

Copycat

GET DRESSED LIKE YOU'RE GOING PLACES WITH MARISOL'S PICKS



1 "Marina Fina makes psychedelic accessories and art. I have a collection of her Flower Power earrings."

2 "Takesh makes heart-shaped sunglasses that I love! All the colors are so great."

3 "I recently discovered this brand, which looks a lot like stuff I would design myself."

4 "A clear chunky heel is a fave in my closet."

5 "Carel Kina shoes are also an amazing basic-but-stylish pair."

6 "Olympia Le-Tan handcrafted handbags are a dream! So many beautiful details."

1. Marina Fina Neon Flower Power Earrings, \$19.60, dollskill.com
2. Takesh Jadore Sunglasses in Black/Rose, \$169, takesheyewear.com
3. Unlogical Poem Circus Jacquard Sweater Cardigan, \$182.99, unlogicalpoem.com
4. Public Desire Afternoon Mid Clear Heeled Sandals, \$42, asos.com
5. Kina White Patent Leather Mary Jane, €304.17, carel.fr
6. Olympia Le-Tan Oh, the Places You'll Go! Strapped Bag, €1,400

Senior Moment

A NEW BOOK HIGHLIGHTS THE SERIOUS STYLE OF ECLECTIC CHINATOWN ELDERS

WHEN SAN FRANCISCO-BASED writer Valerie Luu and photographer Andria Lo met in 2009, they bonded over their love of the bold and thrifty style of the city's Asian seniors—a vibe they dubbed "Chinatown pretty." The looks, like a couple in matching bright yellow sweatsuits or a seamstress who transformed remnants into red-piped velvet pants, inspired a photo project for the nonprofit Chinatown Community Development Center that's now a part-fashion, part-interview book called *Chinatown Pretty* (@chinatownpretty).

The duo spent six years conducting street-style shoots with 100 *pòh pòhs* (grandmas) and *gùng gungs* (grandpas) in six Chinatowns—San Francisco, Oakland, Los Angeles, Chicago, New York, and Vancouver. "[We] walked around Chinatown with a translator, during prime grocery shopping hours," says Luu, and when a busy elder stopped, it meant working lightning fast, sometimes photographing them before their bus arrived. "It's maybe not as photogenic as you might want, but there's a lot of character and



charm, too. That's Chinatown," says Lo. One elder didn't stop hustling on her walker, forcing the team to keep up with her.

Pre-pandemic, the featured seniors "got a kick out of seeing themselves in life-size photos," says Luu, at the project's gallery show. "They were kicking it like a family party," adds Lo. The duo has also held virtual book events in a Vietnamese deli in Oakland and San Francisco's Golden Gate Fortune Cookie Factory to promote local businesses and shine a light on a seemingly inaccessible community. "This project helped me learn about this generation," says Lo and Luu agrees: "An Amazon review made me tear up. It read, 'This book feels like a hug from my *nǎi nai*.'" —JENNIFER CHEN

PHOTOS: MARISOL MUÑOZ BY KAT BORCHART; CHINATOWN PRETTY BY ANDRIA LO AND VALERIE LUU. PUBLISHED BY CHRONICLE BOOKS 2020