

SCENE IN S.D.



Back to Basic

ON THE CATWALK

Rimona decided that a proper sendoff was in order for Muse, the original monthly fashion show at Confidential lounge in the Gaslamp. Over the past year, the event tapped San Diego's top boutiques and international designers to unveil of-the-moment looks to Downtown denizens. Hey, it's not Paris, but it is real-deal fashion in a town where small pieces of stretch fabric are mistaken



Akiko Yoshikawa, Ayo Saito, Hilaru Murata and Hana Jeon

for attire. (It's a belt... It's a tube top... It's a dress!) Just as Muse was leaving, another fashion event was taking off at Bar Basic, that East Village hub for singles. There were strutting models, makeup demos, trunk shows and eye candy aplenty. And Basic's famed garlic mashed potato pizza was on offer for singles brazen enough to deal with the side effects. Got a mint? —**GILLIAN FLYNN**



Model with jewelry from Rebirth



In fashion we trust



Jamie Renfro and Helene



Mikay Pusnik and Carmen Delvalle



Alesha Ballon



Allison Andrews

BIG MEN ON CAMPUS

HANDS DOWN, DAN AND JASON'S FAVORITE SAN DIEGO STRUCTURE IS THE NEUROSCIENCES INSTITUTE IN LA JOLLA. "IT IS A WELL-CRAFTED COMPLEX THAT BALANCES THE INDOOR AND OUTDOOR SPACES, TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE REGIONAL CLIMATE." TOD WILLIAMS BILLIE TSIEN & ASSOCIATES OF NEW YORK CITY DESIGNED THE CAMPUS, WHICH CURVES AND FLOWS UNPREDICTABLY.



SMITH'S CRAFTY IDEA

Emily Fierer and Christopher Puzio's part-home, part-gallery Spacecraft (2865 North Park Way, North Park, 619.291.2752) has become a favorite stop for art lovers looking for innovative, off-the-wall exhibitions (squashed and melted shopping carts hanging from the wall?). "They seem to bring in the best talent and most thought-provoking installations. It's what an art gallery should be," Smith says. But the guys also see it as a model for them: their house will become part of North Park's Ray of Night in January.

On your marks, get set, grow! Team Dan Smith and Jason Maune are currently set to hit it big in San Diego. Look out for their design of North Park wine bar Mosaic, Pete's Place in La Mesa and not one, but two two-story pre-fab townhomes that are slated to be built on the back of their property as additional office space. S.D.'s competitive design field just got a little more crowded.

URBAN LEGEND

With its brick walls, high ceilings and industrial garage doors, Basic is their hangout of choice. (410 Tenth Ave., East Village, 619.531.8869) Designed by architect Graham Downes, this is a chill pizza haven for hip urbanites. As Smith says: "This looks like something we would do—very simple, raw materials, truth in materials."



AGAINST THE GRAIN

If Smith and Maune had license to splurge, they would head to San Diego's custom furniture at Wood FX (4219 Park Blvd., 619.231.2466). "The pieces have a natural groove and moss in them," says Smith. From his Little Italy studio, FX's furniture maker Joey Vaissuso churns out Noguchi-influenced pieces and utilitarian wall units, and channels Asia for his pagoda-tipped benches.