

35
BEAUTY
SECRETS
HEALTHY
HAIR,
GLOWING
SKIN,
LONGER
LASHES

SHOP
SMART!

DREW!
*(Gets heartbroken,
gets angry,
and gets a life)*

100
BEST JEANS
(FIND THE RIGHT FIT!)

250+

**BAGS,
SANDALS,
AND DRESSES
YOU'LL WANT
TO LIVE IN**

**HOW TO
STOP
WORRYING
AND SAVE
THE PLANET**

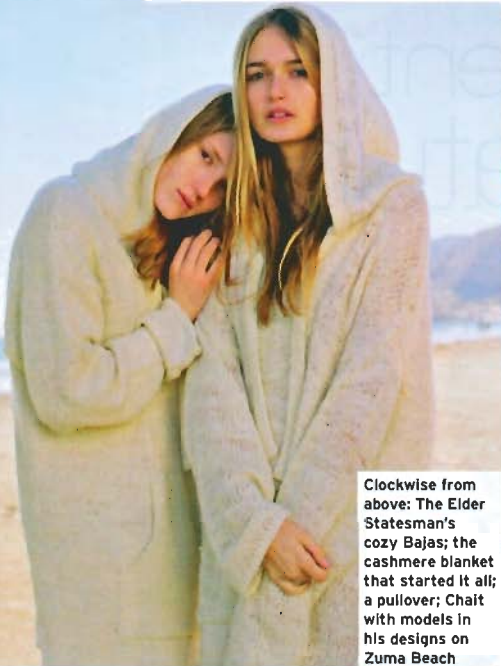
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EVER LAST

Say no to conspicuous consumption! Greg Chait's line of deliciously thick natural cashmere knits will be with you for life



Clockwise from above: The Elder Statesman's cozy Bajas; the cashmere blanket that started it all; a pullover; Chait with models in his designs on Zuma Beach



Whether you're looking to lower your carbon footprint or simplify your closet, Greg Chait's buy-one-and-wear-it-forever cashmere sweaters are the answer. With a micron count of around 11 (think 1,000-thread-count Egyptian-cotton sheets, but better), the Elder Statesman's after-surfing Baja hoodies, perfect dog-walking cardigans, and 10-pound, hand-spun blankets are not treated with chemicals or unnatural dyes and take one weaver an average of 16 hours to complete. "My designs are not disposable. I don't make things according to trend; you're meant to buy one of my pieces in a lifetime," says Chait, making them well worth the price tag, which starts at \$2K. "You eliminate all the waste and energy that goes into making all the sweaters

people go out and buy each season."

The Venice Beach, California, resident, who was part of the original crew that brought Australian denim label Ksubi to the U.S., started his line with one 81-inch blanket in 2007, sourcing yarn from Mongolia and spinning the pieces in western Canada. He's also working with all-natural cashmere handmade by Navajo craftsmen, using pomegranate- and birch-bark-based dyes. However, Chait admits his love of organic fabrics was aesthetic first and environmentally conscious second. "I start with the materials and work backward. I really love the look and uniqueness of undyed, unwashed yarn in its pure state," Chait says. "It happened naturally for me."

—ALEXA BRAZILLIAN

WOOLLY BULLY

THE FRENCH DIY KNIT LINE HITS NEW YORK CITY WITH A BANG

Barney's own Julie Gilhart hosted Parisian design collective Wool and the Gang's American debut with a party at the Smile in NYC. The soiree packed the new concept store to the gills, including knit lovers such as Mary-Kate Olsen and Erin Wasson, who modeled the line's chunky five-foot scarves (the Foxy Roxy) and beanies (the Zion Lion), made out of natural yarn from Peru's Andean highlands. Formerly sold exclusively at Colette (one of the Gang, Nadège Winter, served as the store's communication director) and online at Woolandthegang.com, the line offers ready-to-wear pieces and the option to buy paper bags stuffed with needles, yarn, and blueprints for knitting your own—perhaps in fireside seats at the Smile, where the woolens are also sold.—A.B.



Clockwise from above left: The Smile; the Wool and the Gang designers; Gilhart and Olsen; a Wool and the Gang knit look

Chait and models: photographed by Brittlee Sire; models: Jade at L.A. Models and Karen at Ford; Wool and the Gang lookbook: Martin Bruno; Wool and the Gang party: Chance Yeh/Patrickmullian.com