

style



snaps

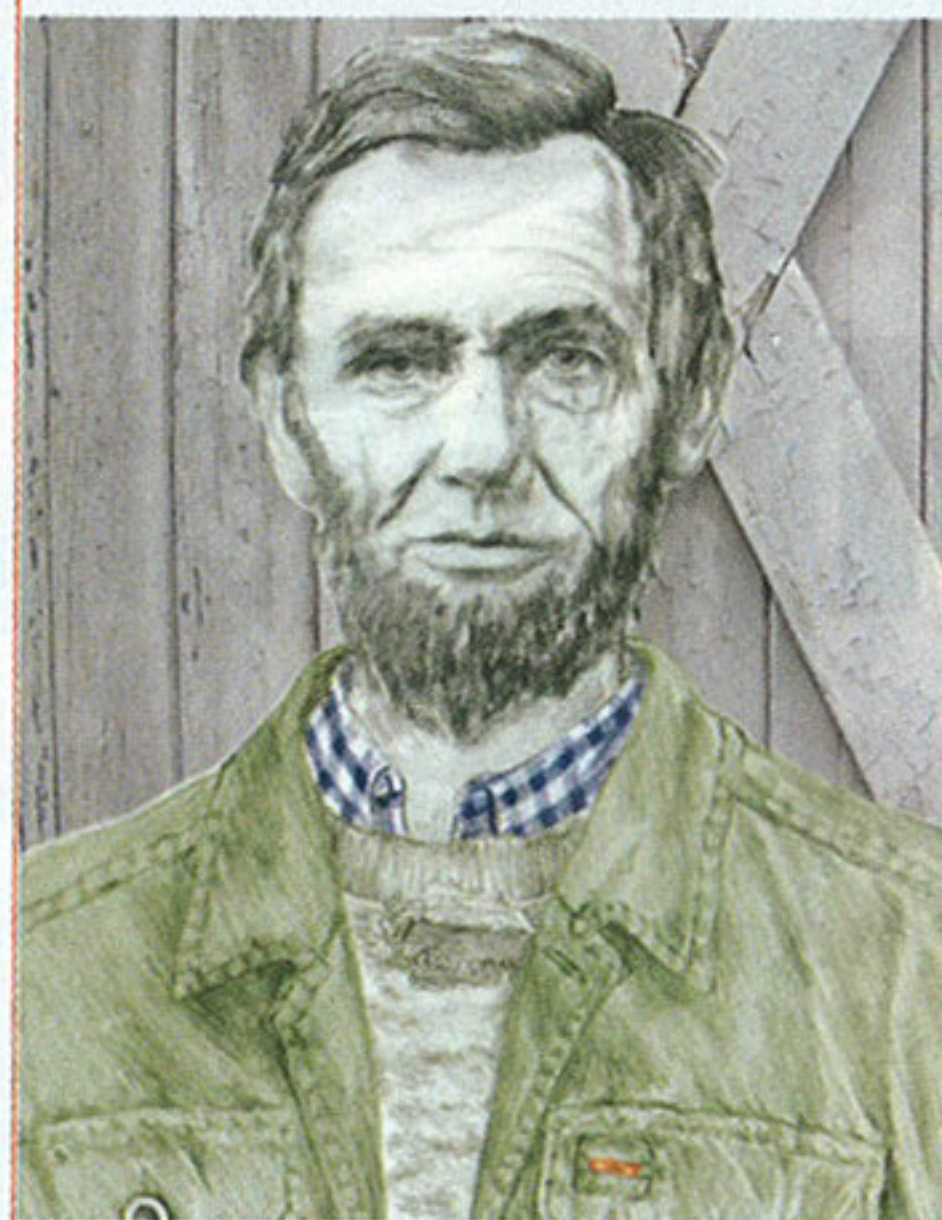
HISTORY BOYS

Japanese designer Daisuke Obana, who launched his Americana-inspired label N. Hoolywood in 2000, has a rabid cult following in Japan—and at long last, we Americans can obsess as well. Obana strips down and deconstructs the influences of bygone eras until he reaches a final product that is strangely familiar, but totally fresh. For fall, a collection that marked Obana's New York Fashion Week debut, the designer transported us to Yosemite National Park circa the early 1900s with a line-up inspired by the classic mountain gear of Half Dome adventurers captured by Ansel Adams—wind-chaffed make-up, pickaxes and wool melton coats included. N. Hoolywood's spring collection (at right) is available at Barneys. **LUIGI TADINI**



NEW CLASSIC

After 150 years of producing fine quality classic men's underwear and polo shirts in the UK, the Sunspel Company (which continues to make their famous cotton and cashmere blend apparel in Derbyshire, England) has captured the hearts of heritage-loving hipsters. The company recently appointed the 27-year-old Irish menswear designer J.W. Anderson to take over as creative director of the brand and with this has come his wonderful new chic take on classics for men, and now, for the first time, a collection for women. Both lines are available at sunspel.com. **M.V.**



PENNY WISE

Friends from their days working at indie SoCal surf brand, Modern Amusement, John Moore and Michael Abbey conceived their line Penny Stock in 2009. The Culver City-based duo set out to create a premium menswear line that was sharp and affordable. (Prices range from \$34 to \$150.) The newborn brand found its inspiration in the simplicity of the penny loafer and the penniless fashions of the Great Depression. For their sophomore collection they revisited yet another turbulent era in our history: The Vietnam War. The "battle-break" casual wear of the soldiers was the underlining theme behind a line-up of chambray shirts, loose fitting tanks, short sleeved button-downs and signature cotton-blend shorts. **L.T.**

FOREVER YOUNG



KOREAN-BORN, FRENCH-RAISED DESIGNER **RAPHAEL YOUNG** DEVELOPED A FASCINATION FOR FOOTWEAR WHILE VISITING WITH HIS UNCLE, YVES SAINT LAURENT'S ACCLAIMED BOOTMAKER ALEXANDRE NARCY. NARCY, TAUGHT YOUNG TO MAKE HIS FIRST PAIR OF SHOES AT AGE 14, AND THE 37-YEAR-OLD DESIGNER HASN'T SLOWED DOWN SINCE. AFTER WORKING WITH HIS UNCLE AT YSL, YOUNG LAUNCHED HIS FIRST COLLECTION IN 2007 EVENTUALLY OPENING HIS FIRST PARIS SHOP LAST YEAR. THIS INNOVATIVE, EXTRAVAGANT, AVANT-GARDE COBBLER IS MAKING HIS MARK. HIS SHOES ARE AVAILABLE IN NEW YORK AT SEVEN AND AT BEIGE IN LOS ANGELES. *Martha Violante*

MATERIAL GIRL

Brooklyn-based jewelry designer Heather Kosch operates in an intersection somewhere between fashion and high art. For her latest collaboration with Sophie Buhai and Lisa Mayock's line Vena Cava, Kosch employed her trademark use of unlikely materials such as triple layered plexiglass, copper and exotic woods to create spectacularly colorful bangles and angular talisman necklaces that beg for an accessory pile-on. Kosch, 30, who is no stranger to a collaboration (having worked with fashion greats like Costello Tagliapietra and Julian Louie), is now switching gears to focus her energy on expanding her independent line. Her Vena Cava baubles are currently available at Project No. 8 in New York. **L.T.**

