

Designer works fast in Oscar flurry

NEW YORK (AP) — The week before a major Hollywood awards show means a week of nonstop work for fashion designer Pamela Dennis.

She flies to Los Angeles from her Manhattan office armed with her most recent collection of evening wear and a dozen exclusive gowns reserved for A-list stars.

Dennis sets up shop in a hotel, meeting with actresses, stylists and publicists — all of whom will have an opinion on which dress will look best.

Then comes the wait. Nominees and presenters often don't decide on an outfit until the day of an event, leaving Dennis wondering until the last minute whether any of her designs will make it to the red carpet. That's why Dennis — and other designers — won't reveal the names of the stars who are considering their gowns.

"The awards are such hard work,"

said Dennis during a recent interview at her show room. "I do it because I want to help match a person's personality to what she is wearing to have her stand out as herself."

One of her all-time favorite outfits was selected by "Ally McBeal" star Calista Flockhart for last year's Golden Globe Awards. Flockhart wore her black shell top and a white trumpet skirt.

"The day she had decided to wear that skirt — I didn't even know she was going to wear it — I had called Barneys and asked if they had a black cashmere shawl to send over to the Bel-Air Hotel. I didn't want her to get cold.

"When she showed up on the red carpet — and I wasn't even there, I was in New Jersey at my home — I was shocked. That was the best."

Dennis said her relationship with her clients — who include Jamie Lee

Curtis, Liv Tyler and Joan Rivers — fuels her desire to create a line of elegant and eye-catching gowns.

She does not do it for her own celebrity.

"I want to be a complement to the star — or a condiment. That little thing on the side that makes the meal," she said.

Dennis reserves most of the sexy beaded gowns for her customers.

Her own daily uniform is black leather jeans with a black jersey button-down shirt.

When she is feeling daring, she adds a little charcoal gray to her palette, and when her "belly is behaving," she might swap her shirt for a cropped top.

That's as wild as it gets — although a little crocodile-skin top she paired with a stretch skirt helped land her a booth at a trendy Paris restaurant recently.

"I'm pretty minimalistic," the 38-

year-old designer said. "Color actually looks better on me, but I'm basically a shy person."

The inspiration for her latest collection, filled with metallic fabrics, leather, suede and beaded studs, came from her teen-age nephew, who is a fan of heavy-metal music.

"I like having to look at something twice. You know when someone walks into a room, and you're not sure what it is. You say, 'Is it or isn't it?' I like that second look."

For this year's Oscars, stylists and actresses are clamoring for bright red gowns, which are not part of her new collection. Her latest designs are mostly brown, green and black, so she is sending dresses in shades of cinnamon and brick.

"I listen to my customers with one ear, and I hear what I want with the other, and then I mesh the two together," she said.

Dennis said the public has become interested in celebrity fashion because people enjoy watching the stars step out of the car looking their best and having dozens of flashbulbs go off.

"We're all so visual. We're all so fixated on what we see, and Hollywood still is a fantasy. It's 'I want to be her' — Cinderella walking down the red carpet, Grace Kelly stepping out of the car," the designer said.

She favors simple, modern shapes, particularly in black, and says gold is more flattering than platinum, which is very popular. Dennis would also like to see more stars wear a nude color, which she describes as feminine with an edge.

What are her Oscar fashion predictions?

"We probably won't see black, and we won't see simple. And we'll see platinum."

Internet group buys largest publisher of gay magazines in U.S.

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Internet portal PlanetOut, which caters to gays and lesbians, announced on Wednesday it was acquiring Liberation Publications, the largest publisher of gay and lesbian periodicals and books in the country.

Liberation Publications Inc. produces the Advocate news magazine and will soon own Out lifestyle magazine.

Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

"You can characterize it as the

"We want people to move their feet."

Steve McLane
Blue Riddim's drummer

AOL-Time Warner in the gay space," said Megan J. Smith, chief executive of PlanetOut.

