

CS Interiors



SLEEK AND CHIC THE GLAMOUR ISSUE

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Behind the Looking Glass

Two Columbia College grads create window displays that make us stop, stare and wonder. **By Amalie Drury | Photography by Maia Harms**

When they were both students slinging beans at a now-defunct South Loop coffee shop, Crystal Grover and Linsey Burritt became creative soul mates. "She was the kind of friend you'd call with any silly or exciting idea and she'd be like, 'Yes,'" says Grover. Neither found they could file their postgrad corporate gigs—Grover an interior designer in Schiller Park, Burritt a graphic designer—in the dream-job folder, and one day, Grover was stopped in her tracks by an eye-catching window display at Niche Footwear in Wicker Park. Inspiration struck, she called Burritt, and the duo's design business, The Indo Projects, was born. Commissions began pouring in, and the "Indo girls" found themselves working in their apartments past midnight, sourcing, snipping, gluing and stapling components for creations that were not only strikingly

visual, but took an eco-conscious approach. Almost all of their materials come from Dumpsters, alleyways and 'discarded' piles. Grover, a LEED-certified designer who spent a year studying sustainability in Sweden, says, "We wanted our personal ideals to line up with what we wanted to do in life." Their displays have taken on a sculptural style often built around repeating materials and patterns, currently including a suspended sculpture made of hundreds of paper rolls in a River North window, and a display for the launch of the new Brizzo and Delta showroom at the Merchandise Mart. In the works is a pop-up shop at their own Grand Avenue studio, which, starting this month, will celebrate other local designers. "We get excited about collaborating with people who are doing something cool," says Burritt. ■

BURRITT'S HOTS

Manhattans, Panasonic Lumix DMC LX5, Publican's seafood tower, Baggu bags, Tina Fey

BURRITT'S NOTS

Bluetooth headsets, road rage, legal jargon, foie gras, private parking meters

GROVER'S HOTS

Putting care into what you do, Greyhounds Only, collaborative thoom at Chickpea, the slow movements

GROVER'S NOTS

Impulsive consumption, close-mindedness, not picking up your dog poo, junk mail, I still don't have a blue bin...

PAPER DOLLS

Linsey Burritt (left) and Crystal Grover

