

A DANE IN LONDON

Fashion might seem like a serious business, but according to Danish designer Peter Jensen, who has won accolades for his witty, wonderful and wearable creations, it doesn't have to be. Urban Outfitters' newest collaborator tells us how he puts the fun in fashion.

WHAT INSPIRES YOUR COLLECTIONS? Each collection is based on a muse, a female character that I admire. For winter, it was the author Muriel Spark, who wrote *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*. In the past it's been an artist, or an actress, or sometimes a character from a film. I like each collection to tell a story.

HAVE OTHER DESIGNERS INFLUENCED YOU? There are many designers I admire. I love Yves Saint Laurent from the '70s and '80s, and I love Miuccia Prada. I don't think high fashion is my main source of inspiration. If it is, it's mixed with everyday things.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE ITEM FROM THE CURRENT COLLECTION? I love the artist's smock. It's a big oversized shirt that can be worn as a dress or a top – it's just really easy. I think the prints are really strong this season. And the knits. There's a picture knit sweater with a dog that's been super popular.

YOU SEEM TO HAVE A LOT OF FUN WITH YOUR COLLECTIONS. Fashion should be fun. I like there to be a sense of lightness in what I do, for it to be uplifting and joyful. There's enough seriousness in life.

HOW DO YOU WANT YOUR CLOTHES TO MAKE PEOPLE FEEL? Happy. And stylish – without trying too hard.

WHAT'S THE SCOOP WITH YOUR URBAN OUTFITTERS COLLABORATION? It's a lower price point than my runway designs, so it's easier to buy, which I'm really happy about. All the styles are based on past pieces of mine that were particularly successful.

YOU GREW UP IN DENMARK, BUT NOW LIVE IN LONDON. HAS EITHER PLACE INFLUENCED YOUR DESIGNS? There is a mixture of both. There is a humour, which is more British. And this season, there are lots of British fabrics and references to school uniforms, which are totally British to me. I think the Danish part might be the simplicity.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT LIVING IN LONDON? I like living in Britain: the TV, the people, the sense of humour. I like English food as well.

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU'RE NOT DESIGNING? Right now, I'm reading the autobiography of Deborah Cavendish, Duchess of Devonshire. I'm loving it. It's very funny and charming. And very English. I keep needing to look words up in the dictionary.

AND WHEN YOU'RE NOT READING HISTORICAL AUTOBIOGRAPHIES? When I was recently in New York, I got hooked on "The Rachel Zoe Project." It's totally ridiculous but addictive.



LET'S GET DIGITAL

Work can wait. Here, five of the best places to waste time online.

AWKWARDFAMILYPHOTOS.COM From tragic '70s facial hair to astoundingly short shorts (not the good kind), *Star Trek* outfits to basketball team uniforms, each awkward family photo will have you cringing – and compulsively scrolling for more.

FFFFFOUND.COM If you spend hours seeking visual inspiration online, head to FFFFFOUND!, which cleverly recommends images based on what you've viewed – and liked – in the past, sending you bouncing from fine art to Internet funnies to vintage advertising.

BUZZFEED.COM If you feel lost when people start talking about lolcats, double rainbows or sad Keanu Reeves, then visit Buzzfeed, a professionally curated site that relies on user feedback to identify the videos, images and news stories that are just on the cusp of going viral.

XTRANORMAL.COM The premise of Xtranormal is simple: "If you can type, you can make movies." Using computer-generated animation, this site allows users to write, direct and produce their own films, controlling such details as camera angles, accents, facial expressions and more.

Find us on Facebook and Twitter!

EXCLUSIVE!

urbanoutfitters.com isn't just about what you can find in our stores; we also offer a wide range of products that are exclusively available on our site. Here are some of our favourites.



SPITFIRE R3 HEADPHONES In case those little white ear buds won't quite do the trick, grab these retro-style 'phones, which have internal bass enhancement to shake your core. £40



GIANT PIANO If that baby grand just isn't big enough, or you want to re-enact your favourite scene from *Big*, opt for this oversize electronic piano. Dancing shoes not included. £60



BLACKBIRD CAMERA If you think photos should be developed, not uploaded, get a Blackbird. It takes vintage-style pics using 35mm film, so you can keep your memories the old-fashioned way. £95



BOOMBOX SPEAKER You'll be ready for an impromptu breakdancing session with this retro-style iPod dock. It comes complete with built-in radio, but you'll have to bring your own sheet of cardboard. £255



THE KIDS ARE ALRIGHT

O. Children are a London-based indie rock quartet whose self-titled, new wave-inspired debut album was released in June. With band mates Gauthier Ajarrista, Andi Sleath and Harry James busy preparing for a gig, we caught up with frontman Tobi O'Kandi to chat about Balenciaga, Nick Cave and randy dogs.

