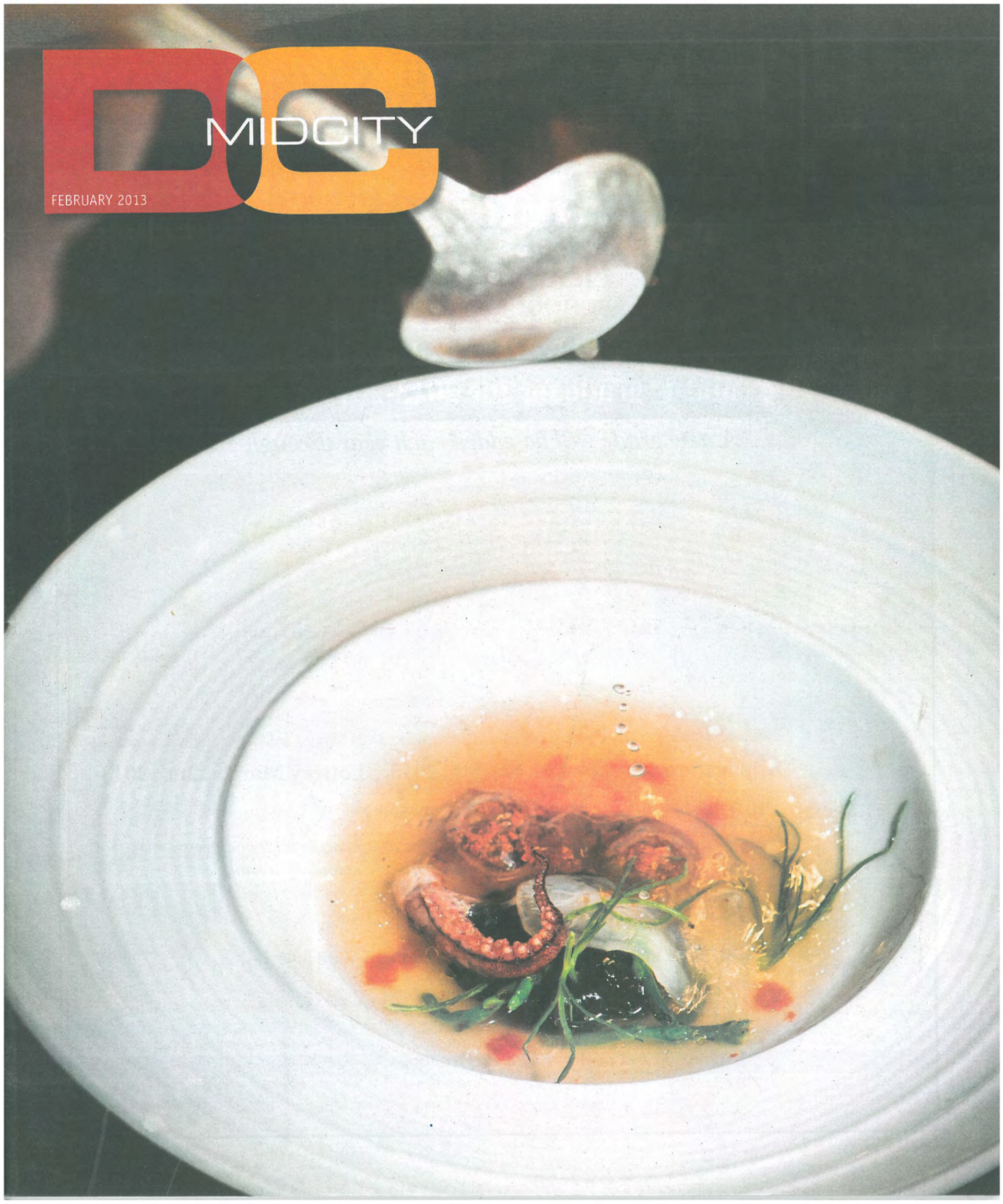


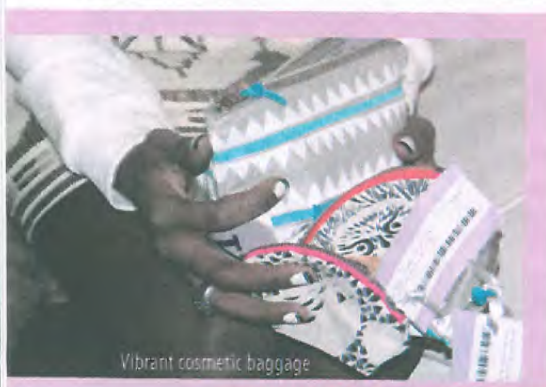
DC MIDCITY

FEBRUARY 2013



RETAIL THERAPY

BY MARIESSA TERRELL



Vibrant cosmetic baggage

VIOLET Boutique • 2439 18th Street NW

Fashionette Query #100: Ever since I switched to carrying an oversized faux leopard bucket bag, I can never seem to find my kabuki pressed powder when I need it. Dumping the contents every time I have to blot is getting tiresome. Can you help?

Simone B: VIOLET boutique owned by Julie Egermayor carries the most delightful makeup and coin baggage by Printed Wild. This new brand is the brainchild of Eva Calonder, a local designer with a vibrant imagination and meticulous craftsmanship. Eva not only hand paints all of the designs on the bags, she also hand cuts all the stencils and lettering. Eva's keen appreciation for color is self-evident. Crack open the Printed Wild coin purse with owl detail and see the luscious burgundy with pink lining for yourself. Priced from \$18 to \$28 in light, bright colors that are easily spotted; even in a faux leopard bucket bag.



SMASH RECORDS • 2314 18th Street NW

Fashionette Query # 101: I am gearing up to compete for the 2013 DMC World DJ Competition in London. This time I'm benching the MacBook Pro and going all vinyl. Any idea where I can find phonographs priced to move in the District?

Simone B: Smash Records is a rocker's paradise. Purveyors of used LPs, CDs, and rubber soled kicks (Converse and Vans), it is the one place where you can find enough variety to create your very own Grey remix. If you look to the left below the "Dance with Dolly [Parton]" album, you will find my all-time favorite soundtracks. The Bond Films 007 section with "Diamonds Are Forever" and "James Bond 21st Anniversary Instrumental Album" is sure to resonate in London and beyond.

