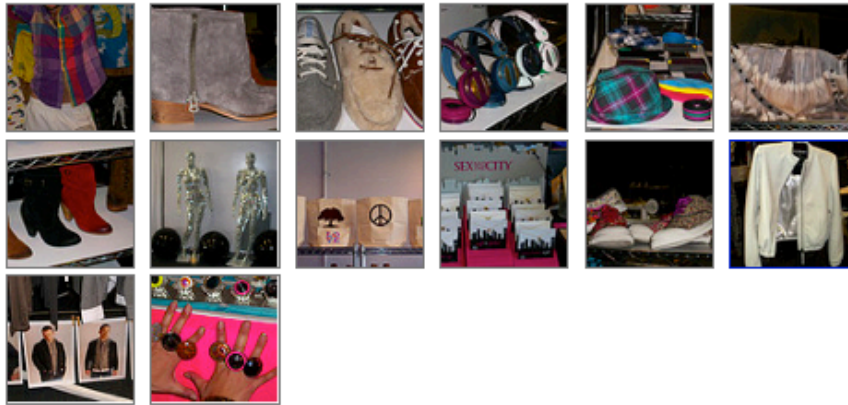


CLASS Schools Us on the Next Big Things

Tuesday, March 2, 2010, by Lisa Boosin



Perforated white leather jacket from 3rd and Army



This past weekend's **CLASS Trade Show** brought together contemporary clothing lines with retail buyers; and secondarily, journos and bloggers who were invited to take a peek at/drool over the offerings. Most of the lines were pushing their offerings for fall, which seemed appropriate, given Saturday's torrential downpours. Like **Rock & Republic's** moody, broody, dark and dramatic jeans, leggings, jeggins (yup) and jackets; and **Mark Nason's** tall boots. For us, it was an exciting opportunity to see the latest from up and coming, or brand-new brands: we were wowed by playful looks by LA-based **3rd and Army**, sophisticated but urban menswear from **Loft 604**; the cool rebirth of **Zodiac** boots...and just what the hell does one say about **RVCA X Cobra Snake**? We got news from old friends—much to our chagrin, **ARKA** isn't going into ladies' wear just yet, but they will be expanding their offerings for men; **Dogearred** are about to release a new line in conjunction with a big, freaking huge movie that we can't talk about yet; the ladies' line from **Creative Recreation** looks as good in real life as it does in photos. In the coming weeks, we'll feature looks (and giveaways) from a few of the standouts, but in the meantime, the