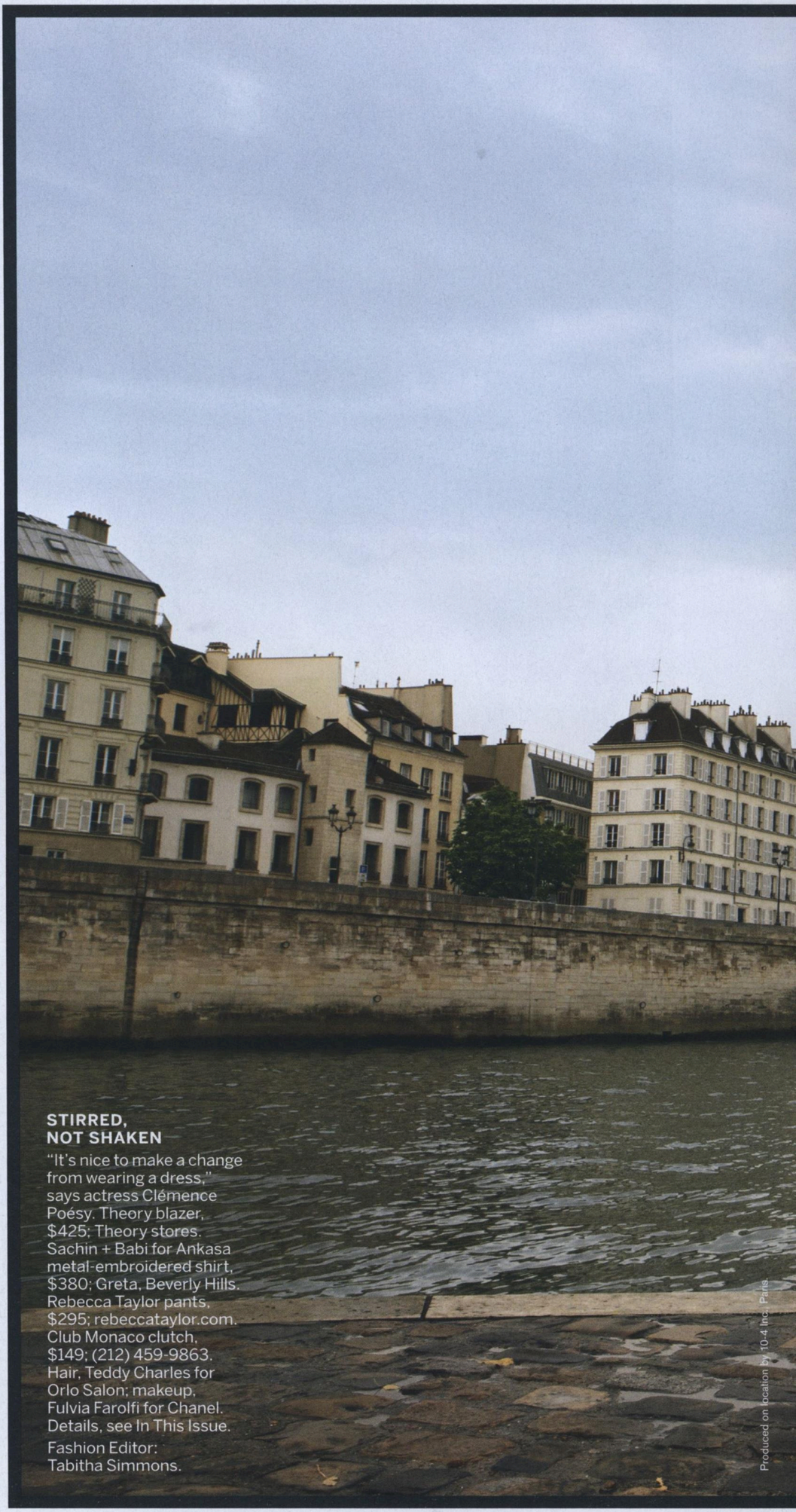
# Potent Cocktail

## Take a cue from the French: A long, tall drink of holiday cheer will make the party go with a swing. Photographed by Patrick Demarchelier.

The sexiest thing on a woman," says Clémence Poésy, "is masculine clothing." What is it with these androgyne Parisian girls and their ability to take from *les hommes* and make it the ne plus ultra in cool? Before Poésy there were *garçons*-waifs Charlotte Gainsbourg and Lou Doillon. Before them, their *masculine-féminine* mother, Jane Birkin. And before her, Betty Catroux, a dead ringer for best friend Yves Saint Laurent. It's to the classic YSL *le smoking* that Poésy's look pays homage: understated but not underdressed. As she says with a typically Gallic shrug, "Stealing clothes from boys is the most fun you can have."

With a number of roles under her beaten-up vintage leather men's belt—a French love interest in the current season of *Gossip Girl* and the boyish, beleaguered icon Joan of Arc in Philippe Ramos's *Jeanne Captive*—Poésy has become as adept at swapping characters as dress codes. Yet she likes to keep things frugal. "I never spend much on clothes," insists the 28-year-old. "Comfort is most important." Perhaps, then, with each piece of this genderless getup costing less than $500, she might don it to promote the just-released *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1,* in which she plays the enchanting witch Fleur Delacour? "Why not? I like the seventies feel of the pants," she says. "That time best reflects a spirit of freedom in fashion that I love."—ESTHER ADAMS



**STIRRED, NOT SHAKEN**

"It's nice to make a change from wearing a dress," says actress Clémence Poésy. Theory blazer, $425; Theory stores. Sachin + Babi for Ankasa metal-embroidered shirt, $380; Greta, Beverly Hills. Rebecca Taylor pants, $295; rebeccataylor.com. Club Monaco clutch, $149; (212) 459-9863. Hair, Teddy Charles for Orlo Salon; makeup, Fulvia Farolfi for Chanel. Details, see In This Issue.

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Produced on location by 10-4 Inc. Paris.

# STEAL OF THE MONTH

