

# STYLE



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## MUST HAVE



### Bold Shoulders

Love them or hate them, the '80s power shoulders are back in full force on the runways this autumn. Designers such as Louis Vuitton, Yves Saint Laurent, Givenchy and Balmain are playing with architectural shoulder cuts. Coming in rectangular, rounded, bubble and even sharp-shouldered, this trend is so big that you can find blazers, shirts and even dresses finished with this feature. Get the look in small boutiques around Jianwai Soho and Nali Patio or at high street brands like Zara and H&M. More budget buys are available on [www.taobao.com](http://www.taobao.com). *Belle Zhao*

The recession is still the number one element that designers are taking into account as they release their new collections. As seen in the boutiques and department stores, **classic and versatile wear** like Burberry-inspired trench coats, blazers and waistcoats are fall's hottest looks (see Hot Buys, p27). Spanish fashion house **Mango** has found its own solution to the difficult economic times. Under the slogan "**Special prices for creative living**," they have created a "**Think Up**" low-cost fashion collection, featuring over 90 garments; prices start at RMB 119. They even launched a fashion blog (<http://thinkup.mango.com>) to promote the collection, now available at selected Mango stores.

More good news: Japanese brand **Uniqlo** is making luxury designer pieces affordable. It has teamed up with **Jil Sander**, the master of minimalist design, to produce a "**J Line for Uniqlo**" collection, which will be launched on October 2 at its **Sanlitun store** and online at [www.uniqlo.com](http://www.uniqlo.com). Expect to pay RMB 299 for a tuxedo shirt and RMB 899 for a wool blazer.

October 1 marks the 60th birthday of the PRC. In tribute, the hip store **NLGX** collaborates with **ZJ Design** on limited edition T-shirts, which will be packaged (RMB 390) with a gold-print 60-year-anniversary army bag and poster. NLGX is not alone with the anniversary T-shirts, as **Plastered** has also launched a new T-shirt for National Day.

When it comes to green fashion, we tend to focus on whether the clothing is produced from material that is organic or eco-friendly. The eco label **SLVR**, released by **Adidas** earlier this year, goes green in a different way. Beyond using environmentally friendly materials, they are attempting to **minimize waste in production**. SLVR recently launched a line of black-and-white tees, cut randomly from fabric that's been printed with massive text: "**this is an unlimited edition**." Only a couple of the gigantic letters fit on a shirt, making each cotton tee practically one of a kind. Get them at Adidas's store at **The Village at Sanlitun**.

As a new season starts, sales and discounts at department stores become rare. However, great deals can be found at many spa and massage centers. **Le Spa** at Wanda Sofitel is offering **half-price** on all treatments for Beijing residents. **Fspa** features 30 percent off on all treatments. And Comfort Zone Spa is offering a "**two people go, one person free**" promotion for their facial treatments. *Belle Zhao*

# Take5

## BUDGET MOISTURIZERS

by Belle Zhao

Most consumers assume that the prices of beauty products are directly proportional to their quality. But what's the real difference between a 500-*kuai* facial cream and a 20-*kuai* product? Certainly, products from the high-end European cosmetic giants may have additional features, such as anti-aging, whitening, etc, since they spend more money on research and development. On the other hand, they also spend a ton on advertising, marketing, luxury packaging, etc. If you're on a budget and simply want a basic, effective moisturizer, here's a list of reliable options.

### Pehchaolin 24-hour moisturizing cream (百雀羚24小时保湿霜) ▶

A cheap version of Elizabeth Arden's Eight Hour Cream, this keeps your skin moisturized for 24 hours. Ideal for the face – and you can even slather it on as body lotion without wincing at the price. RMB 10.9 (50g).



### ◀ Friendship cream (友谊护肤脂)

Though it's an oil-based cream, it moisturizes the skin without feeling greasy. Good as a hand cream, too. The small, round container is very portable – and pleasingly retro. RMB 4.5 (40.5g).

### Ya Shuang vanishing cream (雅霜雪花膏) ▶

Moisturize, soften and smooth your skin with a brand that's been around for more than 70 years. This cream's heavy, oil-based texture makes it the best for very dry skin during winter. RMB 7.5 (80g).



### ◀ Dabao SOD Milk (大宝SOD蜜)

Dabao is China's most recognizable local brand – and its classic SOD milk cream is a must-have facial moisturizer for all seasons. Chinese consumers like it for its whitening effect. RMB 7.5 (100ml), RMB 14 (165ml).

### "The Horse" moisturizing cream (马牌油) ▶

This three-in-one cream for face, hands and lips was a skincare staple of every family in 1980s China. The oil-based product soothes cracked lips and works wonders on chapped or flaking skin due to windburn. RMB 2.5 (24g).

