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RETAIL REVELRY!

The Design District raises the stakes on its tenant list.

The biggest news when it comes to retail this holiday season is big, indeed. Two of fashion's top brands will open new stores in the Design District (miamidesigndistrict.net) toward the end of the month (just in time to coincide with Art Basel) that will further solidify Miami's reputation as a style capital. Chanel will open its doors at Paradise Plaza with a boutique designed by Peter Marino, while Louis Vuitton will debut a men-only concept in the neighborhood. More details to come in next month's Art Issue. —LRR





NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

CocoWalk amps up its retail component.

Coconut Grove residents don't have to travel far on their holiday shopping excursions this season. The tenant list at the new CocoWalk keeps growing with brands for just about every kind of gift recipient. Among the retailers worth checking out are Edward Beiner for luxury eyewear, Europann for men's ready-to-wear, Bluemercury for all beauty and grooming needs, Gas Bijoux for handmade French jewelry pieces and accessories, and Edite Mode for women's clothing. As far as fitness apparel, yoga-inspired activewear and pumped-up kicks go, one can't go wrong with the selections at Sportive and FP Movement. And for the bon vivant on your list? Try Coco for exclusive cigar labels and cigar club subscriptions. 3015 Grand Ave., Coconut Grove, 305-444-0777, occoualk.com – LRR

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FRENCH DIALOGUE

Hermès starts a buzz at Aventura Mall.

According to company literature, Hermès seeks to develop "a conversation" with each new store it opens. With its new location at Aventura Mall (its fourth in Florida), the brand seems to be saying that Miami is just where it wants to be. Featuring design by RDAI, the shop's look fuses the vibe of South Beach with Hermès' French spirit. That means

unexpected curves, sculpted spaces and other touches that nod to the sea. Customers enter the store through an undulating glass facade meant to evoke waves and soon encounter vibrant pink terrazzo flooring that softens as they venture forward. All these visual surprises provide an apt backdrop for the label's treasures. Silks come first, followed by leather and equestrian goods; then come ready-to-wear spaces for men and women, as well as various salons for fashion jewelry, perfumes, beauty and home. That's as enchanting as sartorial discovery gets. 19501 Biscayne Blvd., Aventura, 551.213.2740, hermes.com -LRR



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