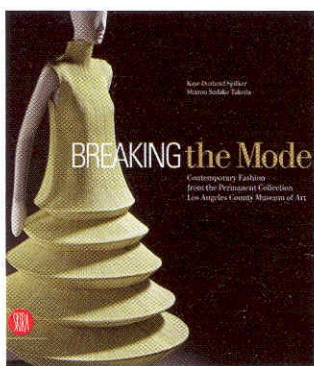


FOREVER AND EVER...

Design goes green in *Design Now!* (Taschen), edited by **Charlotte and Peter Fiell**, prolific writers and sought-after design consultants in London. They combine their experience and expertise in this wide-ranging exploration of contemporary design practices. Furniture, transportation modes and consumer electronic equipment from 90 leading designers and manufacturers are showcased and discussed. More than a commonplace compendium of good design, the book also provides an introductory essay on the problems facing designers who want to be part of the eco-solution, and it trumpets an articulate cry for embracing a sustainable approach to product design.

books
SANDRA MARTIN

FASHION
REBELS

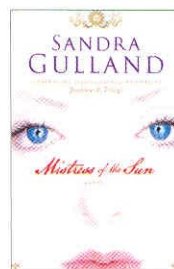


In their aptly titled *Breaking the Mode* (Rizzoli), **Kaye D. Spilker** and **Sharon S. Takeda** show how designers such as Franco Moschino, Christian Lacroix, Alexander McQueen and Thierry Mugler shattered traditional rules about silhouettes, fabrics and finishes. The authors, who both work out of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, have constructed their book as a reference tool: 40 designers from the last half of the 20th century are represented with photographs, drawings and computerized sketches to show how they broke the mould by incorporating synthetic fibres and modern ideas of flexibility, motion and manufacturing techniques into their designs to create fashion that is innovative, authoritative and elegant.

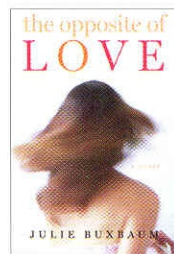
TOP 3 BOOKS



● Although we'll take a declaration of love in a text message, via voice mail or even on an electronic billboard, a letter tugs most poignantly at the tendrils of people's hearts. And that is the premise behind *Four Letter Word* (Knopf Canada), edited by **Joshua Knelman** and **Rosalind Porter**. Contributors, including Margaret Atwood, Douglas Coupland and Francine Prose, were invited to imagine both the recipient and the form of their billets-doux. The results are often touching and surprising.



● During his exceedingly long reign, Louis XIV, famously known as The Sun King, had many romantic entanglements. *Mistress of the Sun* (HarperCollins) by **Sandra Gulland** is a historical romance about Louise de la Vallière, who was the king's mistress for five years in the mid-1660s. In charting their affair, Gulland, the author of the bestselling Josephine B. Trilogy, again proves herself to be the mistress of the page-turning melodrama.



● *The Opposite of Love* (Viking Canada) is *not* hate, as **Julie Buxbaum** explains in her intriguing twist on the "fear of commitment." Emily, a corporate lawyer, breaks up with Andrew, an emergency-room doctor, just before he asks the big question. Why? Because she'd rather not have him at all than risk the potential pain of their marriage falling apart. Will she come to her senses? That is the question in this compelling modern fairy tale.