



THE OUT OF TOWNER

Bliss Lau

—By Kristy Alpert

Her designs (blisslau.com) transcend conventional jewelry mores, juxtaposing sensuality and femininity with an aggressive bravado that has defined her exquisite jewelry lines since 2007. Bliss Lau's multidimensional visual approach can be traced to her rural Hawaiian roots and her current big city reality, but although she now resides in New York City, where she launches a new ring about every six weeks, this island girl braves a 12-hour flight at least four times a year so she can return home to recharge and keep her pulse on the latest Hawai'i haunts and happenings.

I am third generation Hawaiian. My grandfather came here and setup a small farm in Makaha, where my father was born. I still remember the first wave I caught, hiking all the time, how safe it was, and staying out all night only to watch the sunrise on the beach with my friends in high school. So many great memories!

I left Hawai'i 10 days after I graduated high school to do a mandatory summer program at Parsons School of Design to study fashion. Now I think that New York is where my creativity is, but Hawai'i is where my soul is. If I stay away for too long, I feel like I have lost myself and need to just be around the community, family, the food and, of course, jump in the ocean every day.

The island is constantly changing and evolving, which I love, so there are so many people doing such great things with food and design. I went to South Shore (wardvillage.com) recently and love all of the shops; I have my go-to friends in fashion there and prefer to pop into their boutiques or showroom spaces to order custom pieces or barter with them. I usually drive out to Hale'iwa to Number 808 (808.312.1579) and visit [boutique co-owner] Cappy [Esguerra]. Next time I am home, I need to get a Malia Jones suit (maliajones.com). I love Matt Bruening's (mattbruening.com)

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-BLISS LAU





Tommy Shih photo

AT YOUR SERVICE

Sometimes, a quick fix is all you need.
—By Margie Jacinto

FIX A BROKEN HEEL

Locals have been going to **Joe Pacific Shoe Repair** in downtown Honolulu for years. The quaint shop can have your favorite pair on the mend in no time. Added bonus: Joe Pacific also does Louboutins—complete with red sole. [808.524.7463](tel:8085247463)

EMERGENCY ALTERATIONS

If you need a dress hemmed or shirt altered, **Linda Fujioka's Alterations** can

tailor your clothes to your liking—with same-day service, if needed. [808.596.7996](tel:8085967996)

ON-CALL PERSONAL STYLIST

Honolulu is a shopping mecca, and stylist **Kim Smith** has the key to the city's best shops, with an editorial eye, to boot. She can create your vacation wardrobe or even tag along with you to help find just the right pieces to add to your current clothing arsenal. kim-smithstyle.com ●



new collection, and I usually pickup a dress from Ten Tomorrow (ten-tomorrow.com) and shorts from Allison Izu (allisonizu.com).

I love Kaka'ako (ourkakaako.com) for coffee and drinks. I am a bit of a green juice fanatic, so you will find me on a daily run to Bluetree (bluetreejuice.com), but I frequent Fishcake (fishcake.us) and Kaimuki Superette (kaimukisuperette.com) as well.

I have a clear juxtaposition of two cultures in all of my pieces—the hard New York and soft organic notes of Hawai'i turn up naturally in my designs repeatedly and without even meaning to. I think it is part of how I think because I am a person of two cultures who identifies deeply with both. For instance, my body chain collection has the fluidity of the islands but the edge of New York. ●

ON THE STRIP: MONSARRAT AVENUE

—By Maya Wong

Monsarrat, located just alongside Kaimana Beach and right before Diamond Head, is a gathering place for locals. Longtime neighborhood joint **Bogart's Café** (bogartscafe.web.com) is still a favorite with Honolulu families to this day. The cash-only restaurant is a casual, laid-back place to pick up a bagel, breakfast goods, egg dishes, waffles or espresso drinks. Next door to Bogart's is **James After Beach Club** (james-hawaii.com), a small boutique carrying modern, minimalistic clothes and accessories. Everything in the store is influenced by the surfing culture, and you can find both men's and women's clothing, tote bags, vinyl records and vintage pins. For your acai fix, there's **Diamond Head Cove**



Health Bar & Café (dacove.com), also dubbed "Da Cove" for short. Da Cove tends to busy on the weekend, as groups of friends head to the café after the beach for the restaurant's classic acai and pitaya bowls. On the corner of Monsarrat and Kaimana avenues is **Hawai'i Sushi**, a casual sushi spot dishing out elaborate sushi rolls, poke bowls and freshly packed sushi for when you're on the go. When you're not in a rush to be anywhere, grab a table and stay awhile at **Sunny Days** (sunnydays-hanafru.com). The bright, beachy restaurant has a menu full of whole, healthy foods like 'ahi poke plate lunches, vegan musubi with tofu and brown rice and vegetarian sandwiches. ●

HAWAII EXCLUSIVE

Wild About Harry

Only available at **Harry Winston** Hawaii boutiques, the state flower, the yellow hibiscus, has been re-fashioned into an 18-karat yellow gold and diamond pendant (also in platinum), as part of the jewelry house's City Charm collection. harrywinston.com

