. Find a manufacturer in Treviso, northern Italy, and employ its artisans to cut and hew. Point them in the direction of some unexpected inspiration, such as the

Bauhaus architecture of Mexico City, and add in the design insight that comes from a background in trend prediction. The results are specs from new line Prism, founded by Anna Laub. The real selling point?

Sincero moulds are used to make Prism's glasses, each pair of frames can stake a convincing claim to being a one-off. Just add lenses for full functionality.

www.prismlondon.com

