

# VOGUE

SEP

**MARISSA  
MAYER**  
MOGUL,  
MOTHER,  
LIGHTNING  
ROD

**SEVEN  
MINUTES TO  
A BETTER  
BODY?**

**GIRL ON FIRE**  
**JENNIFER  
LAWRENCE**  
GIFTED,  
UNGUARDED, AND  
GORGEOUS

**PHAN-TASTIC!**  
BEAUTY BLOGGER  
MICHELLE PHAN'S  
700 MILLION VIEWS

**PLUS**  
**THE WEDDING  
OF THE YEAR**

**902** PAGES OF  
**FABULOUS FALL  
FASHION**



# PEOPLE ARE TALKING ABOUT DESIGN

## DRAWING BOARD

A TRIO OF DESIGNERS LOOKS TO THE PAST TO CREATE SOMETHING NEW.

**T**hree young female designers who have found their callings in old-world decorative arts are catching the design world by surprise. Mosaicist

Sara Baldwin, wood engraver Zoé Ouvrier, and wallpaper designer Deborah Bowness may draw inspiration from traditional schools and sources, but stylish ingenuity makes their work a far cry from your grandmother's stuffy antiques.

### SARA BALDWIN

Mosaic designer Sara Baldwin grew up in Virginia watching the waters of the Chesapeake Bay. As a master's student at the University of Pennsylvania, Baldwin was studying to be a painter, but, disenchanted with the "intellectual interaction" she was having with her work, she changed course soon after coming across a collection of third-century Roman mosaics at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Steeping herself in the traditional methods through a 1970s book on mosaic manufacturing, she began assembling tile on her kitchen table—hand-nipping porcelain and arranging the tesserae piece by piece. "There was no one to



**PERFECT FIT**  
SARA BALDWIN  
IN A STELLA  
McARTNEY  
BLAZER. RIGHT:  
HER AURELIA  
(TOP) AND  
JACQUELINE  
MOSAICS.

teach me, so I taught myself," she says. Her Virginia-based company, New Ravenna Mosaics, which she founded in 1991, now has 115 employees, many of them trained by Baldwin. And while she still executes classical motifs, it's her brilliant translations of unexpected sources like ikat, suzani, houndstooth, and Kuba cloth that really shine. The work avoids the pixelated look of many mosaic manufacturers that have arisen in Baldwin's wake partly because, while others streamline by shaping their stone

uniformly, New Ravenna continues to shape each piece individually. Baldwin's latest collection, which launches next month, experiments with pattern and rhythm using mostly all-white stones. And to think it all began with her asking herself, "Why isn't anyone making these beautiful things anymore?"



### ZOÉ OUVRIER

When Chinese artist Yin Xin noticed École des Beaux-Arts graduate Zoé Ouvrier's shadowy drawings, he suggested she experiment with engraving wood. "Yin Xin really gave me the keys to understanding and creating chiaroscuro," *design* >752



**SCREEN SAVER**  
PARISIAN ZOÉ  
OUVRIER (LEFT)  
HAND-ENGRAVES  
ONTO PLYWOOD  
PANELS. HER  
GINGKO DESIGN  
IS SHOWN HERE.

BALDWIN: MARLENE MARINO. SITTINGS EDITOR: DELPHINE DANHIER. HAIR: OWEN GOULD; MAKEUP: JUNKO KIOKA; SHOT ON LOCATION AT URBAN ARCHAEOLOGY. MOSAICS: COURTESY OF NEW RAVENNA MOSAICS. OUVRIER: FRANK JUERY. SCREEN: COURTESY OF IAN SCIGLIUZZI. DETAILS: SEE IN THIS ISSUE.