*All of these products are available at [www.taobao.com](http://www.taobao.com).*



PHOTOS: JUDY ZHOU

# Out in a blazer ELEGANCE

by Belle Zhao

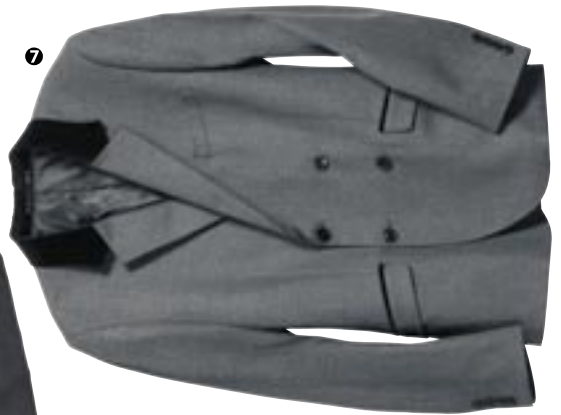
In autumn, the fitted blazer is an absolute wardrobe essential for both men and women. As a bridge between formal and casual wear, these jackets can be worn with button-down shirts and trousers from 9 to 5 or with layered shirts and jeans for a weekend stroll. It's worth splurging on, as blazers are so classic that they never go out of style. Here are our top nine picks from both the luxury designer names and the high street brands.



1



4



7



2



5



8



3



6



9

## FOR HER

- 1 Keep your work attire as sharp as your wit with this fitted, double-breasted grey blazer. Price TBD. H&M
- 2 This black satin-trimmed tuxedo is your nightlife must-have. Wear it over a sexy party dress and be the belle of the ball. RMB 6,500. See by Chloe at Lane Crawford
- 3 Slip this sleek black blazer with faux-fur details over a simple dress to transform plain into sophisticated. RMB 5,600. Elizabeth and James at Lane Crawford

- 4 Command attention in this cropped, military-inspired blazer with golden button details. RMB 349. H&M
- 5 Layer this boyfriend blazer over T-shirts and tights, and you'll look as cool as Kate Moss. RMB 559. Zara
- 6 This strong-shouldered black jacket reinterprets YSL's classic Le Smoking with modern tailoring. RMB 26,559. Balmain at Net-a-porter.com

## FOR HIM

- 7 Try this double-breasted cover-up over a crisp white shirt for a super-chic workwear look. RMB 599. H&M
- 8 Who said suits had to be boring? This izzue blazer redefines traditional suiting with its original colors and patched design. Price TBD. izzue
- 9 This navy blazer belongs to every season. Wear it with shorts or jeans for a slouchy look. RMB 1,099. izzue

# What's New

## SHOPS



### Katie Xu

Daily 10am-9pm. Counter H3, 1/F Ginza Mall, Dongzhimenwai Dajie, Chaoyang District (no tel)  
朝阳区东直门外大街银座广场1层3号柜台

If the mass-produced jewelry at department stores bores you, head to [Katiexu.com](http://Katiexu.com) for innovative pieces inspired by nature. Before establishing her own label, Xu studied fashion design and costume interpretation in the UK and subsequently worked with British designers including Frederick Fox (milliner to Queen Elizabeth) and Katharine Goodison. The fanciful and sophisticated silhouettes that comprise Xu's collection are created from rhodium-plated sterling silver and brass. Our favorite pieces include a "Sea Creature" brooch (RMB 978), a "Tree" pendant (RMB 978) and a "Seaweed" necklace (RMB 3,880). If online shopping makes you nervous, a brick-and-mortar store awaits at the Ginza Mall. *Belle Zhao*



### Ruoshuitang Umbrella 若水堂古典油纸伞

Daily 10am-11pm. 144 Gulou Dongdajie, Dongcheng District (136 9113 0149)  
朝阳区鼓楼东大街144号

What goes up when the rain comes down? An umbrella, of course. These traditional Chinese paper parasols are lovingly handmade, with solid bamboo handles and a cotton/paper canopy waterproofed with natural oil; though they look delicate, they have a satisfying weight in the hand and feel like they're made to last. The eye-catching styles range from classical Chinese landscapes to more abstract floral patterns upon backgrounds of turquoise, yellow, lilac or tan. Pick one up for the inflation-adjusted price of RMB 150 for the standard size, or splurge on the parasol with hand-painted peonies (RMB 1,000). *Tom O'Malley*



### Quan Spa at Marriott Beijing City Wall

Daily 3pm-midnight. 7 Jianguomen Nandajie, Dongcheng District (5811 8187)  
东城区建国门南大街7号万豪酒店

