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SUMMER SANDALS

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YOUR COMPLETE GUIDE TO SHOES & ACCESSORIES

BEAUTIFUL THINGS

FROM CHRISTIAN LOUBOUTIN, GASPARD YURKIEVICH,
JILL STUART AND MORE...

47

GREAT SHOE STORES
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SHOE & TELL
WHAT'S IN YOUR CLOSET?

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SHOPPING SECRETS
REVEALED



Sassanova

A Perfect Pair—the story of two Sarah's

... a couple of girls were told again and again by a mutual friend that they should meet. The two finally got together for an evening of reality television, but it wasn't the exploits of *The Bachelorette*—or the coincidence that they were both named Sarah and both married to men named Chris—that created a bond between the two. Instead, Sassy asked the question that would cement their friendship: Wanna see my shoes?

Sarah Cannova and Sassy Jacobs both lived and worked in New York City before moving to Washington, D.C. While used to living in a city bursting at the seams with stylish boutiques, the two found themselves frustrated by the number of big chains and tired of going to suburban department stores for designer shoes. The shoe

junkies needed a fix. So in September of 2003, what was once an empty storefront on a block of locally owned boutiques was given a little bit of love and transformed into Sassanova—a glamorous pink-walled, cheetah-carpeted, antique-chandelier lit, well-heeled shoe store.

The vintage boudoir-like shop warms the hearts of shoe lovers with its feminine and fashionable footwear. Residents of the city have found their sole mate, a destination where finding the perfect pair is a match made in heaven. Fall in love with styles from Anya Hindmarch, Beatrix Ong, Bettye Muller, Hollywood, Michael Kors, Delman, Moschino, Sigerson Morrison and more. Seeking a stunning pair of evening shoes? The perfect pair of weekend flats? The sensible work shoe? Or the ever-so-hard-to-find-something-great wedding shoe? Sassanova is sure to have your match. It even does custom bridesmaids shoes and sells vintage-inspired gold charms. If you love shoes, you'll be smitten by the styles and addicted to your new lover—Sassanova.

1641 Wisconsin Avenue N.W.,
Washington D.C. 20007
Hours: 10am–6pm Monday–Saturday,
noon–5pm Sunday
www.sassanova.com

Confessions from a couple of shoe addicts:

SARAH:

Favorite pair of shoes from childhood: Shiny black Capezio tap shoes with a pink button elastic closure. I was a tap-dancing fool all over town for a long while.

Current favorite: I'll always love my piqué cabbage rose-print Manolos with the kitten heel and big rhinestone buckle. To die for! Other faves: pea green ankle boots, gray and white striped Emma Hope heels and chocolate Bettye Mueller pumps with baby blue dots and trim.

Earliest fashion memory: Wondering if everyone had clothes (from Peter Pan-collared shirts to undies!) with their own name on it and then wondering if the logos of the '80s (Fendi, Gucci, Louis Vuitton) were the same as "Sarah" for a whole family.

Music to get dressed by: Rosemary Clooney, Rufus Wainwright, Dixieland jazz.

Drink of choice: Lillet, Pimm's Cup or champagne.

Words of shoe advice: Good shoes make the world a better place. Every time you look at your shoes, you should fall in love all over again.

Current number of shoes in closet: This number gets higher with every shipment at Sassanova. More than 150.

SASSY:

Favorite pair of shoes from childhood: My ice skates! I used to be a competitive figure skater.

Current favorite pair of shoes: Black leather Manolo boots with buckle from three years ago; I still adore them. I also love my Pucci-print Jimmy Choos that I found on eBay.

Inspired by: Big Pink, my 90-year-old grandmother (Pinky to her friends) who is still married to my grandfather, Big Malc. Her closet is amazing: shoes, dresses, lots of hats, feathers, sequins, fur, you name it. As a child, I just loved staying over at her house and playing dress-up; in fact, I still do from time to time!

What I can't live with out: Chocolate, great shoes and my family.

Drink of choice: Pink champagne.

Words of shoe advice: Never be too practical when trying on new shoes—if you love them, buy them!

Current number of shoes in closet: Over 100!

The ShoeHive

There is a buzz of activity at

this sweet shoe shop. This charming and unique boutique, located in historic Old Town Market Square in Alexandria, features a distinctive selection of chic shoes and hard to find brands. For the busy-bee who gets around, this smart store stocks the right sole. Attilio Giush Leombruni, Patricia Green, Matiko, Gentle Soles (which incorporate a patent-pending flax seed insole that feels as dreamy as sand), Sigerson Morrison, Bo'em, sporty



Gola and Bernardo thongs are here, as well as Fornarina (the originator of the heeled sneaker), Studio Pollini, Bettye Muller and Lulu Guinness.

Sorry, ladies, the shop doesn't carry handbags, but it does have the bling. Check out the jewels and accessories from Cath Kidston, Nick & Nora, Hat Attack, Ilux and Wolford.

Owners Eliabeth Tood and Nicole Reynolds see to it that theirs is a happy Hive! This is a store that doesn't discriminate. "One of our best customers is a guy," they gleam. "We ship

shoes all across the country for him. We have shipped shoes to Missouri, Arkansas and states in between. All last year the women in his life (mom, sister and girlfriends) have received shoes for gifts." You think he's the Queen Bee?

As if the wares here weren't a sweet enough deal, there's The Sugar House Day Spa right around the corner, but we think you'll have plenty to buzz about right here. Fitness guru Denise Austin and Beyoncé's personal shopper do!

115 S Royal Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
703.548.7105
Hours: 11am–6pm Monday–Saturday,
noon–6pm Sunday
www.theshoehive.com