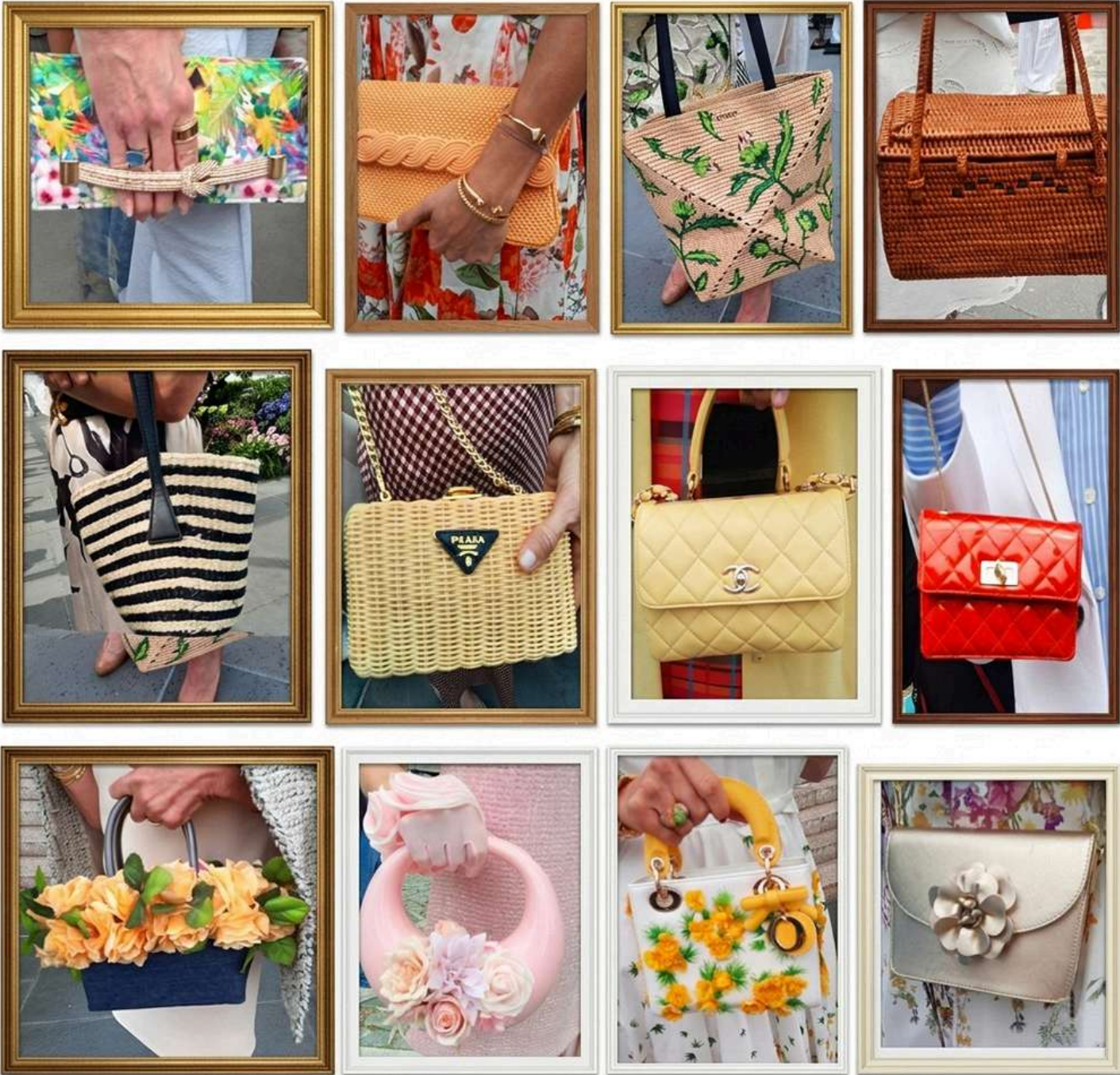


# Carrying the Day: The Handbags of the Hat Lunch

MAY 12, 2026



*While the headgear remains the headline of the Hat Lunch*, the “public theatre” extends right down to the handles. This year, the crowd styled their handbags with a blend of heritage and playfulness:

Archetypes from **Hermes**, **Chanel**, **Bottega**, and **Dior** dominated the scene, many reimagined in a palette of soft pastels. Even the most structured classics felt personal, updated with dangling trinkets and artfully twisted scarves.

