

beauty

eye

Beauty is in the of... Antonia Whyatt



LIQUID ASSETS

As a child my secret hiding-place was behind our Coromandel screen; I could just fit between its comforting panels and the wall. So when Jacques Polges, the brilliant director of perfume at Chanel, showed me **Coromandel**, £120, I couldn't wait to smell it. Its warm amber and oriental notes capture the feeling of being in Coco Chanel's apartment, surrounded by her beautiful Coromandel screens (each room is lined with them). Equally exclusive is **Tom Ford Black Orchid**, £52. Ford had a black orchid specially bred for him – it became the inspiration for the scent, which has top notes of black truffle and ylang ylang. **Bottega Veneta** has joined forces with **L'Artisan Parfumeur** to create the **Intreccio No. 3** candle, £95, which conjures up Capri in summer with its hints of salty sea, white jasmine and citrus. Water is the latest product to get a makeover. **Sip**, £1.80, a new drink for the skin, is pure spring water fortified with vitamins C and E, selenium and wild daisy. A new skincare brand from Hungary, **Omorovicza**, takes advantage of Budapest's healing waters, which are full of calcium, magnesium, zinc and copper – try the **Illuminating Moisturiser**, £76. **Cornelia Zicu**, doyenne of Manhattan's most luxurious day spa, has created **Skin Soothing Soaking Tea**, £12: the mix of Dead Sea salts, marigold flowers, nettle and walnut leaves eases irritation and heals skin. **Crème de la Mer** has harvested white algae from the coast of Brittany to create **Radiant Facial**, £245. Put the cotton mask infused with seawater broth on your face – eight minutes later your skin will glow.



SENSOR SENSIBILITY

I am addicted to my iPod and find it impossible to go for a run without it. So I'm thrilled by Nike's iPod gizmo: an in-shoe sensor, £19, that slips under the inner sole of the **Air Zoom Moire**, £65, and feeds information on time, distance and calories burnt to your iPod. If you're not an Apple fan, **Sony's** new **NW-S200**, £90, is the first water-resistant MP3 player. It also has a sensor to monitor your step count and calorie expenditure, and a music pacer that varies the tempo of the music to match the intensity of your workout.



Overheard...

'To keep my hair healthy I mash up a banana, add a tablespoon of warm olive oil and put it onto wet hair. I wrap my head in a hot towel and leave it for 20 minutes, then rinse. It restores vitality and shine' – India Hicks

BEAUTY TABOO

Chicken skin – it's the bane of all sleeveless-dress-wearing women. Those nasty little red dots on the back of the arms appear exactly where we can't see them but the rest of the world can. The medical term is keratosis pilaris and it's caused by an over-production of cells around the hair follicles. Here are a couple of solutions: get a light glycolic peel or microdermabrasion twice a year from your dermatologist, and at home use a non-drying cleanser like **Aveeno**, £9. Steer clear of scented lotions. We suggest **Dermadoctor KP Duty**, £30, available at Selfridges, which contains glycolic acid, green tea and algae. It's also



designed to tackle the ultimate beauty taboo: a spotty bottom. Working out, transatlantic flights and clogging oils can all lead to a nasty red rear. Before a long flight use an antibacterial soap (keep this up once a week), then apply a light antibiotic lotion and wear cotton knickers so your derriere arrives in full J. Lo glory. Or as our helpful Manhattan dermatologist David Colbert (Rachel Weisz is a big fan) suggests: 'Try and fly first class, on your stomach.' But he did give us an at-home remedy: rub skin with diluted white wine vinegar to kill bacteria, and look for lotions with lactic and glycolic acid.