OUR SOUND We've been described as "pop-noirists." That pretty much sums it up: We like loud guitars and drums.

OUR FIRST GIG We technically didn't even play our first gig. It was at the Old Blue Last pub in Shoreditch. Loads of people came, but there was a power cut, so we just drank with everyone in the dark. The next week we supported [Mercury Prize-nominated indie rockers] Wild Beasts. That was our real first gig.

OUR BEST GIG Definitely Glastonbury, with Bestival coming a close second. There's always a good atmosphere at festivals. Everyone is there to party and no one cares about looking cool – or at least, no one can look cool because they haven't showered for three days.

OUR STRANGEST FAN There's too many to single one out. Maybe the lady that invited me to come round and play with her dog in unmentionable ways.

OUR MUSICAL HEROES Sonic Youth. Queens of the Stone Age. The two coolest bands ever! Lyrics-wise, it's hard to think of anyone. Nick Cave?

OUR DARK LYRICS I'm no more depressed than anyone else in the world; I just tend to write more about the bad than the good. But it's always tongue-in-cheek. I'm not really saying you should head out into the desert and kill people.

OUR UNUSUAL NAME We were called Sexpests for a little while, but we figured, two years down the line, it wouldn't be funny anymore, so we looked for a more serious name. "O. Children" is a Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds song that we all love.

LONG NIGHTS ON THE TOUR BUS It's easier than I'd expected, because we love each other. Andi can talk from now to forever, and he's funny, so that always helps. I make up games. The rules of the last one were, "I'm thinking of four bands: Two are real, and two are from my mind's eye. You have to guess the fake ones." It killed a lot of time.

OUR PLAYLIST Caribou, Deerhunter, Sonic Youth, Queens of the Stone Age. We're also into new bands like Crystal Fighters, Is Tropical and Wild Palms, that don't yet have albums.

FASHION AND MUSIC It was definitely a trip when Balenciaga used our song ["Dead Disco Dancer"] to close their [Spring/Summer 2011] fashion show. Fashion and music go hand-in-hand, but everyone expects us to be wearing black trench coats, like a cross between *The Matrix* and *The Craft*. It's not like that. I don't think we've ever really tried to be stylish. We don't want to be slobs – but we're not quite Lady Gaga.

Find O. Children's latest, and lots of other new music, in our stores and online.

WINTER SURVIVAL GUIDE



HOW TO MAKE THE PERFECT HOT CHOCOLATE

by William Curley
Named Britain's Best Chocolatier by the UK's Academy of Chocolate for 2007, 2008 and 2009

Hot chocolate was invented by the Aztecs, who drank it before battle. (I prefer it as a mid-morning treat.) By the 19th century, companies began mass producing hot chocolate, but my philosophy is to keep it natural.

1. Put 500 mL semi-skimmed or whole milk in a saucepan. Add a pinch of chilli powder, or cinnamon and nutmeg, to give your hot cocoa some kick. Bring it to a boil.
2. Grate 100 grams of high quality, 70 percent cocoa chocolate into a mixing bowl.
3. Once the milk is boiling, pour 1/3 of it into the mixing bowl. Beat until very smooth.
4. Stir in the rest of the milk. Enjoy!



HOW TO BUILD THE PERFECT SNOWMAN

by Bob Eckstein
Author of The History of the Snowman and blogger at Snowman Daily

Snowman making is one of the earliest forms of folk-art known to man, and probably one of the few activities we still share with our prehistoric ancestors.

1. Before you utter the word snowman, sending kids – or friends – into a frenzy, make sure that the snow is workable – not too dry, not too frozen.
2. Make round, well-packed snowballs. Size doesn't matter. A two-foot high snowman is just as good as the world's tallest.
3. Stack them, starting with the largest balls on the bottom.
4. To give your creation some personality, find some junk. Anything goes: buckets, cookie-cutters, balls, Christmas ornaments. A carrot and coal does not a snowman make; homemade snowmen and women are beautiful because each is gloriously unique.