IDLE TIME BOOKS • 2467 18th Street NW

Fashionette Query #102: My tablet (featuring my favorite Agatha Christie boxset) was stolen two days ago and I am leaving for Paris in the morning. I can't imagine being on a plane for 7 hours and 41 minutes without something decadent to read! Where can I find an inexpensive book at 9 p.m. on a Tuesday?

Simone B. Idle Time Books has remained a go-to shop for gently read books for over 30 years. I especially like the travel section on the first floor that features fiction from around the world. Paris is a favorite destination for many of the featured writers. My favorite is "Paris! Paris!" featuring quaint short stories by Irwin Shaw alongside black-and-white ink sketches by Ronald Searle. Ooh la la.



Parisienne boarding pass

TORO MATA • 2410 18th Street NW

Fashionette Query 103: I just spent \$3,000 to move into a tiny one-bedroom in SW. As a result I barely have enough money left to buy pizza for the movers. Still, I'd like something new to fit in with my minimalist black-and-white decor. Any suggestions?

Simone B: Living in an international city has many perks. I recently visited Toro Mata and was amazed to see handcrafted pre-Columbian pottery. Owner Hector Zarata imports the black-and-white terracotta vases directly from Peruvian master artist Santodio Paz. Using a pottery technique that is over 3,000 years old, Santodio covers his pottery with classic Peruvian symbols arranged in graphic geometric patterns. Mod works well for \$45-\$185.



Mod spotted terracota

Mariessa Terrell, aka Simone Butterfly, Fashion Investigator, does her sleuthing at yoohoodarling.com and @SimoneBtrfly. ♦