

MODERN LUXURY

Angeleno

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ISSUE!

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Art's New Epicenter: Highland Avenue
Cher Coulter's Beachwood Canyon

TAP TO
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LIFE
FOR
HOPE

AGENTS of CHANGE

Four L.A. designers draw inspiration from the wilds of Laurel Canyon, the manicured neighborhoods of Hancock Park and the beach flats of Santa Monica. They've scoured the city's art galleries, department stores and neighborhood markets for innovative spring creations. Here are their site-specific shopping lists.

| By Michelle Bergmann, Melissa Magsaysay and Elizabeth Varnell |
| Portraits by Andrew Stiles |

CRIPPEN'S MUST-HAVES

1. Coupe Line earthenware dishes, \$130 for a five-piece set, at Heath Ceramics, L.A.
2. Stuart Crystal earrings, \$4,575, by Olivia Collings Antique Jewelry at Barneys New York, Beverly Hills
3. Piped sandals, \$795, by Givenchy at Barneys New York, Beverly Hills
4. Carbon fiber equestrian riding helmet, \$3,025, at Hermès, Beverly Hills
5. Mole armchair, \$18,250, by Sergio Rodrigues at Espasso, L.A.



SUSIE CRIPPEN

Minimalist Maven

Susie Crippen prefers fashion that's simple and to the point. As the co-founder and creative mastermind behind J Brand, she outfitted millions of women in clean, understated and logo-free denim. She left the company three years ago, but the 49-year-old, who was raised in Weston, Conn., returns to the fashion fray this spring with Crippen, a line of simple looks for self-assured dressing (savannahsantamonica.com, shopheist.com). "I wanted to make clothes for women who don't aspire to be 19. I wanted to have a line and collection that lasts forever," says Crippen, who spent her hiatus traveling to gather creative inspiration, as well as decorating her Hancock Park home with interior designer Channon Roe. It's no surprise that her interior design sensibilities echo her unassuming approach to fashion. "I didn't want the art or décor of my home to overwhelm the people in it, because the people are the most powerful thing," she says. "And there's no way the clothing I make is going to be more powerful than the person wearing it." True to her word, Crippen's tunics, caftans, jackets and trousers are malleable and even pack up nicely. "I travel a lot and have a minimalist approach," she says. "I want to take seven pieces from my wardrobe and two pairs of shoes and be ready for anything."

Susie Crippen inside her design headquarters at her Hancock Park house