

# NUMiNIOUS

magazine



The DYSTOPIA issue



**dys·to·pi·a**  
**[dis-toh-pee-uh]**  
**noun**

1. an imagined place or state in which everything is unpleasant or bad, typically a totalitarian or environmentally degraded one.

2. a society characterized by human misery, as squalor, oppression, disease, and overcrowding.

Photographer **Cassandra Panek** Wardrobe **Delicious Boutique**  
Make-up & Hair **Ashlie Ferguson and Raeanne Schultz**  
Models **Asha Ethison and Brandon Headhunter**  
Creative Director **Stephanie Price**

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Photographer **Cassandra Panek**

# Foreword

Past, present, future; **DYSTOPIA** is a timeless tragedy that could begin at any moment. Whether we're talking about the fall of the Roman Empire or the dark ages, or even a technological apocalyptic future. A dystrophic world, however damaged, holds such an alluring splendor - wastelands of structures that once stood tall now turned to moss covered metal spires, broken bridges, and decaying landscapes. Was it overpopulation that was our undoing or was it a manmade chemical airborne virus that turned everyone into flesh eating vermin and wiped out half of mankind? Whatever the cause, all that's left is a dark silence of a once never sleeping society turned to an open, barren earth.

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# DELICIOUS BOUTIQUE

NUMINOUS mag is getting apocalyptic in our thrilling Dystopia issue. Outfitting our survivors of this dystopian society is Philly's own Delicious Boutique. They carry everything from utility belts, gear holsters, leather clothing and jackets to stunning corsets and lingerie. At Delicious Boutique, fashion and function go hand in hand with independent lines that serve a functional purpose as well as being aesthetically pleasing. Ready to suit up in your "apocalypse couture" wardrobe? Then check out Delicious Boutique at **212 E Girard Ave Philadelphia, PA** or shop online here: [www.deliciousboutique.com](http://www.deliciousboutique.com)

**How did you start your career as a fashion designer and boutique owner?** My business partner, Amy Delicious, and I both attended Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science (now Phila U.) We both had a love for alternative fashions and complex garment construction, which eventually led us to launch our first line - Delicious Corsets in 1995. Ten years into designing and manufacturing our line we decided it was time to create a showroom - which became the Delicious Boutique, opening it's doors in 2005.

**What can people expect when they visit Delicious Boutique?** Our goal was to create a completely unique and fun shopping experience. Philadelphia artist Marc Brodzik designed our boutique interior. We decided we wanted the shop to look like a dark vintage circus. It was an aesthetic that we liked, but also was quite symbolic of the circus of our personal lives. We have an ever-changing selection of unique fashions with a strong emphasis on leather, dark fashion, and unusual accessories.

**Who are some designers that you can find on the racks of Delicious Boutique?** We choose to work with small independent designers rather than mass produced fashion. We love all of our designers, whom have become friends and collaborators, and looked all over the globe to find the artists we choose to represent. To name a few... Jungle Tribe (L.A.), Buddhaful (L.A.), Fairy Floss (Australia), Junker Designs (L.A.), Martha Rotten (Baltimore), 14th Addiction (Japan), Intergalactic Hobo (NC), Ritual (L.A.), and Quimera (Portugal.)

**Explain the aesthetic of your Delicious Corsets.** Delicious Corsets are created with historical silhouettes as a building block, but with completely new twists. We use colorful silks and brocades and tend to shy away from making too many dark "fetishy" pieces. We have become quite fond of designing and creating alternative bridal pieces - corsets, gowns, and separates for that offbeat bride looking for something a bit different.

**What inspires you as a designer and as an artist?** I love designs that straddle the line between costume and high-end fashion. The marriage of fashion and function is also a big inspiration - styles that can convert into other styles and that serve a functional purpose as well as being aesthetically pleasing. The apocalypse calls for a lot of functional and sturdy outfitting, and that is always an inspiration!

**What does the theme Dystopia mean to you and how do you think Delicious Boutique would fair in an apocalyptic future?** Dystopia to me means a world where survival is not easy - where creativity and ingenuity are necessary to exist. Delicious Boutique would definitely be equipped to outfit "apocalypse couture" with a variety of utility belts, gear holsters, leather clothing and jackets, and lots of dangerous, pointy details and accessories to keep danger at bay.

