

A NEW TAKE ON FUR

MONTREAL COMPANY RECYCLES

By SANDY CAETANO

A raccoon vest, a red fox coat, a mink hat or a lynx scarf – these garments have an air of sophistication. But owning fur doesn't mean you have to condone how it's made.

Harricana, based in Montreal, is a line of environmentally conscious fur coats and accessories made from recycled fur.

"Recycled fur is a vintage coat, completely out of style, that people sell or give to us. We completely transform it into a ready-to-wear fashion item or an accessory," says designer Mariouche Gagné, 38.

She says her company has saved more than 600,000 animals since it was launched 15 years ago.

Old fur coats and other high-quality attire – silk and cashmere scarves and wedding gowns – are taken apart, refurbished and made into new clothing. The end result costs a third to half the price of new fur.

"We clean the coat, remove any damaged parts, and re-cut it for a new creation," Gagné says.

When she was 23, Gagné placed second in the Fur Council of Canada's Fur Design Student Contest with a reversible ski outfit.

While making the ensemble, she ran out of material and opted for her mother's old fur coat.

And Harricana creations was born.

"I love being outdoors,"

Gagné says.

"I witnessed a lot of the damage we do to our environment when I was tree planting ... I wanted to



Harricana creator Mariouche Gagné.

find a way to make beautiful fashions without harming the environment."

Fur fashions have gone bold this winter, with deep reds and electric blues, as well as leopard print on mink and muskrat furs.

"We collaborated with another eco-designer who recycles the interiors of old cars on a unisex computer bag," Gagné adds. "We also did small pockets for iPhones, cameras and other electronic gadgets."

Harricana fashions are available in Toronto at Cornflower Blue and the Guild Shop.



PRIMETIME LINEUP

8PM	Global: Dollhouse City TV: Supernanny CTV: Playing for Keeps
9PM	TVO: Heartbeat NBC: Dateline NBC A: Jann Arden at the Concert Hall
10PM	Global: NUMB3RS CTV: Michael Bublé Meets Madison Square Garden A: Stargate Atlantis

THIS WEEK'S NEW MOVIE RELEASES

The Hangover	Inglourious Basterds
G-Force	Taking Woodstock
The Girl in the Park	Fighter
Wizards of Waverly Place	Psycho Ward
The Headless Woman	

REALITY CHECK NEWS

SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DANCE: The show announces Season 7 audition dates.

THE BACHELOR: Jake Pavelka: Jillian and Ed the "deciding factor" in decision to do the show.

THE BACHELOR: Melissa Rycroft to co-host Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve

LATE-NIGHT GUESTS

Jay Leno	Glenn Beck
The Hour	TBD
Jon Stewart	Return Monday
Stephen Colbert	Return Monday
Conan O'Brien	Nigel Marvin
David Letterman	Cate Blanchett
Jimmy Kimmel	John Krasinski
Jimmy Fallon	Jude Law
Craig Ferguson	Judi Dench