Fitting for the Conservatory Garden, flowers and blossoms were a recurring motif. Basket purses were out in force, alongside textures of woven natural fibers and seeds. Pearls, encrusted gems, and high-shine finishes — punctuated by hits of fringe — added a necessary layer of luncheon sparkle.

Several of the fashion-conscious opted for high-impact coordination, matching their bags directly to their garments in bursts of bold primary colors.

And it wouldn't be the Hat Lunch without a touch of the literal. Whimsical novelty purses — from birdcages and deconstructed boxes to rhinestone “cell phones” and pet pooches — offered a final flourish of fun.

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# The Classics ...













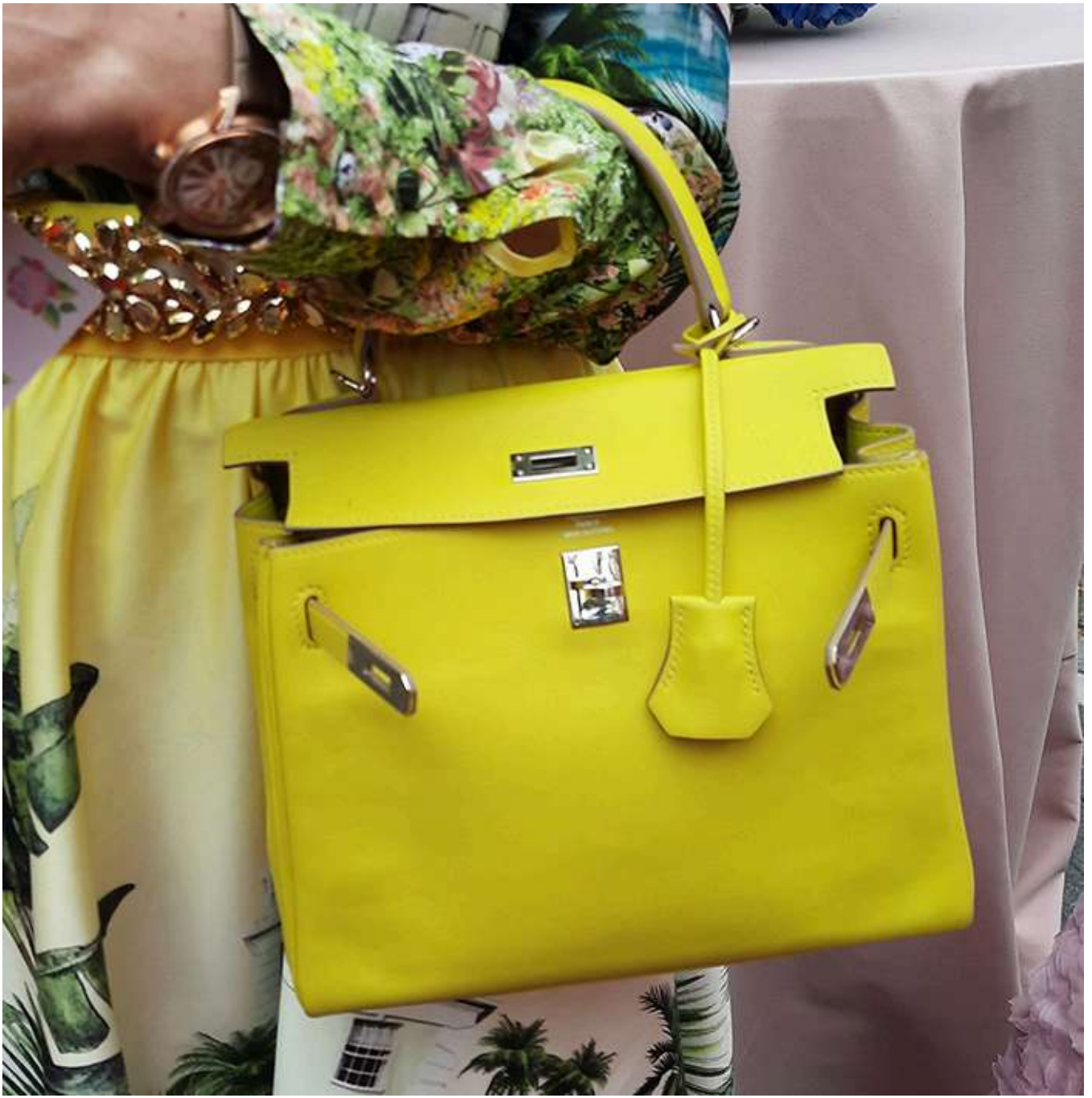




































# The Baskets ...

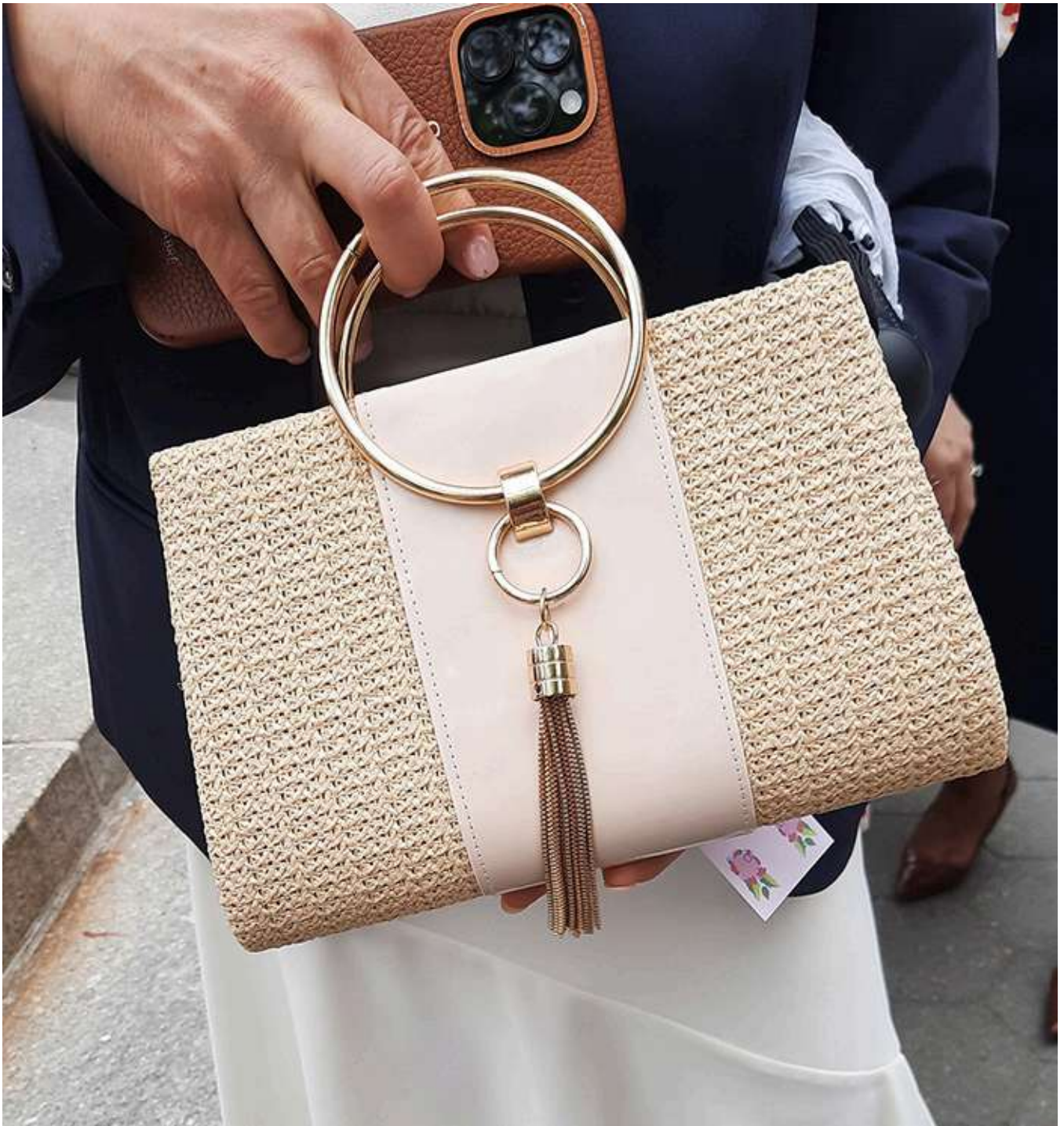












































Floral ...





