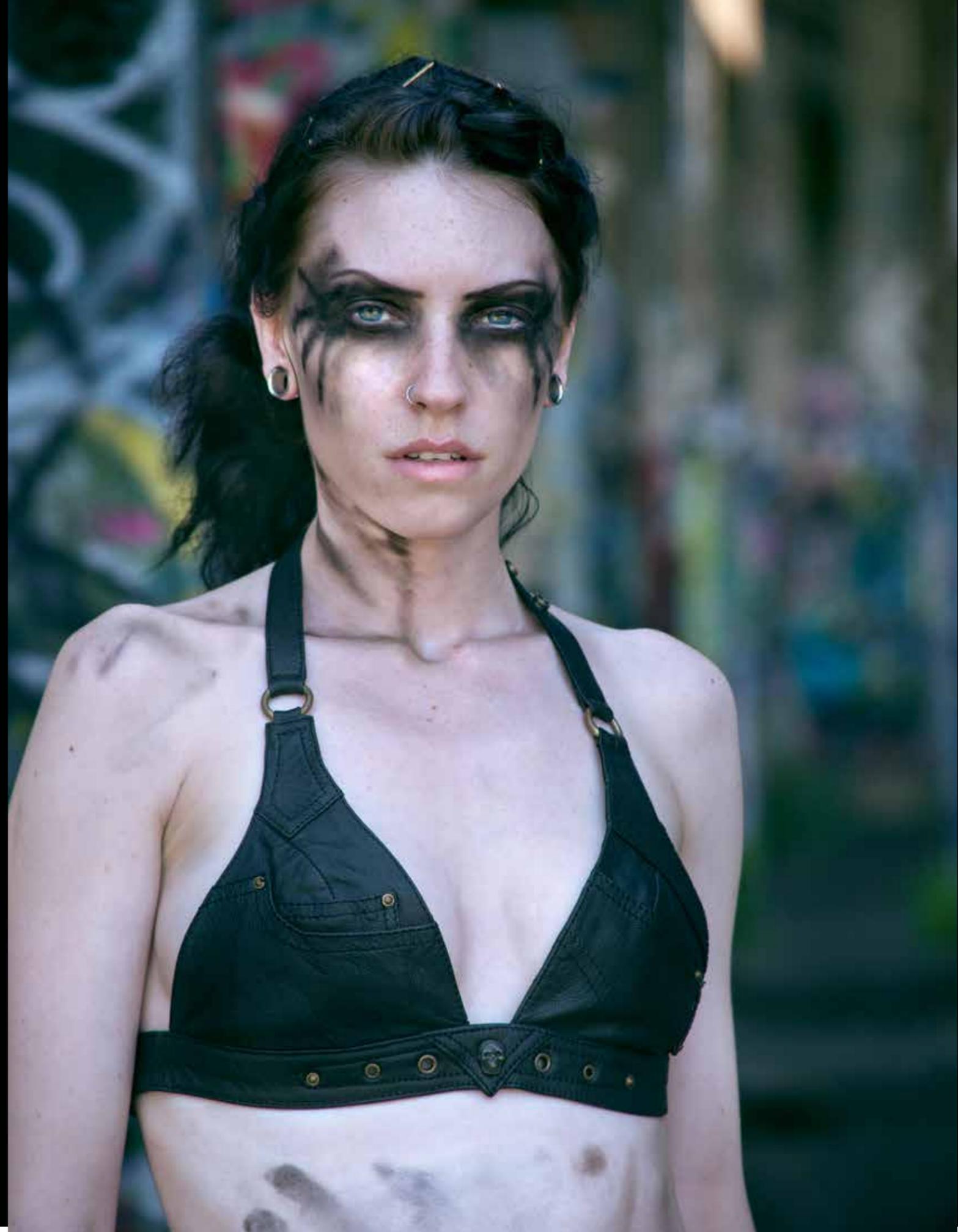
**What can we expect to see next from Delicious Boutique?** We have been putting a lot of energy into setting up pop-up shops in various cities throughout the country. The fashions that we carry are so unique that many cities do not have physical locations to see this type of design in person, so we bring the boutique to them! It's often difficult to understand complex designs, fit, and quality without seeing pieces in person, so we bring the work on the road to allow customers to become familiar with our lines, fits, and quality- making online shopping less daunting for them in the future. We attend festivals and cons like DragonCon (Atlanta), PEX Summer Fest (Baltimore), FetishCon (Tampa), GenCon (Indianapolis), Steampunk Worlds Fair (Piscataway), and Wild Fire Retreat (CT.)



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