

Dishing it with style maven Steven Cojocar

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Steven Cojocar arrives at MIU MIU Presents Lucrecia Martel's "Muta" in Beverly Hills, Calif. Tuesday, July 19, 2011. (Dan Steinberg | AP Photo)

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By [Jamesetta Walker](#)
The Virginian-Pilot
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Steven "Cojo" Cojocar is at once merciless and hilarious, tempered by self-deprecation and propelled by all the fodder Hollywood has to offer. He picks up where Joan Rivers left off in her heyday.

The celebrity stylist and commentator for "Access Hollywood," who is most recognized for his "best-and-worst-dressed" commentary, will be in Hampton Roads next month, kicking off [Fashion's Night Out](#) at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 6, at Peninsula Town Center's Town Square in Hampton.

The evening will include a makeover that he'll oversee, a presentation of fall fashion, giveaways, red carpet shopping, and a pre-event party and autograph signing at Cinebistro Peninsula Town Center that will benefit the Junior League of Hampton Roads.

Cojo's been taking a break lately and indulging his bohemian side, which is a departure from his usual rock-star flash. The Montreal native called me last week while vacationing at a friend's home on a golf course in Palm Springs, Calif.

"It mystifies me that people play golf," Cojo said. "It's so boring."

We chopped it up about everybody and everything, including his ditching his bleached hair, Prince Harry in Vegas and reigning pop princesses.

On Prince Harry and his naked romp in Las Vegas

"He needs therapy. It's so inappropriate and so wrong. Normally I'm one to applaud rebellious behavior... but this is a stupid, stupid move on his part."

On the hype about the Duchess of Cambridge

"Not a big fan of Kate Middleton. I think it's much ado about nothing. I don't find her that modern. Kate is cute and she is appropriate, but to call her a style icon is preposterous.

"She has an ancient brow. It looks like she's getting makeup lessons from Christina Aguilera."

On his new look

Cojo grew a beard and switched to long, dark hair because he took a look at himself and saw "a bloated Jennifer Aniston."

"My parents think I've been kidnapped by a cult. They want me to be Anderson Cooper, but I'm not ever going to be Anderson Cooper."

But he says he'll definitely shave for Fashion's Night Out.

"My hair will be gorgeous. It's my crowning glory."

On the over-the-top styles of Nicki Minaj and Lady Gaga

"I love Nicki Minaj. She's outrageous, colorful, creative, has strength of humor. She owns the twistedness. I'm a huge fan.

"I can't stand Lady Gaga. She looks like she's trying."

On whom he would love to dress

Rihanna - "She needs Cojo's help desperately."

Madonna, whom he says is the Queen of Reinvention, but who has regressed - "She looks matronly and safe. She dresses like an old Amish woman.... I think she has found her muse, and it is the Queen Mother."

On who has natural style

"Look at how updated and fresh Michelle Obama looks. It's effortless. Those beautiful flower dresses, those flats, the cardigans - that's style."

"Jennifer Lopez has an ease. She has power and charisma. She can be a princess one day and a nasty ho the next."

On his new clothing line, Cojo Connection, which he designs

"It's been a bit of a lesson for me. Now I realize how it hurts when I trash somebody's line." However, "I'm not sure I'm going to declaw."

His mission

"I want to be the Pied Piper of Fashion. I almost see it as a revival. I see myself as a fashion evangelist."

On what to expect of his visit to Hampton Roads

"My goal is to get everyone who comes to Peninsula Town Center to connect with her inner diva.... If I see a woman wearing mom jeans and sneakers, I'm gonna rip it off and slap on a leather mini skirt."

[editorial]



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