HOW TO BUILD THE PERFECT FIRE

by Matthew Wylie
Managing director – and resident fire-builder – at the Pheasant, one of the UK's finest inns

After a long afternoon of wood-chopping, or igloo-building, or whatever it is that you might be doing on a cold winter's day, warm your soul – and your hands and feet – with a roaring fire.

1. Loosely crumple four sheets of quality broadsheet newspaper and place in the fire basket.
2. Using about 16 sticks of bone-dry kindling wood (about one inch thick, 8 to 10 inches long), build a circular, wigwam-like structure. Keep the structure loose to allow for maximum airflow.
3. Place four lumps of coal on top of the kindling.
4. Lay four to six hardwood logs, which have been seasoned for at least a year, and which are no thicker than six inches each, on top of the coal. Then top them with four more lumps of coal.
5. Light the paper in three places as low as possible, using a match.
6. Put your feet up – but don't forget to feed the fire as needed, with big logs.

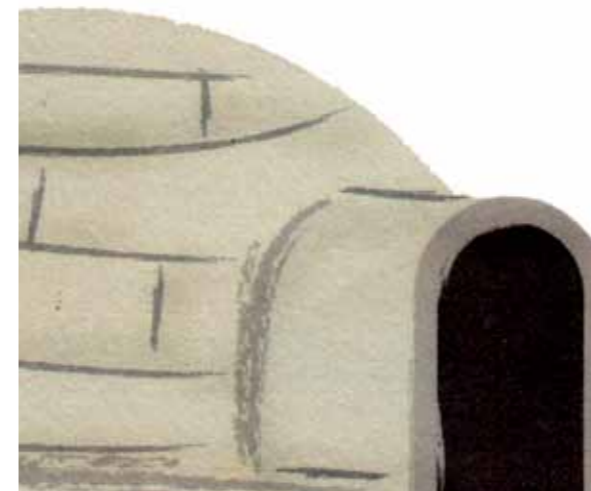


HOW TO BUILD THE PERFECT IGLOO

by Dr. Norbert Yankielun
Former researcher with the US Army Corps of Engineers Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory and author of How to Build an Igloo

The igloo is a time-proven winter shelter. Building one requires some skill, the right kind of snow – and a little bit of luck. Here's how to build one big enough for four people.

1. If you can't find tundra-style snow (dense, dry, wind-packed), then following a big snowfall, grab your shovel and create a large, dense block that's 10 feet by 10 feet, and about two-feet high.
2. Make a snow angel at the future site of your igloo.
3. Using an ordinary saw, cut the snowpack into blocks (very roughly, 2 feet x 1 foot x 1.5 feet).
4. Place the blocks around the circle formed by your snow angel, and then cut a spiral ramp into the blocks.
5. Starting at the lowest point of the ramp, place blocks all around the circle, staggering them, so the cracks between bricks don't line up. Build upwards, carving each block so the top has an inward sloping angle. Soon enough, you should have a small hole at the top of the dome. Fill that with a tapered snow block.
6. Dig out a 2 foot wide archway – your door – and a half-foot ventilation hole near the top. Voila! The frigid winds of winter can't touch you now.



DR. MARTENS BROWN 8 EYELET FUR BOOT A girl can't go wrong with these timeless boots. They're not merely durable and smart; they're also mighty warm, thanks to cosy fur lining. £85



LOWIE NORDIC FAIR ISLE MITTENS Hand-knit with super-soft wool, these bright mittens from the ethical UK fashion label Lowie are as comfy as they are cute. £46



POINTER CALUM CHESTNUT HIKING BOOT Pointer's workwear-inspired boots are as rugged as they look, so they'll not only last the winter, they'll last for years. £155



FARAH VINTAGE WORDSWORTH NAVY PEACOCK A peacoat could be no finer: This navy blue classic is double-breasted, and it comes with anchor-embossed button enclosures. £200

COME TOGETHER

Collaboration mania has taken the world by storm – and we couldn't be happier about it. After all, two heads are better than one. Here, we take a look at some of our favourite teams to rock the fashion and music worlds.



ANGLOMANIA FOR LEE

American workwear and British punk come together in this nine-piece capsule collection. Lee's classic jeans have gotten a hearty dose of colour, and a hint of the punk spirit, Westwood-style.



SHE & HIM

Zoëy Deschanel stole our hearts on the screen, and now she's doing it on stage in this sometimes-sad, sometimes-joyous collaboration with indie rock demigod M. Ward.