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**Gems and Shine ...**

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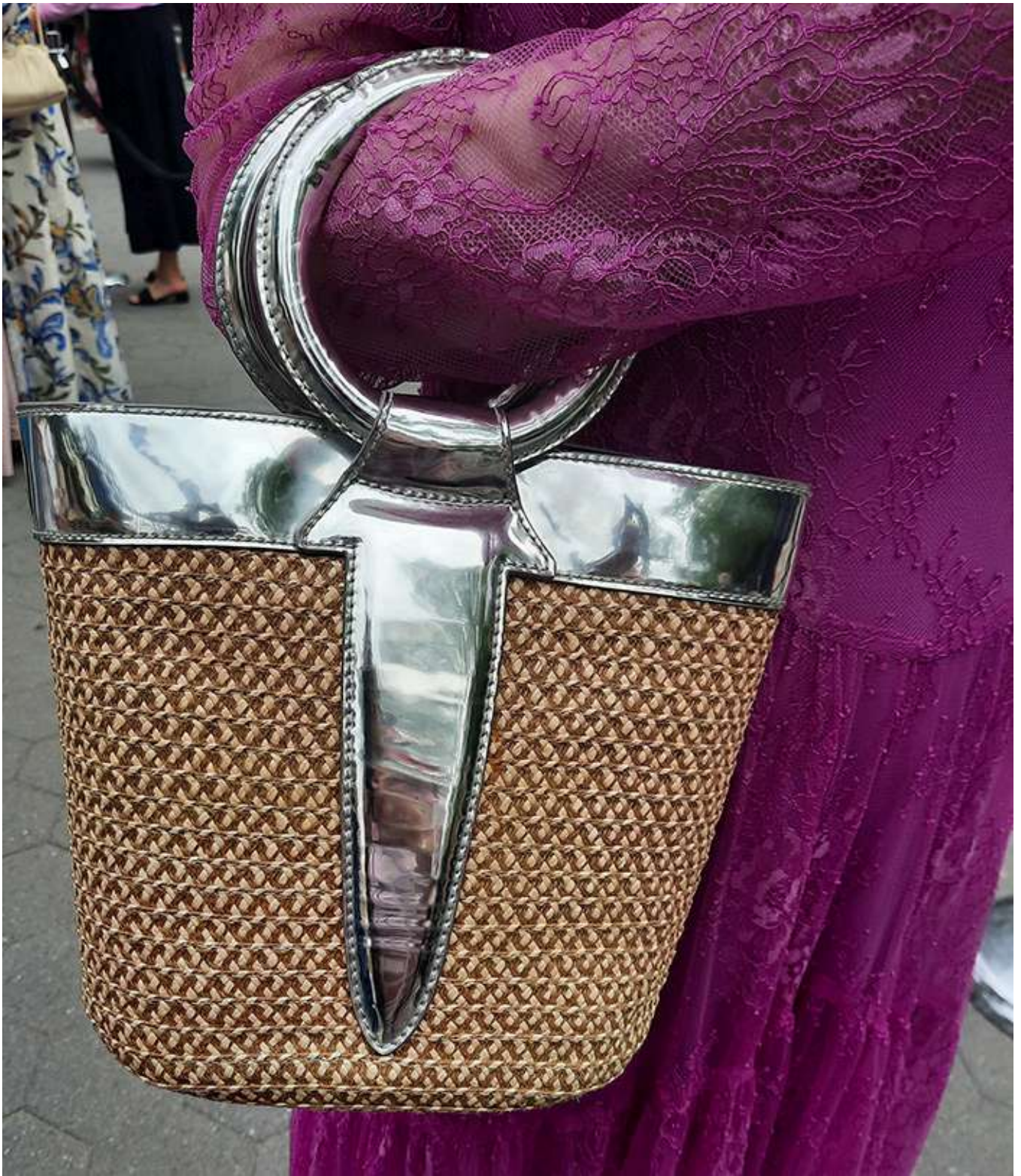




