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Di-o showroom.
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J o n a t h a n
Woods and
poet Avery
R. Young
joined models
and trendset-
ers to view the
spring collec-

tion.

The pieces ranged from a cabi-
net of jewel-toned, crocheted
purses with wooden and metal
handles, to reconstructed denim
skirts with vintage fabric sewn in,
to soft, crocheted dresses with
bright bands of color. The circular
showroom is accented with bur-
nished mahogany fixtures, amethyst and olive drapes and a round olive ottoman with two purple throw pillows. The new additions to the line, Baby Di-o, Original Bridal and Di-o Home Decor, were also displayed, with Fraser-Carter's own flowing, partially crocheted wedding gown a main attraction.

"We'll have monthly trunk shows so we can pace ourselves. Di-o has really become an enterprise now," she says.

Di-o designs are available at 4518 S. Drexel or by appointment: at (773) 727-3447 or Di-original.com.

Doublestitch is available at Mai Rees at 840 N. Michigan or by appointment at (773) 324-0090 or Double-Stitch.com.

Rosalind Cummings-Yeates is a local free-lance writer.



Actress, model and bathing suit designer Elizabeth Hurley is flanked by models while promoting her Beach line in New York last week. -AP

BY DONNA FREYDKIN

NEW YORK — You'd never know Elizabeth Hurley was functioning on a half-hour of sleep.

"I'm very tired," she said.

The Estee Lauder model, actress, single mom, organic farmer and brand-new bathing suit designer was in Manhattan last week on a three-day jaunt to promote her new swimwear line, Elizabeth Hurley Beach. She was accompanied by her boyfriend, Indian textile businessman Arun Nayar, who did a little shopping while Hurley completed her publicity duties. "All right, darling. Love you!" she cooed at him.

Hurley beamed her thousand-watt pouty-lipped smile and enthusiastically discussed her latest commercial venture, the product of her desire to spend as much time as she can with her son, Damian, 3. For Hurley, who appeared in 1997's "Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery" and 2000's "Bedazzled," movie sets didn't leave much

time for raising Damian.

"The hours were horrendous," Hurley said. "I wanted to be able to take him to school every day, pick him up every day. With this business, I can."

Hurley first started working on her line a year ago. She said she has been directly involved in every aspect, from picking out each bead to selecting the factories that produce the suits. Prices start at \$77 for a bikini bottom, \$84 for a bikini top, \$216 for a one-piece suit, \$173 for a sarong.

And the pieces, which are available at Saks Fifth Avenue and soon on Hurley's Web site, are "things that are really sexy and hot but actually do cover your tummy."

The slim Hurley is referring to hers as well. "I'm 39," she noted. "I've had a baby. And I'm very aware that I don't feel at all confident running around and eating lunch in a bikini. I'm the first person to tie a sarong around my waist."

Gannett News Service



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- ◆ The name Kenra conjures up the feminist superhero vibe of She-Ra.
- ◆ It smells like coconuts.

Starting this month, Kenra is available at Ulta and other Chicago-area salons. Visit www.kenra.com for the closest salon to you.

Paige Wiser

