

Women Shorn

Chicks with clips turn the expected beauty tides this season.

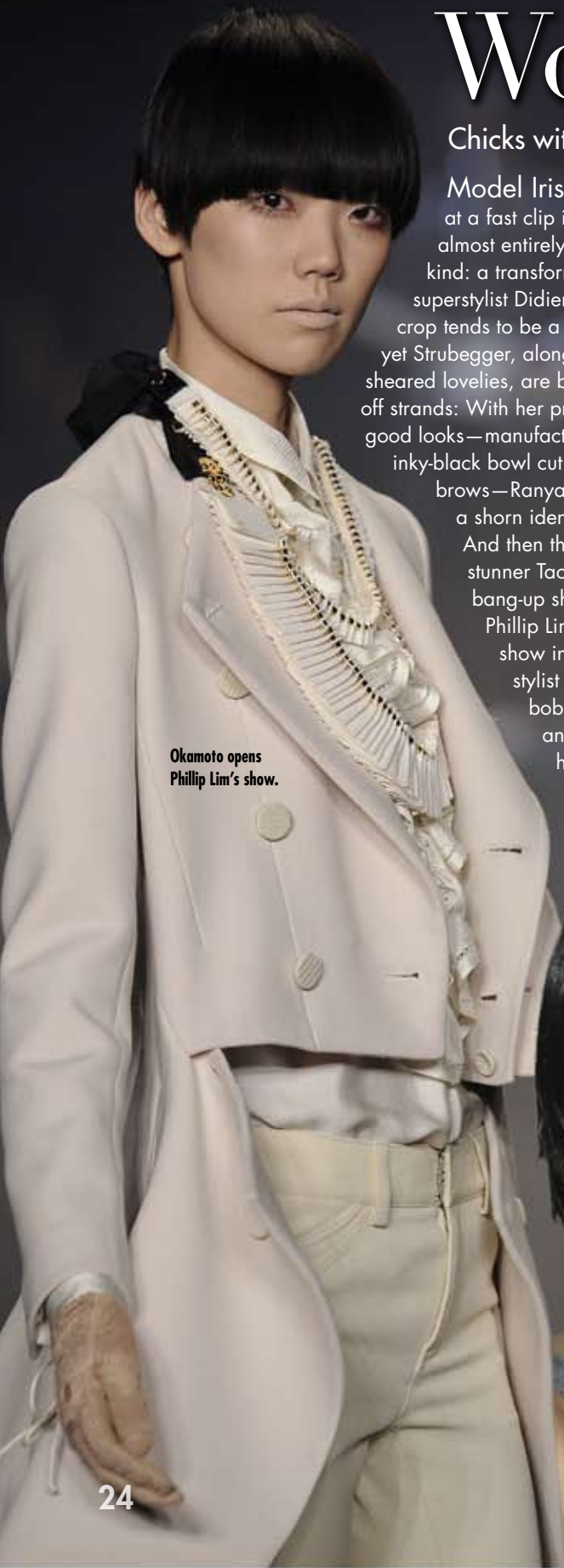
Model Iris Strubegger is moving at a fast clip in her profession—due almost entirely to a clip of a different kind: a transforming überchop by superstylist Didier Malige. Coming to a full crop tends to be a rarity on the runways, yet Strubegger, along with a handful of sheared lovelies, are boldly rocking lopped-off strands: With her preternatural, gothic good looks—manufactured in part by an inky-black bowl cut and bleached-out brows—Ranya Mordanova projects a shorn identity like no other.

And then there's Japanese stunner Tao Okamoto, whose bang-up shorn bob inspired designer Phillip Lim to transform every girl in his fall/winter 2009 show into her doppelgänger—hair-wise, at least. Lim's lead stylist Odile Gilbert trimmed wigs into a spectrum of swingin' bobs, from mushroom to choppy to stacked to graduated, and 30 or so "Taos" made their debut, with the muse herself leading the short-and-sweet pack. —Karie L. Frost

Iris Strubegger's career-transforming crop put the industry's bookers on shorn notice.



Japanese mega-model Tao Okamoto



Okamoto opens Phillip Lim's show.



At 3.1. Phillip Lim, a cropped wig finds its roots in model Tao Okamoto's short style.

A shiny black bowl-cut lends gothic appeal to model Ranya Mordanova.

Backstage: Andreea Angelescu; runway: Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week