

TRACE

Modern Love

Transcultural Styles + Ideas

TEYANA TAYLOR
TEENAGE CRUSH

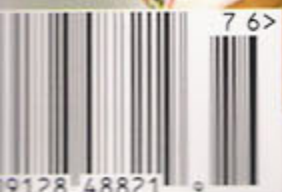
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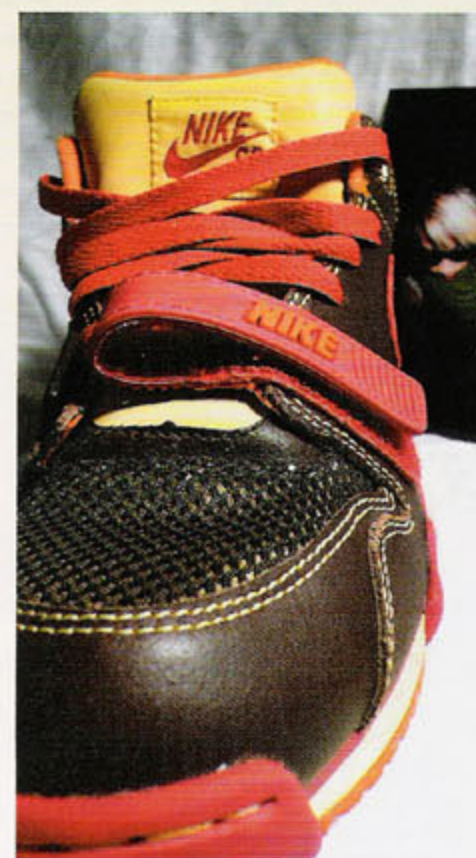
THE HEART OF A NATION



SOLE OBSESSION

Inside the foot fetishes of Female Sneaker Fiend

In the testosterone-filled galaxy of sneaker fiends, the feminine counterpart has long played the periphery. With hopes of injecting a dose of estrogen into the situation, the ladies of Female Sneaker Fiend jumped into the game feet first. On foot patrol, Lori Lobenstine came up with the idea, roughly two years ago, of creating a website as a venue for girls to exchange dialogue, share pics and post updates about their favorite collective subject: KICKS. Don't get it confused either – these chicks boast collections that'll put the boys' to bed. We went toe-to-toe with a trio from the FSF elite to inquire about rare finds, the illest classic and new looks, and bringing females to the forefront of sneaker culture. Lace 'em up!
www.femalesneakerfiend.com



DENISE LAI (AKA D-NYCE), GRAPHIC ARTIST/FORUM MONITOR, NEW YORK

How many pairs of kicks are in your current rotation/collection? I haven't counted in a while, and my collection is split between New York and Hong Kong, but I'd say around 60-70 pairs by now. I'm not the type of person who just goes out to buy every single "hot" pair of sneakers that comes out. It's always quality over quantity.

When copping sneakers, are you more concerned with aesthetics, function, or exclusivity? It's aesthetics, then exclusivity. By this time, you tend to trust the brands in getting the most out of function.

Your "trophy" pair? I don't have one particular pair that I love more than any other. I have equal love for all of them, even my roughed up Converse or Vans.

What's one pair you've always wanted, but were never able to score? Well definitely the Dunkles, and it still annoys me to this day that the amazingly colored "Send Help" Dunk Hi's never came in my size.



SHANAN CAMPANARO (AKA ESKAVEL), GRAPHIC ARTIST/LEAD BLOGGER, NEW YORK

How many pairs of kicks are in your current rotation/collection? A little over 100.

When copping sneakers, are you more concerned with aesthetics, function, or exclusivity? I only care about aesthetics.

Your "trophy" pair? My Carnival AF1's. My Hulks. My Japan premium AF1's my friend just sent me from Japan. My Jordan III's from '94, and all my Jordan V's from '99. Anything I got before the millennium, and my grey AF1's that I have been bartending in for 10 years... (Ewww!)

What's one pair you've always wanted, but were never able to score? Black and gold Jordan VI.



LORI LOBENSTINE, FOUNDER, BOSTON

How many pairs of kicks are in your current rotation/collection? I have about 70 in the collection and about 25 or 30 in the regular rotation. I keep all my favorites on a bookshelf where I can enjoy them everyday, rather than hiding them in their boxes in the closet or something.

When copping sneakers, are you more concerned with aesthetics, function, or exclusivity? Mostly aesthetics, unless I'm buying performance running shoes or b-ball kicks. My aesthetic is usually old school and basketball influenced – Adidas Forums, Nike Court Forces, Puma First Rounders, etc. I think exclusives have given shoe companies some room to take risks, which I enjoy, but I hate the tired old follow-the-hype route. I do think some of the new limited-release women's stuff is going in the right direction.

Your "trophy" pair? It varies by day. Today my favorite pair is my mustard and red Adidas SW's; yesterday it was my Tennessee orange and blue Puma Californias.

What's one pair you've always wanted, but were never able to score? I slept on the Ewings when they first came out. Everyone in Central Square (Cambridge, Mass., where Ewing grew up) had 'em, so I didn't want them. But now I do! And not the upcoming re-issues – I want some of the OG boxy, blue and orange ones. I think the Sneaker Room in Jersey's got my size, so I'm working on it!

– Devin "PAN" Barrett