

WHITNEY HOUSTON

SPECIAL INVESTIGATION *The LONG, SAD ROAD TO ROOM 434* By Mark Seal p.148

# VANITY FAIR

NO 622

{ YOUNG OBAMA *in LOVE* }  
A Girlfriend's Secret Diary  
By DAVID MARANISS p.140

"Never think you've seen the last of anything."  
—EUDORA WELTY

50 Years After Her Death

# Marilyn

INSIDE: *The LOST NUDES*

EXCLUSIVE Outtakes from Her Last On-Set Photo Shoot By LAWRENCE SCHILLER p.128

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{ The WORLD'S Most EXPENSIVE HOUSE By JAMES REGINATO p.158 }

June 2012

Anthias fish  
around a reef. Inset,  
La Mer's World  
Oceans Day Crème.



## Making Waves

The reason for **Crème de la Mer's** cult following: its "Miracle Broth"—made up of sea kelp, vitamins, and minerals—which replenishes and literally transforms skin. If your face has soaked up every last bit, now is the perfect time to re-stock. In celebration of World Oceans Day's 20th anniversary, June 8, La Mer and ocean-advocacy organization **Oceana** have kicked off a global-awareness initiative that includes a limited-edition aquatic-themed World Oceans Day Crème. To date, La Mer has contributed \$1.2 million to Oceana, and it will donate \$200,000 more this month to support the Habitat Protection Campaign. La Mer's founder, the late Dr. Max Huber, was passionate about the sea, and it is fitting that the brand campaigns to preserve the oceans' bountiful resources for future generations—much as its products aim to protect and nourish our skin. (\$395; [lamer.com](http://lamer.com))—LYNDEN VOLPE



## Hot Looks

- 1. Guerlain by Emilio Pucci** *Météorites Perles d'Azur*, \$58, and *Collector's Brush*, \$38, [saks.com](http://saks.com).
- 2. Viktor&Rolf** *Spicebomb Eau de Toilette*, \$75, [nordstrom.com](http://nordstrom.com).
- 3. Jason Wu** *Orchid Rain Candle by Nest Fragrances*, \$48, [neimanmarcus.com](http://neimanmarcus.com).
- 4. Urban Decay** *Eyeshadow*, \$18 each, [urbandecay.com](http://urbandecay.com).
- 5. Givenchy** *Croisière Healthy Glow Powder*, \$50, [sephora.com](http://sephora.com).
- 6. Face Stockholm for J. Crew** *Lipstick*, \$17.50, [jcrew.com](http://jcrew.com).

—BRAMBLE TRIONFO



Drybar at Underground in the Le Parker Méridien.

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## OPULENT SCENTS

To create the first stand-alone fragrance for New York's beloved olfactory boutique **Aedes de Venustas**, proprietor **Robert Gerstner** said, he and partner **Karl Bradl**, along with perfumer **Bertrand Duchaufour**, followed a simple credo: "No limitations." The result, **Aedes de Venustas Signature Eau de Parfum**—also available as candle and soap—is robust and vibrant with, Gerstner says, a "constantly changing" unisex aroma that surpasses any single ingredient's scent, whether Madagascan vetiver, tomato leaf, or incense. The perfume's green, rhubarb core emanates throughout its lighter and heavier notes, paying no heed to the traditional top-base-bottom fragrance pyramid. Even the crimson-tinted glass bottle's packaging—a burgundy velvet box inspired by a swatch of fabric cut from the store—was chosen to connote the boutique's feeling of indulgent opulence. (\$225; [aedes.com](http://aedes.com)) —ANTHONY ROTUNNO



The front counter at Aedes de Venustas.



Aedes de Venustas Signature Eau de Parfum and candle.