CLARKS ORIGINALS & PRETTY GREEN

Liam Gallagher, who wore Clarks Classics desert boots onstage for years, has put his touch on the timeless shoe, widening and rounding the toe, and lowering the heel.



REFORMED

We teamed up with Chi Bui and Yael Aflalo, of the line Love By Yaya, and the L.A. and New York boutiques The Reformation, to create this exclusive collection of vintage-inspired, playful-yet-sexy staples.



CAY TRE: THE VIETNAMESE KITCHEN There are lots of Vietnamese restaurants in the area but this one, situated by the famous Hoxton Square, is my favourite. The beef pho here is my favourite meal, bar none.
301 Old Street, 020 7729 8662
vietnamesekitchen.co.uk



THE GRIFFIN The Griffin hasn't changed in decades. It's old, decrepit, the toilets are disgusting and it's hard to tell that there is even a carpet. But it's the best pub in the world for its eccentric clientele. It's like stepping into a different time – it's a real local.
93 Leonard Street, 020 7739 6719



OLD SPITALFIELDS MARKET Spitalfields Market has been around for about 400 years, and it was redeveloped three or four years ago. I go on Thursdays for the antiques fair, which is probably the best market in London, and on the first and third Friday of each month for the record fair, where there are some fantastic second-hand vinyls.
Hornet Square, 020 7377 1496
visitspitalfields.com

EAST SIDE STORY

With Urban Outfitters set to open a new store in London's Spitalfields neighbourhood in December 2010, we headed east to scope the scene. Andy Fraser, who has lived in the area for 20-plus years, working with local bands from The Libertines to the Horrors, tells us about his favourite places in the 'hood.



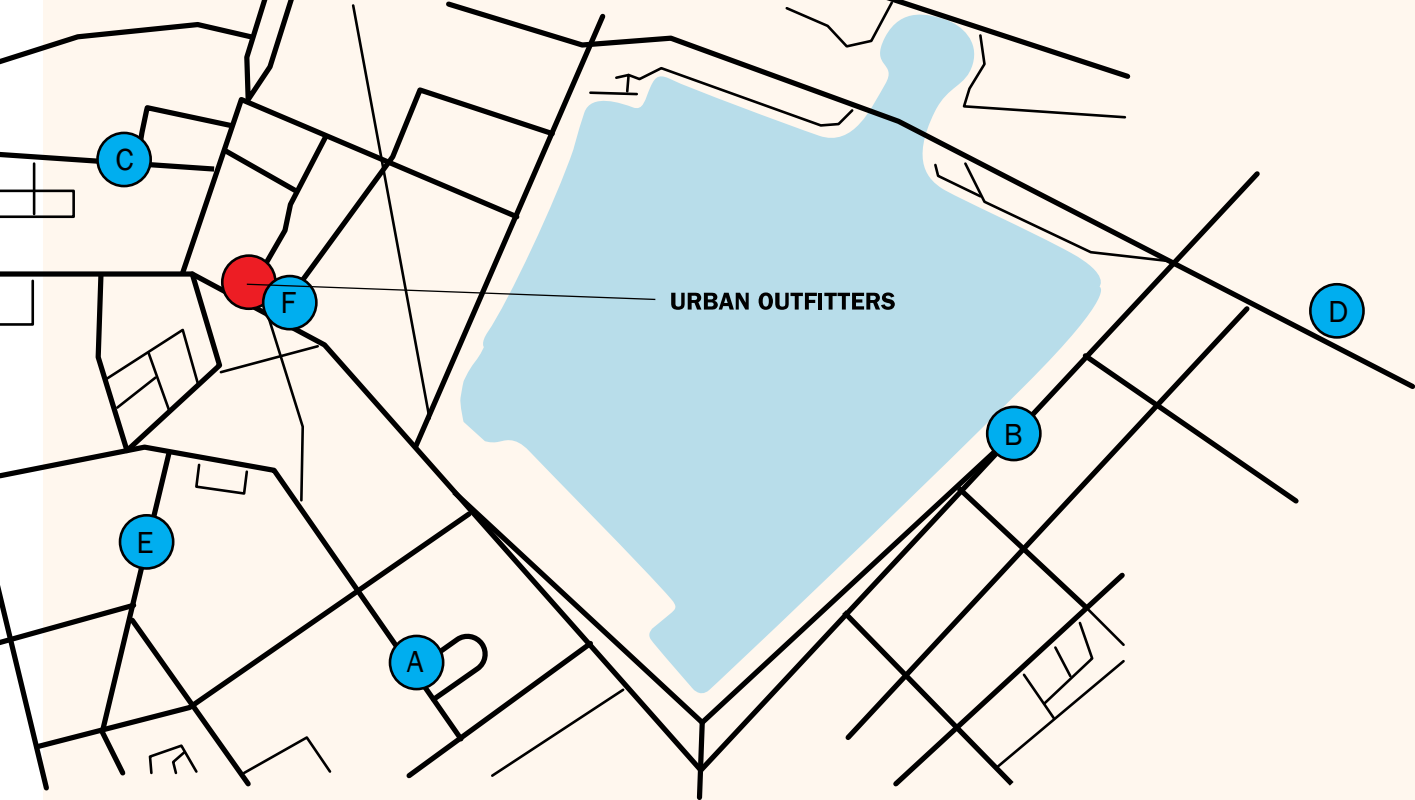
MAURICE EINHARDT NEU GALLERY Since I've been in this neighbourhood, Redchurch Street is where I've seen the most change. This building – formerly the home of HQ studios, where everyone from Babyshambles to Cazals recorded albums – is one of the few on the street that hasn't changed. Now, the space is a gallery, showcasing experimental works by East London's hottest young talent.
30a Redchurch Street, 020 7729 7948
neugalleries.com



