

## PHILIPPA GREEN

Philippa Green is famous for her perspex bangles, which sell in LA, NY and even Modena in Italy. Though the creative seeds were planted in Durban, where she studied fine art and jewellery at Natal Tech, it was only when she came to Cape Town two years ago that things really took off. She works from a studio in Kloof Street and is opening a shop in Heritage Square in April.

**Why did you come to Cape Town?**  
There's a much bigger market in Cape Town for people like me who make jewellery that's not commercial. Tourists, people from Jo'burg with money, film people, models — they all want more alternative stuff. In Durban you end up compromising a bit.

**What do you like best about Cape Town?**

It's where everything is happening. There's so much creativity going on: plays, art, music. The place is booming. And I love the geographical diversity; all the different places you can go — like up the West Coast, for example. Even the winters are beautiful: that mist and rain and sitting around lowly fires.

**What do you miss most about Durban?**

The warm water! And Grey Street — the Indian shops stacked to the ceiling with kitschy jewellery, sandwiched between a curry shop on one side and a sangoma on the other, full of smelly old roots and weird bits of animal. I miss the Zulu thing too, their wonderful adornments. And the tropical rain in summer, the Botanical Gardens all old and lush, the paw-paws we used to eat straight off the tree in our garden.

**How are Capetonians different from Durbanites?**

Durban is more segregated. It has a lot to do with that colonial thing, whereas Cape Town is a melting pot. The film and modelling industries bring people together. In Cape Town I've come across an amazing Afrikaner culture for example, that I didn't even know existed. Growing up in Durban you tended to think all Afrikaners were baddies.

**Will you ever go back?**

I couldn't have become who I am if I hadn't grown up in Durban. There you have to find your own inspiration. There's not the same amount of fashion and trend as Cape Town. But that was then. Now I'm living in paradise!

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