Recruiting New Designers: Talent Scouts Now Favor Milan's Seasoned Hands

By Miles Socha

PARIS — Wanted: fashion designer; preferably European. Experience — and lots of it — is essential.

That is how top European talent scouts might compose a help-wanted ad for the industry today. They say the Nineties trend of hiring young, unproven designers to rejuvenate storied brands has given way to a new appreciation of more seasoned talents — the type found mostly on the Continent.

And, according to some observers, such a profile is currently in abundance around Milan.

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Zicu Exits Peninsula Spa to Go on Her Own

NEW YORK — Renowned Romanian aesthetician Cornelia Zicu is giving her career a makeover.

Zicu is leaving her position as head aesthetician at Manhattan's Peninsula Spa in the Peninsula Hotel to create her own luxury beauty and retreat spa, aptly named Cornelia. The retreat, which is scheduled to open in midtown in spring 2004, will cater to both women and men.

To fulfill her customers' needs prior to the spa opening, Zicu will be performing facials and the like at a temporary salon at the Helmsley Carlton at 680 Madison Avenue, also to be called Cornelia. The new spot opens Oct. 13 and is expected to treat some of Cornelia's current clients, including Katie Couric and Meg Ryan.

Zicu has been working at the Peninsula spa for nine years, with previous aesthetic experience at Daniela Skin Care in New York and the Radhausberg Spa in Andorf, Austria. She served as a consultant to luxury spas throughout the U.S. and continues to travel to Hong Kong and London spas, introducing new product treatments and product lines and training aestheticians.

— Andrea Zarczynski

TOP NOTES

DIRTY GIRL GLOSSIES: Despite the name, three newly created Dirty Girl lip glosses smell luscious. The makeup line, which is marketed by Blue Q cosmetics company, has introduced the sheer glosses in Spiced Tea Melody, Pink Lemonade Serenade and Sugar Donut Moment flavors. Each 1/10-oz tube sells for $9.