STRONGROOM COURTYARD The Strongroom is a well-known recording studio, used by far too many artists to mention. The large courtyard is a hidden treasure, and the vegetarian and full English breakfasts are the best – and they're cheap.
120 Curtain Road, 020 7426 5100
strongroom.com



WESTLAND ARCHITECTURAL SALVAGE Set in a beautiful old church, Westland is a haven for the architecturally weird and wonderful, from huge fireplaces to original telephone boxes. Plus, the building looks out onto one of the greenest and most peaceful spaces in the area. St. Michael's Church
Leonard Street, 020 3411 9848
westlandlondon.com



GOING DEUTSCH

From pulse-boosting espresso bars to elegant cocktail lounges, envelope-pushing global cuisine to edgy design hotels, Hamburg is a young, energetic city on the rise. Here, a look at our favourite places near the Binnentaler (the smaller of the city's two man-made lakes), a bustling area that's also home to Urban Outfitters' first store in Germany.



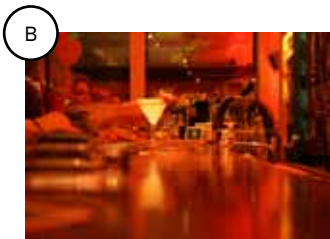
A

FUEL: THE COFFEE SHOP At this coffee-crazy café, Björn Dietrich – officially, Germany's second best barista – stakes his reputation on his nutty, slightly chocolaty espresso bean, made from a blend of six kinds of Arabica.
 Poststraße 6a, 20354
 Hamburg, 040 3571 5112
the-coffee-shop.de



D

ROOM: HAMBURGER KUNSTHALLE The Kunsthalle museum's collection ranges from 14th century Italian oil-on-canvas to contemporary video art. It's also home to works by such masters as Cézanne, Gauguin and Picasso.
 Glockengießerwall, 20095
 Hamburg, 040 4281 31200
hamburger-kunsthalle.de



B

DRINK: CIU DIE BAR Cosy up in cushy leather banquettes at Ciu Die Bar, where inventive, expertly mixed cocktails and of-the-moment DJs lubricate the transition from polite head-bopping to rowdy dancing.
 Ballindamm 15, 20095
 Hamburg, 040 3252 6060
ciudiebar.de



E

DINE: DIE BANK Hohe Bleichen 17, 20354
 Hamburg, 040 238 0030
diebank-brasserie.de



C

SLEEP: SIDE HOTEL Modern design meets classic comfort at the Side, a boutique 178-room hotel distinguished by its colourful, geometric Matteo Thun-designed furniture, dark wood panelling and light-filled atria. Drehbahn 49, D-20354
 Hamburg, 040 309 990
side-hamburg.de



F

LUNCH: CASSE CROUTE This lively open kitchen offers a menu that's as eclectic as its clientele. At lunch, opera singers chow down on tuna sashimi, businessmen close deals over gazpacho and not-so-starving artists indulge in foie gras parfait.
 Büschstraße 2, 20354
 Hamburg, 040 343 373
cassecroute.de