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Victoria's Secret model Ana Beatriz Barros photographed by Bob Willmann



SPECIAL REPORT

Angola's Ashes  
By Martin Deeson

David Bowie  
Monogamy  
music and the  
meaning of life

Hotlist

DECEMBER 2003



HERMAN MILLER MIRRA

Once the benchmark of corporate success, the nimety of Herman Miller chairs going for bargain prices on eBay has since made them indicators of commercial demise. But this looks set to change with the company's new Mirra chair. A hit at this autumn's 100% Design event, the Mirra sports a revolutionary lattice support that moulds to the spine and a tilt mechanism that eases pressure on the joints. It looks damn fine, too. Buy, buy, buy! Visit: [www.hermanmiller.com](http://www.hermanmiller.com)

ART\*O\*MAT

Despite the smoking ban in New York, vintage cigarette machines are appearing in coffee shops, art museums and other boho-minded spots. But with Art\*o\*mat, the big idea of artist Clark Whittington, you drop in your five bucks and a specially commissioned, fag-packet-sized artwork slides out. There are already 49 machines in the USA, with the UK and Sweden next on the list. Visit: [www.artomat.org](http://www.artomat.org)



TUESDAY NIGHTS AT FUNKY BUDDHA

For the discerning midweek debaucher, Mayfair's Funky Buddha is the place to be. With its Eastern-tinged décor, great cocktails and soul and R'n'B soundtrack, this venue is a haven for hedonists about town. And if it's the prospect of Wednesday morning that scares you, there's always RU-21 (see below).

15 Berkeley Street, London W1. Tel: 020-7495 2596.



DR ROMANELLI

We're intrigued but excited by this new clothing range from Dr Romanelli, a collaboration between Nike and Italian fashion brand Romanelli. Retailing exclusively through top London boutique Browns, the line consists of retro Nike tracksuit tops and garishly coloured bomber jackets lined with leather in various shades of cream and brown. We're calling it the "Cyber Casual" look, though in fairness, clothes this outrageous are best worn away from the terraces. Pull it off if you dare. Browns, 23 South Molton St, London W1. Tel: 020-7514 0000.

PRAISING PAUL BETTANY

He's the British actor (right, with wife Jennifer Connelly) currently rocking the Hollywood boat with bravura performances in Peter Weir's awesome *Master And Commander* with Russell Crowe (out later this month); Lars von Trier's controversy-courting *Dogville*, with Nicole Kidman (out next year); and Working Title's *Wimbledon*, with Kirsten Dunst (out next spring). At last his time has come, and deservedly so.



RU-21

This little white anti-hangover pill, first formulated by the KGB to counteract the after-effects of heavy drinking for its vodka-soaked spies, is taking the USA by storm. A mix of vitamin C, carbohydrates and amino acids, it stops the body from producing the enzyme that turns alcohol into acetaldehyde (the stuff which makes your head feel like a punchbag). You might think you've heard it all before, but please, trust us on this one: it really, really works. Visit: [www.ru-21.com](http://www.ru-21.com)

CHRISTMAS SONGS

It's a travesty that an art form so pure and perfect as the Christmas single has been defiled for so many years. For every "I Wish It Could Be Christmas Every Day" we've been forced to endure a multitude of Cliff Richard abominations. So it's with much festive cheer that we look forward to the Darkness' December release, the brilliantly titled "(Christmas Time) Don't Let The Bells End". If it doesn't make the Number One slot come the 25th, we're boycotting the whole thing.

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