Data Ottobre 2015 Pag.52





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ELEMENTS OF STYLE

A Stand on Ceremony

usually call for a tuxedo-that's why they call them black-tie occasions—but Pal Zileri (palzileri.com) suggests an alternative to the traditional tux: a single-breasted silk dinner suit (\$2,995, including the pants) worn over a superfine merino-wool turtleneck (\$295). "We created a clean, cool look with evening-wear jackets and turtlenecks," says Mauro Ravizza Krieger, the brand's new creative director. He says the look was inspired by Halston, his former employer, who donned a white or black turtleneck and sleek jacket for nearly every occasion. Krieger has been instrumental in transforming Pal Zileri; the 45-year-old brand had been known for its classic menswear, but it has become a source for more stylish yet still exceptionally tailored suits and sportswear. —JILL NEWMAN

Sartorial Electives



HE LATEST FASHION house to add made-tomeasure clothing to its offerings is Prada (prada .com). The program includes more than 300 fabric options for suits and jackets, 230 materials for shirts, and 30 fabrics for overcoats. The process begins in a Prada store's VIP room, where a tailor, before taking your measurements, helps you select the suit, jacket, or shirt model; the fabric; and the details. It takes about four weeks for delivery of a shirt (\$700 to \$2,000) and as long as five weeks for a jacket or suit (\$3,500 to \$28,000 for a suit). —J.N.



TO TIE FOR

ALTHOUGH NOT WELL known in the United States, Italy's Bigi Cravatte Milano (bigicravatte.it) has been producing some of the finest handmade ties since 1938. Founded by Luigi Draghi, the company today is run by his grandchildren Stefano and Paola Bigi, who oversee the production of every necktie-from the selection of premium Italian and English fabrics and exclusive prints to the hand-cut and hand-sewn manufacturing in their small workshop. In the States, the widest selection of the brand's neckties is available at Barneys New York (barneys.com). Each of the ties shown here is priced at \$165. -J.N.

A Leather Advantage

HE NEW FALL collection from the Italian leather and luxury-fabric outerwear brand Mandelli (mandelli-milano.it) is available at Barneys New York (barneys .com). The collection includes the double-faced cashmere car coat shown here. The pieces are priced from \$2,000 to \$5,000 and also include outerwear made from calfskin, deerskin, crocodile, and shearling. Many of the coats are lined with cashmere, and some have fur trim. The company is run by Andrea Maria Mandelli. He is a great-grandchild of the brand's founder, Enrico Mandelli, a former shoe-leather merchant whose son expanded the brand by