Her five-year-old company operates the Web site www.planetout.com

along with an online radio and film service. It also sponsors PlanetOut TV, which airs on the site and on Canadian television.

In 1996, the San Francisco-based

site became the first gay-oriented enterprise to secure venture capital funding. The company has since established partnerships with AOL, Netscape, Yahoo! and other major Web companies. And it has advertising agreements with Arista Records, Virgin Atlantic Airways and Johnson & Johnson.

Liberation Publications is based in Los Angeles. It announced Feb. 21 that it would acquire New York-based Out Publishing Inc., the publisher of Out magazine.

The Advocate, a 33-year-old biweekly with a circulation of about 88,000, concentrates on news, politics, business and medical information. Out, a monthly launched in 1992, has a circulation of 115,000 and focuses on culture, entertainment, fitness and other topics.

The gay market is considered prime for Internet players because a high percentage of gays and lesbians use the Internet and because the Internet provides a level of anonymity.

WEEKEND PREVIEW

The following is a brief list of events this weekend. For more information, call the venue.

CONCERTS:

Duffy's Tavern, 1412 O St.
(402) 474-3543
Sunday: The Black Dahlias, 13 County

Duggan's Pub, 440 S. 11th St.
(477-3513)
Friday and Saturday: Lil' Darlin'

First Plymouth, 20th and D streets
(402) 476-9933
Sunday: "Ring in the New"

Kimball Hall, 11th and R streets
(402) 472-4747
Sunday: Scott Anderson, trombone

Knickerbocker's, 901 O St.
(402) 476-6865
Friday: Crush the Clown, Squidboy
Saturday: The Aaron Zimmer, Band
Ralph Brown Five

Lied Center for Performing Arts, 310 N. 12th St.
(402) 472-4747
Saturday: Harry Belafonte

O'Donnell Auditorium, 50th and Huntington streets
(402) 465-2319
Friday: Touch of Class Swing Choir Concert

Royal Grove, 340 W. Cornhusker Highway
(402) 474-2332
Friday: WASP
Saturday: Blue Riddim
Sunday: Seven Dust

The Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
(402) 435-8754
Friday: Lightnin' Boy Malcom
Saturday: Shawn Pittman

THEATER:
Lincoln Community Playhouse, 2500 S. 56th St.
(402) 489-7529

All weekend: "Children of Eden"

Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater, 12th and R streets
(402) 472-2461
Friday and Saturday: "Topsy-Turvy"
Sunday: Eternity and a Day"

Star City Dinner Theatre, Eighth and Q streets
(402) 477-8277
All weekend: "Driving Miss Daisy"

Studio Theatre, third floor of the Temple Building, 12th and R streets
(402) 472-20736
Friday and Saturday: "Match Play"

GALLERIES:
Burkholder Project, 719 P St.
(402) 477-3305
All weekend: John Nollendorfs, Avery Woods, Richard Terrell

Haydon Gallery, 335 N. Eighth St.
(402) 475-5421
All weekend: Nancy Palmeri

Noyes Gallery, 119 S. Ninth St.
(402) 475-1061

All weekend: Nebraska Mothers Association Annual Creative Arts Exhibition, Tony Guido, Jeanette Nakada

Rotunda Gallery, Nebraska Union, 14th and R streets
(402) 472-2631
All weekend: Undergraduate Studio Art Survey Exhibition

The Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, 12th and R streets
(402) 472-2461
All weekend: "Visions of the Prairie," "Parallel Perspectives: Early 20th Century American Art," Josef Albers: "Elements of Art"

The Venue, 1247 S. 11th St.
(402) 475-8368
All weekend: "Taste of Kansas City:" Barb Wishnow Jacobs, Jane Booth, Tera Dawley

Friday, March 24, 2000

(402) 472-2588
FAX: (402) 472-1761
dn@unl.edu

CLASSIFIEDS

\$5.25/15 words
\$3.50/15 words
(students)
\$0.15 each
additional word
\$0.75 billing

200s For sale



205 Bicycles For Sale

Diamond Back Axis Mountain Bike. XT Component. \$150. 438-4779.

