

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

08.27.10

FS2 FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 2010

FASHION & STYLE

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Discoveries: Bargains, sales & specials

By Susan Felt
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Labor Day approaches and I think wool. I know it's impractical given my location here in the desert, where wool is not really wearable until December. But there's an internal fashion clock in my Midwestern DNA that starts clamoring for soft, thick sheep fiber in the form of cardigans, plaid pleated skirts and well-cut navy blue blazers around this time every year.

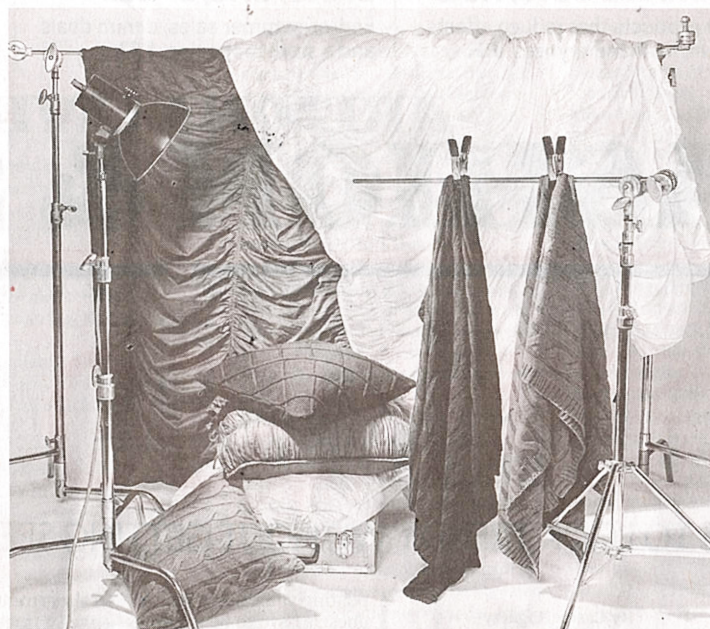
Not to mention that there already are pieces from the fall collections making their way into some stores and onto the covers of fashion magazines.

This fall, the clothes seem right out of the back-to-school (school being college) wardrobe I'd always coveted: muted plaids, camelhair coats, cashmere sweaters and tall, tall leather boots. It appears designers are returning to, if not my adolescence, at least my young adulthood, with the wide-leg pants, high waistlines and shirtdresses.

In a few weeks, we'll preview those fall looks, which we've taken from the runway and designed for your real life.

But for this Labor Day, the wool has to stay in the storage chest — and the magazine pages — because lightweight cotton is all I can stand.

Which leads me to sales. Retailers continue to offer slashed prices on those dresses, capris, tanks, skirts and pants that we can wear when there's no break in the weather despite what the calendar signals.



Last summer sale at My Sister's Closet

My Sister's Closet's last summer sales day is from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. today. During that time slot, all items are 70 percent off already discounted prices. The last-gasp sale clears out items for Saturday's unveiling of fall merchandise. The consignment store, which features gently used designer clothing, shoes, purses and accessories for a fraction of the original price, has four Valley locations.

Details: mysisterscloset.com.

Denim discounts at Urban Outfitters

BDG jeans are on sale at Urban Outfitters for \$39 (regularly \$58 to \$64). The discounted jeans include such styles as high-rise and cigarette and such shades as gray and vintage denim. The stores also have clearance prices on summer outfits.

Details: Scottsdale Waterfront, 7135 E. Camelback Road, 480-292-9485; 545 S. Mill Ave., Tempe, 480-966-7250. urbanoutfitters.com.

Z Gallerie reopens

Z Gallerie is re-opening its store at Scottsdale Fashion Square in its previous location on the Food Court level Saturday, with a ribbon cutting at 9:45 a.m. The first 100 customers who make a purchase of \$50 or more will receive a \$10 gift certificate redeemable on a future visit. It's the perfect excuse to explore Z Gallerie's decor items, including furniture, art, pillows, dinnerware, bedding and more.

Details: Z Gallerie, Scottsdale Fashion Square, Camelback and Scottsdale roads. 480-947-1277, zgallerie.com.

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