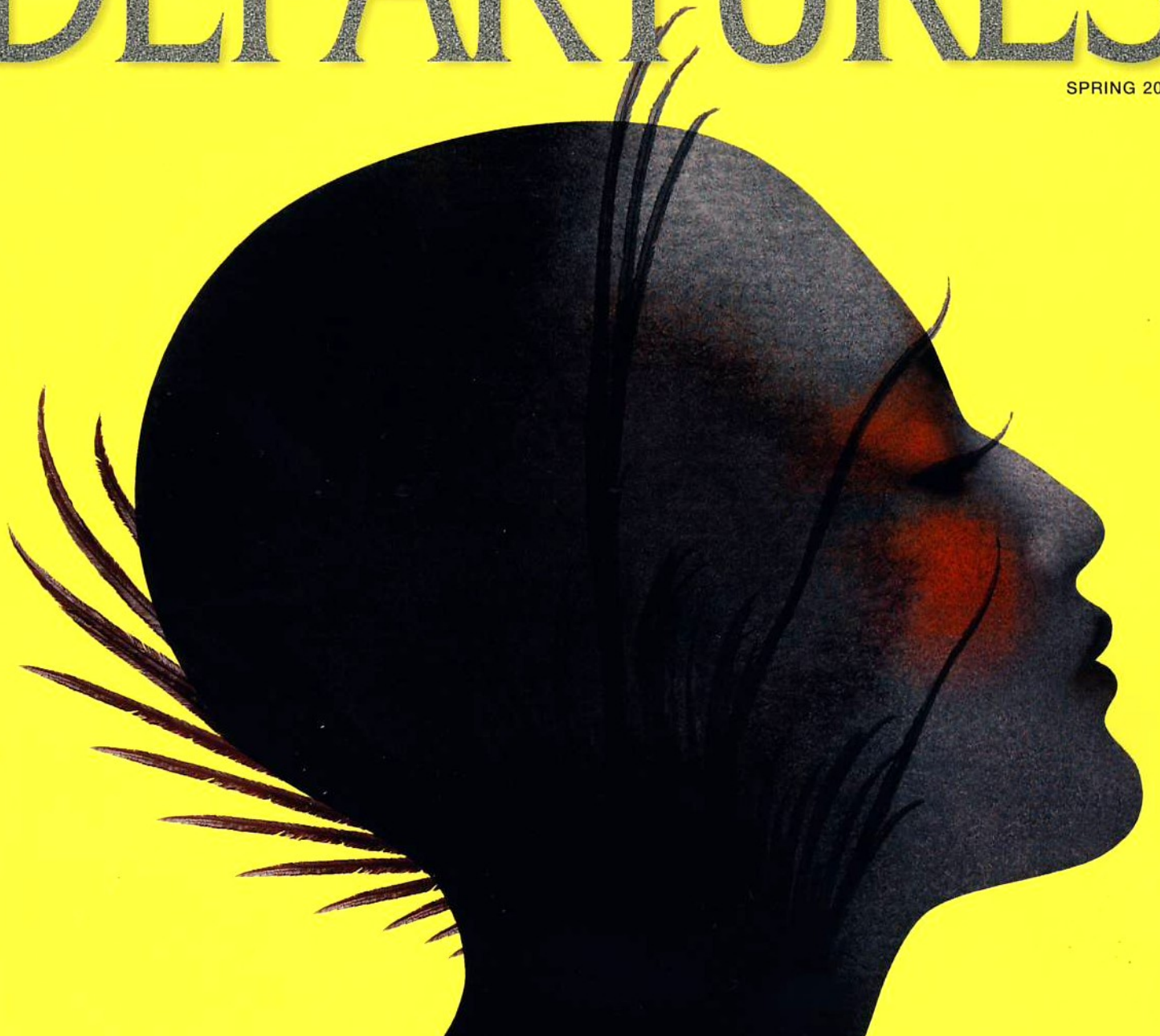


# DEPARTURES

SPRING 2010



CULT MOTORING

Warhol's heirs

GREECE

A brief history of earrings

High heels: up or down?

A Basque culinary tour





KIKI MCDONOUGH  
in gold with diamonds  
and amethysts, £3,600

*Catherine Wheel*



LYDIA COURTEILLE  
COLLECTION in  
gold and silver with  
diamonds and citrines,  
price on request



*Pendeloques*

TIFFANY & CO  
in gold with  
aquamarine  
and diamonds,  
£1,350



SÉVIGNÉ in  
gold with  
rubellite,  
chrysoberyl  
and amethyst,  
£14,300



*Art Deco*

BULGARI HIGH  
JEWELLERY  
COLLECTION  
in gold with  
emeralds and  
diamonds,  
price on request



In black bakelite with  
amethysts and diamonds,  
seen at CoutureLab, £7,165



*Renaissance*

FOCHTMANN  
in gold with  
diamonds and  
pearls, £10,800



POMELLATO  
In white gold  
with onyx and  
black diamonds,  
£3,730



GLANZ UND  
GLORIA in  
gold with  
pearls, £620



DER FUCHS  
in gold with  
pearls, turquoise  
and diamonds,  
£1,340

*Antiquity*



FRED  
Success  
Hoop in gold,  
£1,980

## IN ANTIQUITY, EARRINGS BECAME WHAT WE CALL A MUST

sacred rituals than to vanity. Some tribes, in fact, believed that the metal would keep evil spirits away, preventing them from entering the body through the ears.

“Today there are tribes that wear earrings only for aesthetic reasons and others that consider the piercing of the lobes as a kind of proof of courage,” says the American anthropologist Donna Pido, who has lived in Kenya for more than 40 years. Look at the men of the Masai tribe in Kenya, who can hardly be accused of cowardice, with supersized holes in their ear lobes. “The piercing is made with a knife,” explains Pido, “and then with some wooden stretchers the ear lobes get enlarged to such a point that some men can even put tobacco boxes or film rolls in them – much to the surprise of the gawking tourists.”

In was in Ancient Greece and Rome that earrings – primarily because of hairstyles that drew hair to the back of the head – became what we would call today a must. The use

of precious stones and minerals and of pendants which held small sponges with perfumed oil made earrings increasingly striking, as well as heavy. In order to alleviate the pain, the noblewomen went to the so-called *auricolae ornatrices*, ear

doctors who specialised primarily in healing wounds and infections caused by the weight of the jewellery.

The profession was, however, doomed to extinction: in the Middle Ages, earrings completely disappeared from the houses of women. Dresses with high collars and complicated cranial decorations hid the ears and hair of married women, rendering ornamentation superfluous.

The Renaissance brought ear-displaying hairstyles back into fashion and with them a revival of earrings. Simple pearls were the style of choice, alone or hung from ribbons. In the 17th century, the practice of bespoke earrings found its modern form, most famously in the scores of earrings that James I of England ordered from Danish jeweller Arnold Lull to please his wife, Anne of Denmark. Louis XIV, in contrast, made himself happy when he gave a pair of earrings to his lover, Madame de Soubise, who was instructed to wear them every time her husband left Paris to signal her availability.

The last 400 years have seen women’s jewellery boxes brimming with earrings, though the styles and sizes have changed with the times. In the 18th century, for example, the most fashionable shape was the circular Catherine Wheel. At that time, social encounters happened often in candlelight, and this shape, made of three drop pendants hanging