

Rowland.

Media monitoring

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stylenews



All stitched up

Chrissie Catling had an unlikely start into the world of fashion. First, manifesting her talents for design and passion for colour as an interior designer, and then creating her own catering/consulting business, it wasn't until her mid-30s that Chrissie applied her artistic skill to fashion design. Turns out it was a pretty good decision. Her label S2 was voted the hit of StyleAid 2008, and acknowledged as a standout by visiting fashion media at the 2008 Perth Fashion Festival – pretty decent accolades after only four years of designing.

Heading into its fifth year, S2 is a constantly evolving range with designs and fabrics that march to the beat of their own drum. Inspired by architecture and nature, Chrissie's clothes are made for women with a "strong sense of self". Offering a range of her signature wide-leg pants, and her 'Circle and Vixen' dresses as staples, S2 features a lot of shift and tunic shaped pieces perfect for layering and creating a unique look. After having her designs stocked across Australia, Chrissie decided to open her first S2 signature store in North Perth, a showcase for her label as well as contemporary fashion and interior design pieces. S2 is at 26 Angove Street, North Perth. (08) 9227 1139 s2perth.com.au.

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Market's up

When Justine Barsley moved to Perth in 2006, she noticed there were a lot of creative types about, but were difficult to pin down. Needing a forum to sell her own designs and a way to connect with likeminded talents, Upmarket was born – a showcase of original handcrafted designer wares, with a mix of everything from cupcakes to clothes. Since its inception in mid 2008, they have attracted more than 9000 patrons, many of whom are intrigued by the tricks of the trade, and are eager to learn more. After twisting the arm of a few designers, Inspire Workshops was launched. "Perth Upmarket wants to help customers appreciate what goes into each handmade product, as well as inspire the next generation of artists and designers," said Justine. "We saw the Inspire Workshops as the perfect vehicle to give something back to our beloved customers."

The first workshop will see Jenny Spragg from Brag Bags walk participants through facets of commercial bag design, culminating in a design competition, where one of the participants will have the chance to have a bag manufactured commercially. The next Perth Upmarket for 2009 is on at the Perth Town Hall and runs quarterly to perthupmarket.com.au for more dates and info.

Happy birthday to Cue...

Reaching the grand old age of 40, Australian owned and produced Cue delved into their archives and have recreated some of their more inspiring pieces from over the years. Their re-collection is in stores now.



Vintage glamour

Perth designer Joanie Wong started with her partner, Michael Justice (t) in 2006 as a side project, where they offered one off garments from around the world as their hand picked items flew off the shelves. Joanie and Michael recognised the demand now fly as fast as their clothes, every two months to a new store to source more vintage pieces to keep their clients looking cool. New to the stall are some fun "throwaway" sunnies all the way from Texas – an easy wardrobe update with a distinctive twist. JAM runs a fashion stall outside the Fremantle Markets, on the corner of Henderson and 84 South Tce, every Sunday 10am til 5pm (weather permitting).