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OCTOBER 2012

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SO LUXE/*Handbag*

IN A CLUTCH

*Need an evening bag?
This chromed clutch delivers*



Amid this fashion season's white hot metallics and hardware trends, lauded luxury handbag designer Farbod Barsum has introduced his chromed-out "Leela" clutch—a posh purse handcrafted from sustainably sourced African ostrich leg, coated with a metallic finish, and adorned with studded accents.

With the shape of the bag inspired by old-fashioned airplane wings from the 1940s and the metal studs making reference to exposed rivets, this clutch will ensure you'll jet set in leading-edge style.

Known globally for creating "wearable art" that's sought after by celebrities, international royalty, and discriminating style-seekers worldwide, Farbod Barsum designs utilize the softest and most supple exotic skins, which are meticulously handcrafted into unforgettable form.

"Everything about the clutch is handmade, from the cutting and handling of the skin to the placement of each stud—the location of which needs to be carefully measured and mapped out during the creation of the bag," Barsum notes. "Even the symmetry in the orientation of the ostrich leg panels is intentional."

Consumers can also rest assured that skin materials used by Farbod Barsum are responsibly harvested and farmed. In fact, all skins are registered with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Department and meet strict compliance requirements. "The ostrich skins we use in particular support a large community of ranchers and farmers, providing vital industry to a great portion of South Africa," Barsum says.

A brand often compared to Hermès, Farbod Barsum's commitment to quality is exemplified through the premium materials, high degree of craftsmanship, and specificity in all facets of the design and production process. It is the extraordinary attention to detail and keen understanding of the complexity of working with exotic skins that gives these bags a definitive edge. Retail prices range from \$2,000 to \$3,500 for evening clutches (\$3,480 for this chrome Leela design) and \$4,500 to \$32,000 for handbags.

While Barsum intends for his designs to follow current trends like the chromed and studded Leela, he also strives to make the pieces timeless with classical styling. "They are created in a way to transcend beyond a trend and remain as stand-alone art so that the owner may use the accessory for years to come," he says.

The Luxe List executive editor Merilee Kern scours the luxury marketplace for exemplary travel experiences, extraordinary events, and notable products and services. Submissions are accepted at www.luxelistreviews.com. Follow her on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/luxelisteditor> and Facebook at www.facebook.com/theluxelist.

Legal Notes

COOPERATOR IN GALLEON INSIDER TRADING CASE GIVEN PROBATION

Written By Ashley D. Adams

The cooperator who played a key role in the investigation and prosecution of Galleon Group founder Raj Rajaratnam and former Goldman Sachs Group Inc. director Rajat Gupta was sentenced to probation recently. Anil Kumar was one of the government's most valued sources in its probe into the prevalence of insider trading on Wall Street. Even though Kumar committed "quintessentially dishonest criminal conduct" in the eyes of the judge and was facing 25 years in prison, he was sentenced to two years probation. Judge Denny Chin is the same judge who sentenced Bernie Madoff to 150 years for his misdeeds.

As previously highlighted on Ashley D. Adams PLC's Arizona white-collar crime blog, the SEC and other agencies are often more lenient toward individuals who cooperate and assist their investigations. The benefit of cooperating often depends on the type of information provided as well as the culpability of the individual. In this case, Kumar's sentence of probation was likely influenced by the significance of the evidence he was able to provide.

Any decision about whether to cooperate with investigators should be made on a case-by-case basis and in consultation with an experienced white-collar criminal defense attorney who can help you weigh your options and decide what is in your best interests.

At Ashley D. Adams, PLC, we have a successful track record of defending clients from charges of white-collar crime, health care fraud, financial fraud, other criminal charges and in civil matters.

If you have further questions about this issue, please contact Ashley D. Adams, PLC 480.219.1366 or aadams@azwhitecollarcrime.com, www.azwhitecollarcrime.com. Ashley is a criminal defense attorney in Scottsdale and a former federal prosecutor.



ASHLEY D. ADAMS, PLC



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