The Belgian town of Spa was so renowned for its mineral springs that it became synonymous with medicinal bathing and health resorts; in fact, "spa" was translated into Chinese as *shuiliao*, or "water therapy." Nowadays, though, most people associate spas almost exclusively with massage. Marriott's Quan Spa reclaims the word's original meaning by offering a range of therapies where guests can "take the waters." One of their exclusive treatments is Tropical Rainshower Ritual (RMB 520), where spa-goers lie on a bed to be gently pummeled from head to toe by warm Vichy water jets and exfoliated with customized oils, followed by a massage. Quan's other must-try treatment is Dream (RMB 260), where guests submerge themselves in a bathtub that uses flowing water to gently massage the body. *Belle Zhao*



### Lazy Sunday

Daily 10.30am-10pm. Rm 104, Villa 5, Jianwai Soho, Chaoyang District (5900 2568)  
朝阳区建外Soho5号别墅104室

The next time you're at Jianwai Soho, check out this Art Deco-adorned store, filled with lots of creative knickknacks and clothing. One-of-a-kind items are the specialty here, from vintage black frame glasses and handmade wooden frames to retro tin toy car and train models, as well as gift boxes printed with funky graphics. If these fail to satisfy your thirst for quirk, browse the boutique's fashion collection, which includes several sharply tailored, '80s-influenced long suits (around RMB 600), mini-skirts with elastic waistlines (RMB 245), and a variety of elegant dresses. *Belle Zhao*

# The Audiophile's CHOICE

## SONY'S NEW MP3 WALKMAN

by Joey Guo

You're a purist. When you listen to music, nothing else exists. You admire tools that are streamlined and purpose-driven. Everything else is just noise, clutter.

If what you require above all from a portable music player is superb audio fidelity, you might be very happy with a Walkman from Sony's new NWZ-X1000 series. With Sony's digital Clear Audio technologies and S-Master digital amplifier, the music pulsing through the supplied earphones sounds incredibly lifelike, no matter where you are. That's because the headphones' noise-canceling function can be adjusted for different settings – subways, planes or offices – without sacrificing music quality. The built-in digital custom equalizer setting lets you tweak the sound to your liking even more.

Of course, you don't object to a little Wi-Fi with your Hi-Fi. If you want to explore beyond your personal playlist, there's an on-board Slacker application, integrated YouTube support and FM tuner – all of them accessible via this Walkman's intuitive and user-friendly touchscreen interface.

Compared with iPod Touch's superabundance of functions and applications, this Walkman might seem rudimentary. On the other hand, if you prefer superb sound quality over features you'll rarely use, the choice is clear.



NWZ-X1060 (32G)  
RMB 3,399

NWZ-X1050 (16G)  
RMB 2,599

Both models are available at the Sony Store. L330, 3/F, South Bldg, The Place, 9 Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang District (6587 1350)  
朝阳区光华路9号世贸商业中心南街3层L330号

### DESIGN

The gadget has a sleek, utilitarian design. Smaller but thicker than the iPod Touch, its sturdy metal exterior makes it feel nice and expensive.

### CONNECTIVITY

Equipped with Wi-Fi, the Walkman also keeps you connected to the Internet so you can download music on the go.

### DISPLAY

The 320x240 touchscreen displays sharp images and OLED technology provides a response time suitable for movie playback. A wide viewing angle of nearly 180 degrees offers vivid color reproduction and a high contrast ratio.



### EASE OF USE

You can drag and drop your music, pictures and video onto this device from your computer. The menus are easy to navigate; simply flick or swipe your finger across the screen to scroll through your entire multimedia collection.

### BATTERY

You can listen to up to 33 hours of music and watch up to nine hours of video without needing to recharge.

# SNEAKING ABOUT

## THE WIDE WORLD OF ATHLETIC FOOTWEAR

text by Jonathan White; photos by Mary Dennis

Remember when you went to school? Your sneakers could be the cause of much upset if you didn't have the "right" pair. Thing is, things don't really change. People are still going to notice and comment on your choice of footwear. On the upside, Beijing is not gangland, so there's no risk that those shoes your mum picked out could get you shot.



Beijing has been known to be a haven for fake goods. No, really. Get over the shock and instead look for the giveaway on these New Balanc. That's right, dropping an "e" is neither big nor clever.



Matching shoes with your partner is about five steps cooler than wearing those T-shirts that have paired slogans. The risk is if you start playing away from home and your beloved notices you've changed footwear. Stay monogamous, kids. It's simpler.



