

PLURIMUS

WORDS: PAUL DEZENTJE



The Bolognese brand Plurimus is all about functional outerwear, using technical fabrics and details, presented in modular sets rather than collections. Born and bred in Bologna, founder Fabio Cavina produces his collections in his native Italy in small volumes. Though he formerly collaborated with others on brands such as Nemen and 12thMan, this new venture is more like his private playground; "I am a one-man brand."

The concept of sets allows Plurimus to break away from industry expectations about collections and seasonal deadlines. Cavina makes what he believes is right, and will give their customers a head's up as soon as it's done. The first set, NO_S01, which stands for "number set" as well as "no season," consisted of a full outfit, including a bag. The second set comprised a range of parkas with an obvious military touch. The current Plurimus set SO_03 consists of a hooded jacket in waxed cotton and a reversible multi-pocket reflective vest. All items are interactive—you can wear them in several ways, separate or together. The

waxed cotton has been dyed in unusual colors, is both water- and wind-proof, and breaks in like denim. Cavina: "A reflective piece shows how functionality adds charisma to casual clothing." It was Massimo Osti who created the first completely reflective jacket in 1991, for Stone Island. "Pure magic," Cavina remembers. "I made a good-looking reflective piece that also adds safety. Wear the vest over the jacket at night to gain visibility."

"My small quantities make Plurimus exclusive: 99 pieces per color, four colors, and no retail. The small volumes, truly Italian production, and personal contact with customers form my sacred trinity," The next step is to strengthen his network of suppliers, enabling him to develop innovative, new fabrics. "They know what effort it takes to do what I do," Cavina says. "After two sold-out sets and the third currently available, I have proven to be consistent and a 100-percent serious entrepreneur who does what he wants. What's not to like about that?"

► plurimus.it

ATELIER TOSSIJN

WORDS: CLAIRE VAN DEN BERG

Sartorial excess is becoming a thing of the past. Designer and denim connoisseur Koen Tossijn is one of the leading proponents of downshifting; he has a passion for all things simple. In his own words: "Less is always more."

In line with this minimalist imperative, he has been on a mission since 2008 to make premium custom-made jeans. Now, with his label Atelier Tossijn, Tossijn has broadened his scope, offering non-seasonal, ton sur ton shades using merino wool, twill, and cashmere blends.

Working on a made-to-measure basis, Atelier Tossijn embraces wardrobe essentials. Tossijn brings jackets, caps, sweaters, and jeans back to their most elemental forms. He takes craftsmanship to the next level; only when his hands fall short does he resort to his single-thread sewing machine. In a similar vein, his denim is fabricated from 14 oz. organic selva made of US cotton and dyed with natural indigo, after which it is woven at a Kuroki mill in Okayama, Japan.

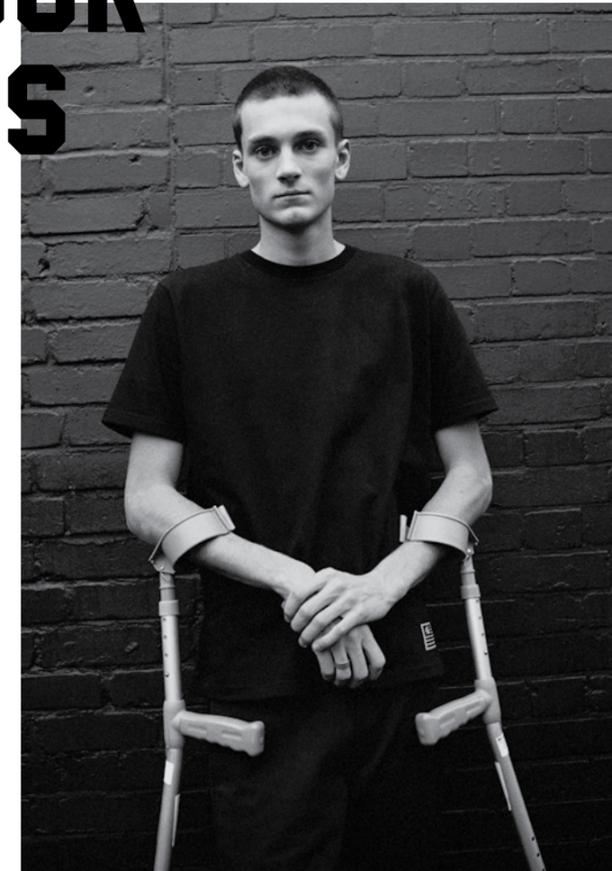
► ateliertossijn.com



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1.) **FLY YOUR
FLAGS**



5.)



FOR FICTION



6.)

