



ALL HANDS ON DECK

THE BOAT... THE BIKINI... THE BEAUTY...

Photos: Kerron Riley
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Stylist: Nigel F. R. Celestine

Hello Bouys



Treasure Chest White



Haven Swimwear

There are many people who claim to have a 'passion for fashion', but few people risk taking the plunge and turning that passion into a successful business venture. Meet Kirsty Masson; one of those few – a fashion forward design entrepreneur who has successfully launched her own swimwear brand, 'Haven Swimwear'.

It might seem unusual that someone hailing from the notoriously wet, windy and unpredictable United Kingdom should launch her own swimwear company, but since moving to live on the Caribbean island of Trinidad – her very own 'haven' – Scottish-born Kirsty has found more than enough inspiration for her range of fashionable, affordable bikinis and swimsuits. "Unlike my home town of Aberdeen, living in the Caribbean, swimwear is just a part of your life", says Kirsty. "As someone who's always been interested in fashion and design, it's hard not to be inspired by the beautiful beaches and beautiful people over here!"

But if everyone already lives in their bathing suits, is there room for yet another swimwear brand in the Caribbean? "The majority of swimwear available here falls into two categories," explains Kirsty, "cheap suits with boring designs, that fade or become baggy after just a few wears, or high-end, high-fashion designer beach clothing, which of course comes with a designer price tag. Haven Swimwear on the other hand offers stunning, fashionable designs, made from the latest durable materials that won't break the bank".



High Rollers



All of a Shimmer

As the founder of any business will know, it takes a lot of hard work and determination to succeed – especially in the cut-throat world of fashion. But, after endless sketches, swatches and samples, and collaboration with the designers in South America, Kirsty Masson has finally succeeded in bringing a new stylish bikini chic to the Caribbean. Her first collection, a range of seven bikini designs available in a total of 17 different styles, was inspired by luxury island cruises and that gloriously sparkling Caribbean Sea. With sexy yet flattering cuts, innovative designs and quirky details that Kirsty says “look good on just about any woman”, Haven Swimwear is fun and flirty, with a cheeky sense of humor.

“I’m thrilled about how well the first collection has been received,” enthuses Kirsty. “When the orders started coming in, not only from the Caribbean, but also from the UK and USA, it was such a buzz!” And to firmly cement Haven’s place on the catwalk, the brand proudly sponsored the recent Miss Universe Trinidad & Tobago pageant, providing bikinis for both the semi final and the final.

Fashion and style are as changeable as the tides of the sea, so enlisting the help of local designer Victoria de Freitas, Haven is already busy preparing for the next collection, which launches later in the year. So what will Haven girls be wearing on the beach in Summer ’11? “We’re not giving anything away!” laughs Kirsty, “You’ll have to wait and see – but it will be worth the wait!”

For more information about Haven swimwear, please visit www.havenswimwear.com.

Treasure Chest Black







Not all Plain Salin'