OK, these aren't sneakers but there's no way we weren't going to feature them on this page. Sandals with laces in a fetching camel color take some time to comprehend. These feet belonging to a man takes a little longer still.



Skinny jeans tucked into high-tops that are almost as icy-white as the day they were box-fresh but just dirty enough to wonder where they have been. You want to be in this person's band. Failing that, you want to be their band's groupie.



Texture and color are to be experimented with. You're only young once, after all. The trouble is that when you're young, you tend to overindulge. Imagine being so drunk you can only look at your shoes and then you see these. Blimey.



Commitment to a brand is always to be encouraged, especially if it's a niche brand. Avia has long been slept on by the masses. Coordinating your kicks with even harder-to-find Avia socks is a nice touch.



Cute can quickly turn to kitsch. As things stand, you are allowed to have purple laces and silver shoes and flowers and colored stripes and gold writing on your shoes. You just can't have them all on one pair. It makes you look eight years old.



All of the hipsters that you read about in online-only magazines are wearing Feiyue now. In Beijing, though, they don't cost the same as a pair of Alexander McQueen slacks. They are cheap and practical and perfect for gym class. Take that, zeitgeist.



These appear to have been originally made to help the Smurfs get through their harsh winters. Snowboots in blue and yellow with flower details on the eyelets sound repulsive but in a strange, anime-wrestler kind of way, they really work.



If you're an adult but aren't a skater, then you have no reason to wear such clumpy, awkward shoes. Unless you have fallen arches. Sorry about your arches.

## ANTIQUES & REPRODUCTIONS

**C.L. Ma Furniture** Highly respected antique dealer sells antique and reproduced trunks, tables, chairs, shelves, screens etc. to an enthusiastically loyal customer base from here to Hong Kong. Daily 10am-7.30pm. Rm 116, Bldg 4, Park Avenue, 6 Chaoyang Gongyuan Nanlu, Chaoyang District. (6466 7040/6530 6475) [www.xn-fjqv01023e.com](http://www.xn-fjqv01023e.com) 可东马家俱北京分公司, 朝阳区朝阳公园南路6号公园大道4号楼116室

**Lily's Antiques** Specializing in high class antique furniture (mainly from northern China, in walnut and elmwood) and custom-made furniture, for the local market. Also wholesale for antique and newly made furniture. Excellent service for international transportation of furniture. Furthermore a wide selection of accessories is offered. 1) Daily 8.30am-6pm. Gaobeidian Showroom, 6 Gaobeidian Furniture Street, Chaoyang District. Contact Lily Quan (6572 9746, 138 0139 6309) (8579 2458, [www.lilys-antiques.com](http://www.lilys-antiques.com)); 2) Visit by Appointment. Factory and Warehouse Address, Baimiao industry area, Songzhuang town, Tongzhou District. Contact Lily Quan (6572 9746, 138 0139 6309) (138 0139 6309) 华伦古典家具, 1) 朝阳区高碑店家俱一条街69号; 2) 通州区工厂地址, 通州区宋庄镇白庙村工业大院

**Tanghouse Gallery** Tanghouse specializes in custom-made furniture manufactured in Beijing. Their designs bridge contemporary and classic styles, characterized by clean lines and quality raw materials, including hardwoods, skins and stones. Online sales only. Daily 9.30am-6pm. Rm 1132, 11/F, Tower A, Gateway Square, Sanyuanqiao, Chaoyang District. (6764 2214, 139 1007 3689) [www.tanghouse.cn](http://www.tanghouse.cn) 逸唐居, 朝阳区三元桥佳程广场A座1132室

## BEAUTY PARLORS, SPAS & MASSAGE

**99 Massage and Spa Center** Clean, comfortable and relaxing massage. Free food, drinks and fruit. Aromatic oil massage (RMB 200-380), body/foot massage (RMB 150/100). Single and double rooms. Daily 11am-midnight. Rm 703, E-Tower C12, Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang District. (6501 0799) 99按摩中心, 朝阳区光华路丙12号数码01大厦703室(嘉里中心与国贸之间)

**Anantara Spa** Massages start from RMB 480 (60min) and facials are available from RMB 520. Daily 10am-10pm (flexible opening hours on request). The Commune, Shuiguang Great Wall, Badaling Gaosulu, Yanqing County. (8118 1888 ext 5100/01, [anantaraspa@commune.com.cn](mailto:anantaraspa@commune.com.cn)) 延庆县八达岭高速公路水关长城出口长城脚下的公社凯宾斯基饭店

**Angel Hands** Offers Chinese-style body massage, Thai-style massage, olive oil massage and slimming massage. Daily 24 hours. Rm 1801, Bldg 2, Jianwai Soho, 39 Dongsanhuan Zhonglu, Chaoyang District. (8631 0801) 朝阳区东三环中路39号建外Soho2号楼1801室