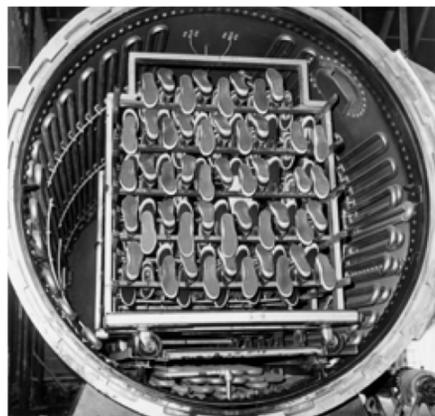
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2.) REMEMBER THE REVOLUTION?
IT DIED DOWN FROM WITHIN.
NOW HERE WE ARE
ROLLING ALONG RUINS
ON REMOTE AVENUES.
WILL TIME TELL AND TURN
YESTERDAYS YEARS INTO
TOMORROWS TRUTHS WHILE
WE HIDE HEADS BEHIND TINTED
GLASS THEMES AND THEORIES
SAVE THE SCENE SISTER
WE SAY AND FLY OUR FLAGS
FOR FICTION AND AN
EXQUISITE ESCAPE.
TRUTH IS NEVER TRAGIC.
ITS A PRELUDE.

VANS

WORDS: RUBEN VAN DER LAAN



In a world of mortals, Vans is a God. Skate shoe companies come and go—multinationals simply buy their street credibility, or at least, try to—but Vans has always managed to retain its very essence. A down-to-earth shoe and apparel company, nestled firmly in skateboarding, surfing and punk rock.

You've heard the story. How brothers Paul and James Van Doren started the Van Doren Rubber Company in 1966 in a small shop/factory in Anaheim, California. How their first order consisted of twelve pairs of shoes for twelve different customers. (Note: twelve pairs, not 12K.) How skateboarders discovered that their waffle soles gripped like no other sneakers available at that time. Needless to say, it was a natural transition from the concrete skateparks and scruffy backyard pools to the sweaty punk rock clubs of downtown LA. In less than no time, the Vans Slip-on was a staple item for any aficionado of bands like the Ramones, Agent Orange, Black Flag, and the Circle Jerks.

Fast forward to 2016. Vans is omnipresent, from schoolyards and skateparks all over the world to beer-soaked mosh pits to the tiny feet of celebrity offspring—Kanye and Kim's toddler North West has been pictured rocking Vans numerous times. Meanwhile, the Van Doren Rubber Company is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary, a feat most action sports companies can—or could, for that matter—only dream of. Not through a series of glitzy parties or pompous TV commercials, but in a way that's very close to the company. By inviting artists and long-term associates to relive their memories and create fresh bits of art. Want to join in the festivities? The perfect location would be the House of Vans: an underground skatepark and art gallery in the Victorian bowels of London. On a budget or not too much time on your hands? Head over to vans.nl and watch *The Story of Vans*, an epic series of short animation movies.

► vans.com



PEPE JEANS GUADO

WORDS: MARIEKE VAN ELSÄCKER



Got your keys, phone, wallet? Perfect, 'cause Pepe Jeans just launched a line of accessories for those essentials. Starting from simple leather designs, they upped the ante by bathing them in the ever-spectacular Guado dye. When we say "spectacular," we're referring to its signature bright blue color, which is even more remarkable when you realize it's an all-natural vegetable indigo dye—it fully

deserves its nickname "the blue gold."

Though recent memory might bring up visions of a young Mel Gibson frolicking around with a blue face in *Braveheart* (big up, Mel), Guado's history actually dates all the way back to ancient Egypt and the Roman Empire. Vikings loved it, too. Its strong pigment made it perfect for textile decoration and a multitude of uses in fine art; none other than

Leonardo da Vinci was known to use it in his paintings. Last but not least, since it's essentially a plant extract, this little blue wonder makes for an ecologically friendly dye. This stuff deserves a prize.

Back to Pepe. Next to a key holder, iPhone cover, and wallet, this new range consists of an iPad cover, credit card holder, and a men's belt.

► pepejeans.com

RENARD

WORDS: CLAIRE VAN DEN BERG



When it comes to unisex wristwatches, startup label Renard has carved a niche for itself in affordable yet sophisticated watch design. With its gradually expanding range of analog timepieces, the Amsterdam-based label has developed a keen eye for clean-cut designs with a classic touch.

Mixing tradition with contemporary style, the two founders get their creative juices flowing by drawing inspiration from bygone eras such as the Swinging Sixties & Seventies, "times when design was characterized by an eye for detail,"

according to Ashwin Blauw, one of the two founders of Renard.

Adhering to this ethos, their latest collection comprises timepieces with Italian calf leather straps in archetypal seventies colors such as burgundy and tan.

As a counterweight to today's omnipresent smart-watch trend, they also launched a series of chronographs, dubbed the Grande Chrono collection. The 40mm stainless steel cases are adorned with gunmetal details, interchangeable bands, vertically brushed

dials, subtle domed glass, and matte indices and hands.

Started as a bold experiment in the spring of 2014, Renard has flourished into a full-fledged brand with a knack for timeless timepieces.

Blauw reckons that "you don't need to strap an elaborate device on your wrist to keep track of time." These are watches you want to keep an eye on.

► renardwatches.com