

Out and about

A is for Aiisha

Aiisha Ramadan, 26, is quickly creating one of the most sought-after fashion labels in the UAE



The young glamorous designer sits down to have a quick chat. With her eyes swerving around constantly it's evident she has a million things going through her head. Speaking passionately about her favourite designers, she says Valentino is her 'eternal favourite' designer but right

now she would have to go for 'Narciso Rodriguez'.

Aiisha is way more than just a pretty face: a gifted designer, she also works full time at news channel NBC as a senior satellite co-ordinator. 'It's exciting, they send you to war zones and it's nice to know you are talented in various fields.'

She admits to living in her pyjamas at home and is not at all concerned about being glamorous, saying she only dresses up when it's absolutely necessary: 'It's only when there's an event,' she admits, which makes us feel a bit better. And she's just as level-headed when it comes to her designer-of-the-year award. 'It just happened,' she shrugs modestly. 'It really wasn't such a big deal – it was a competition between 25 people and I gave them a very simple line, something I would wear and I was really surprised when I won.'

Aiisha's more enthusiastic, in fact, talking about her marriage of a year and two months, her eyes lighting up when she speaks about her husband. 'I look at him as my role model and he looks at me as his queen.' This probably helps explain her passion for life outside work. 'I love to watch movies, catch up on my reading and spend quality time with the family,' she says.



curvy and I have an ass, so I embrace it!

If Aiisha's honesty disarms, her next remark, when we ask for tips on staying cool in the summer, nearly floors us. 'Stay naked at home,' she says, letting out a charismatic laugh.

'I'm totally serious! It's way too hot. Alternatively, wear my dresses – they are all short, short, short so there's a lot of air.'

She doesn't take long to describe herself. 'I'm spontaneous, down to earth and adventurous.' Adventurous, she later explains, because she started up her label with no savings. If the rest of us managed to get lady luck floating around

us as much as Aiisha seems to, it's safe to say we would have absolutely nothing to worry about. Aiisha Ramadan available at Studio 8 (04 344 3934) and Soiree (04 349 4995)

Consume

Back on the subject of fashion, we quiz her about the size-zero row that's been rumbling recently. 'Look at my collection,' she replies in a flash. 'There's not a single piece that's small. I'm

Delivery
If you don't fancy trekking all the way to Dubai to get your Aiisha Ramadan fix, both Studio 8 and Soiree will deliver your order direct to Abu Dhabi. Visit www.aiisha.com to check out her latest collection.

The One for you

With rents crumbling faster than a tea-soaked biscuit, moving up the ladder is all the rage. And more rooms means more furniture, so you'd better get yourself down to The One to check out its new collection. We like the look of this natty bowl. *The One Store, Khalidiya Street (02 681 6500); Abu Dhabi Mall (02 644 8100)*



Nokia



Got a mobile that's more than six months old? Well you'll be obviously needing a newer model won't you? Nokia has launched the N97 as part of its N series. This one offers access to applications, games, videos, podcasts and more. *Available at all telecom stores*

Mall trawl

The Abu Dhabi Mall is soon to be opening the biggest MontBlanc in the region. How many glitzy watches, handbags and bling can one woman (or man) own, you might ask yourself. But nevertheless, Abu Dhabi's shoppers can consider themselves lucky given a glimpse at some of their more recent releases. Expect to discover such treats as this Max Von Oppenheim pen (below) and the MontBlanc Star Eternal watch, inset with over 500 diamonds (right). Let the bling commence. *Coming soon to Abu Dhabi Mall*

