

MY CITY

CLOSE UP

Whether he's in DC or jet-setting to Ibiza or Mexico, fabric designer **Jamon Johnson** always brings his camera. Via his creative lens, a Puerto Rican fort morphs into a geometric pattern, and colorful DC graffiti becomes a Basquiat-like masterpiece. His images come to life with Small Wooden Box (smallwoodenbox.com), a line of silk scarves, bandanas and canvas pillows that is one part travelogue, two parts abstract art. "It's about giving people a different perspective of everyday things," says Johnson. Here's where the artist finds inspiration around town. —Jennifer Barger



DAY AT THE MUSEUM ↑ "I love both the impressive architecture of the **National Museum of African American History** (1400 Constitution Ave. NW, nmaahc.si.edu) and the collection. The section on music is my favorite—they have Chuck Berry's Cadillac!"



SHOP ← "The owner of **Redeem** (1810 14th St. NW, redeemus.com) Lori, brings fashion-forward men's and women's brands to DC."



SPICE IT UP ↑ "I've been cooking my whole life, and my fiancée is vegan. **The Spice Suite** (6902 4th St. NW, thespicesuite.com), near the Takoma Park station, is helping me adapt to that type of cuisine."

DINE OUT ↓ "The vibe, energy and decor of **Chaplin's** (1501 9th St. NW, chaplinsdc.com) is very inviting. I love the ramen and the shrimp dumplings."



GO GREEN ← "I'm a big runner, and on hot summer days, **Rock Creek Park** (Northwest DC, nps.gov/rocr/index.htm) is like a getaway for me. I just get lost within the shade, the trees and the expansiveness."



From left: Alexander backpack in black Saffiano leather, and Benchley messenger in Acorn Saffiano leather, \$2,195 each, both at markcross.com.

CROSSING THE LINE

BAGS FOR THE BOYS

Mark Cross, the leather-goods brand popular with both "it" girls and "it" ladies-who-lunch, launches a men's collection that reinterprets its popular silhouettes in masculine shapes and colorways. Known for dedication to craftsmanship, use of fine leathers, and abandonment of overwhelming logos and hardware, Mark Cross bags are perennial and luxurious. These same characteristics carry over to the newly minted men's collection. Most notably, the Alexander backpack offers a sophisticated twist on the middle-school staple, constructed in buttery Saffiano leather and rendered in a cool navy tone. Other standouts are the Benchley messenger, reminiscent of a vintage camera bag, with clean lines and modern hardware; and the Baker overnight bag, a derivative of the brand's popular women's Laura handbag with a classic boxy silhouette, top handle and detachable shoulder strap. Emphasis on utility without compromising on design or craftsmanship is at the cornerstone of this collection, making the pieces must-haves for the modern man. —Emily Hannon