**Ariya Massage and Spa** 1/F, Zifeng Bldg, 1 Dayabao Hutong, Chaoyang District. (6525 5799) 朝阳区大雅宝胡同1号梓峰大厦1层

**Askido Nail-lab Centre** Offers wide range of innovative nail care products, not to mention over 200 shades of fabulous nail polish. Daily 10.30am-9pm. Store 329, 3/F, U-Town Lifestyle Center, Chaoyangmenwai, Chaoyang District. (5975 4522) 爱饰绮朵美甲会所, 朝阳区朝阳门外悠唐生活广场3层329商铺

**Bangs Hair Salon** Clean white walls keep the focus on hairstyling at this minimalist salon, staffed by Japanese stylists versed in the latest Tokyo trends. A cut is RMB 320, moisturizing treatment RMB 350, and perms start at RMB 200. Tue-Sun 10am-9pm. Stall 101, Bldg 4, Central Park, 6 Chaoyangmenwai Dajie, Chaoyang District. (6597 0578) 朝阳区朝阳门外大街6号新城国际4号楼101号

**Beijing Salon Vajra** Catering to clients who demand very personal service, this experienced team of British and Hong Kong stylists and colorists offers professional hairdressing services, and luxury hand and foot spa treatments. Mon-Sat 10am-8pm. 5106, Glory World Apartments, 18 Gongti

Xilu, Chaoyang District. (6551 6461/2/3) [www.vajra.com.hk](http://www.vajra.com.hk) 画间沙龙, 朝阳区工体西路18号光彩国际公寓S106

**Bodhi Sense** Like the original branch of Bodhi on Gongti, Bodhi Sense draws inspiration from both Thai and Chinese culture, but boasts an added touch of luxury. There are ten foot-massage rooms and an additional ten treatment rooms, all exquisitely decorated Daily 11am-12.30am. 2/F, Somerset Grand Fortune Garden, 46 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang District. (8440 1495) 朝阳区亮马桥路46号盛捷副景苑公寓2层

**Bodhi Therapeutic Retreat** Located in a six-floor building opposite the north gate of the Workers' Stadium, the original Bodhi Therapeutic Retreat offers a variety of professional treatments - Thai style massage (RMB 288/90 min), facials (from RMB 320), foot massages (RMB 158/85 min), and pedicures (RMB 68 at the Gongti branch only) courtesy of Anglefish Boutique - as well as complimentary food and snacks cooked up by their Thai chef. For extra luxury, try the specialty packages (from RMB 450/1.5 hours) at the swish sister spa Bodhi Sense on Liangmaqiao Lu. Daily 11am-12.30am. 17 Gongti Beilu, Chaoyang District. (6417 9595) [www.bodhi.com.cn](http://www.bodhi.com.cn) 菩提会所, 朝阳区工体北路17号



**C. de France Hair & Beauty Salon** The C. de France team of international and local stylists, colorists and beauticians offer an holistic hair and beauty experience. The salon mixes French chic with modern simplicity to create a sophisticated yet relaxed atmosphere offering a wide range of hair services and beauty treatments, including manicures and pedicures, waxing and tanning. Referral and VIP programs available. Daily 10am-8pm. Nali Mall, Sanlitun Beilu, Chaoyang District. (6417 3029) C美发沙龙, 朝阳区三里屯北路那里商城内

**Dragonfly Therapeutic Retreat** Dragonfly's boutique operation avoids rowdy groups and leaves ample room for relaxation and solace - something that its large-scale competitors cannot guarantee. An exhaustive menu of spa packages, such as Ultimate Indulgence featuring an hour each of full-body and foot massage, start at RMB 270. Facials also available. 1) Daily 10am-1am. 1/F, Grand Summit Plaza, 19 Dongfang Donglu (100m north of Lufthansa Center), Chaoyang District. (8532 3122); 2) Daily 10am-1am. 60 Donghuamen Ave (near The Peninsula Hotel and Oriental Plaza), Dongcheng District. (6527 9368); 3) Daily 10am-1am. B1/F, Eastern Hotel, Nanshanlitun Nanlu, Chaoyang District. (6593 6066) 悠庭保健会所, 1) 朝阳区朝阳区燕莎桥东方东路19号外交会所1层(燕莎中心路北100米); 2) 东城区东城区东华门大街60号(近王府饭店和东方广场); 3) 朝阳区朝阳区三里屯南路逸羽酒店1层



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Closed from Oct.1st to Oct.5th due to National Holiday

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