213 Clothing For Sale

Never-worn designer, silver, satin, sleeveless, floor-length gown with matching shawl. Size 11/12. \$175. Pair 7-1/2 dyeable satin pump shoes. 489-0203. Leave message.

270 Ticket Exchange

Ruff Ryders
Cash Money Tour. Do you want to see DMX, Juvenile, Lox, Little Wayne & more? Must sell 6 tickets for Sundays show in K.C. Floor seating, great view Paid \$303 for all 6, \$50 per ticket. 475-7033.

300s Services



300 Adoption

Adopt- Bob and Marilyn would love to adopt a baby. Now that you have made the thoughtful and brave decision, we can help. This loving couple can give your child a bright future. Please call. Expenses paid. 1-888-568-5443.

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370 Misc. Services

For all your insurance needs: auto, home, health, life and business, call Jim Wallace at American Family Insurance, 1340 L St., Lincoln, NE 68508 or call 402-474-5077.

378 Pregnancy

Free Pregnancy Test
Birthright is a confidential helping hand. Please call for appointment or more information, 483-2609. Check out our website www.birthright.org.

400s Housing



400 Roommates

1 M/F roommate needed for super nice apartment. 5 minute drive to campus. \$275/month. 435-3359.
Female roommate needed to share new 3BR apartment. Close to campus. Washer/dryer included. \$250+ 1/3 utilities. Call 438-9763.

Great Location

Roommate needed by April or May to share house in South Lincoln near Holmes Lake. Call Andy at 228-1219 or cell at 657-9655.

NEEDED JUNE 1. House near 22nd and Holdrege.

NEEDED JUNE 1. House near 22nd and Holdrege. \$234/month + utilities, 1 cat. 438-7697.
Responsible M/F needed for 2 bedroom apartment with balcony and security access. \$240/month + utilities. 475-0987.
Roommate needed May-July to share a large 4BR, 2 bath house with 3 females. \$215/month + 1/4 utilities. Call 325-0296.

430 Houses For Rent

3 and 4 bedroom houses close to campus. 432-6644.
621 N. 24th. Close to campus, 4/5BR, \$800/900. Off-street parking, washer/dryer, A/C, hardwood floor, UNL shuttle. Available May, 742-5122.
621 N. 24th. Close to campus, 4/5BR, \$800/900. Off-street parking, washer/dryer, A/C, hardwood floor, UNL shuttle. Available May, 742-5122.

1535 North 28th. 2 bedroom complete remodeled like new, covered porch, dishwasher, washer/dryer, central air, parking \$508. Call 466-5626 or 423-7356.

• 2611 R Street, large 4 bedroom, DW, AC, available 5/1, \$795.
• 633 N. 26th. 5 large bedrooms plus loft, 2 bath, C/A, washer/dryer. Off-street parking, nice. \$1150. 8/1
440-8446, 440-2248.

April 1 availability, 2BR, newly decorated. Central air, all new appliances, close to campuses, off-street parking. \$575 range, garbage and water paid. 489-5358, messages returned immediately.
Great houses available in August, close to UNL, 432-0644.

♦ 1246 Court, 4BR, \$800 ♦ 804 Y, 3BR, \$700

Great houses close to UNL, available in May or earlier. 432-0644:
• 726 Y, 3BR, \$650
• 2301 Vine, 3BR, \$700
• 2200 Dudley, 4BR, \$800
• 1438 N. 21, 4BR, \$800
• 1425 N. 23, 4BR, \$850
• 1541 N. 26, 5BR, \$900
• 1426 N. 23, 5BR, \$950

430 Houses For Rent

3BR, Belmont area, close to campus, \$725/month + utilities + deposit. No pets. Call 402/436-3174.

We Love Students!

Great 3, 4, 5, and 6 bedroom homes near UNL. A/C, washers, dryers, dishwashers. Reserve for summer or fall now, and relax! 423-1535.

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