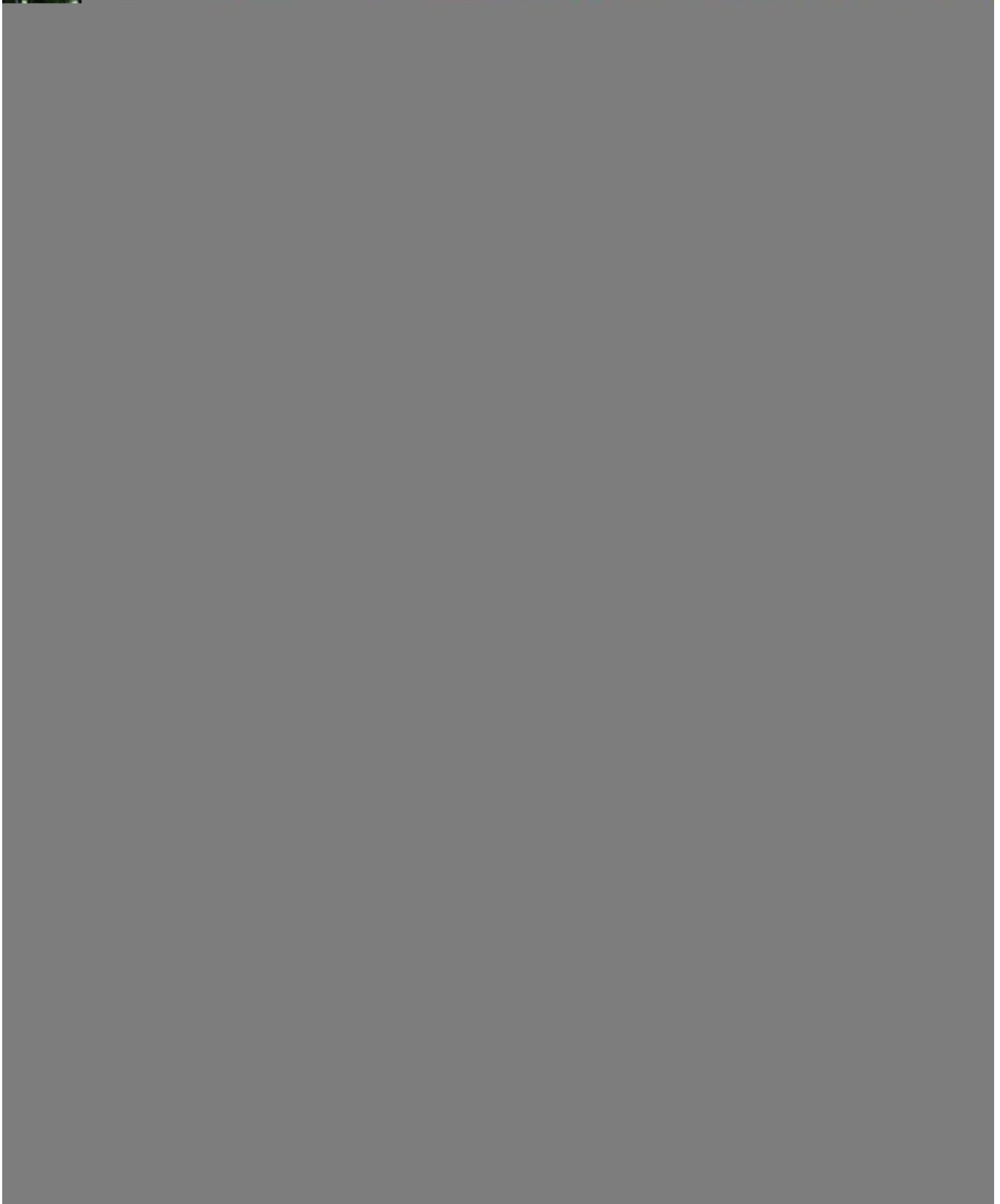




























**Paired with Garment ...**

























Novelty ...





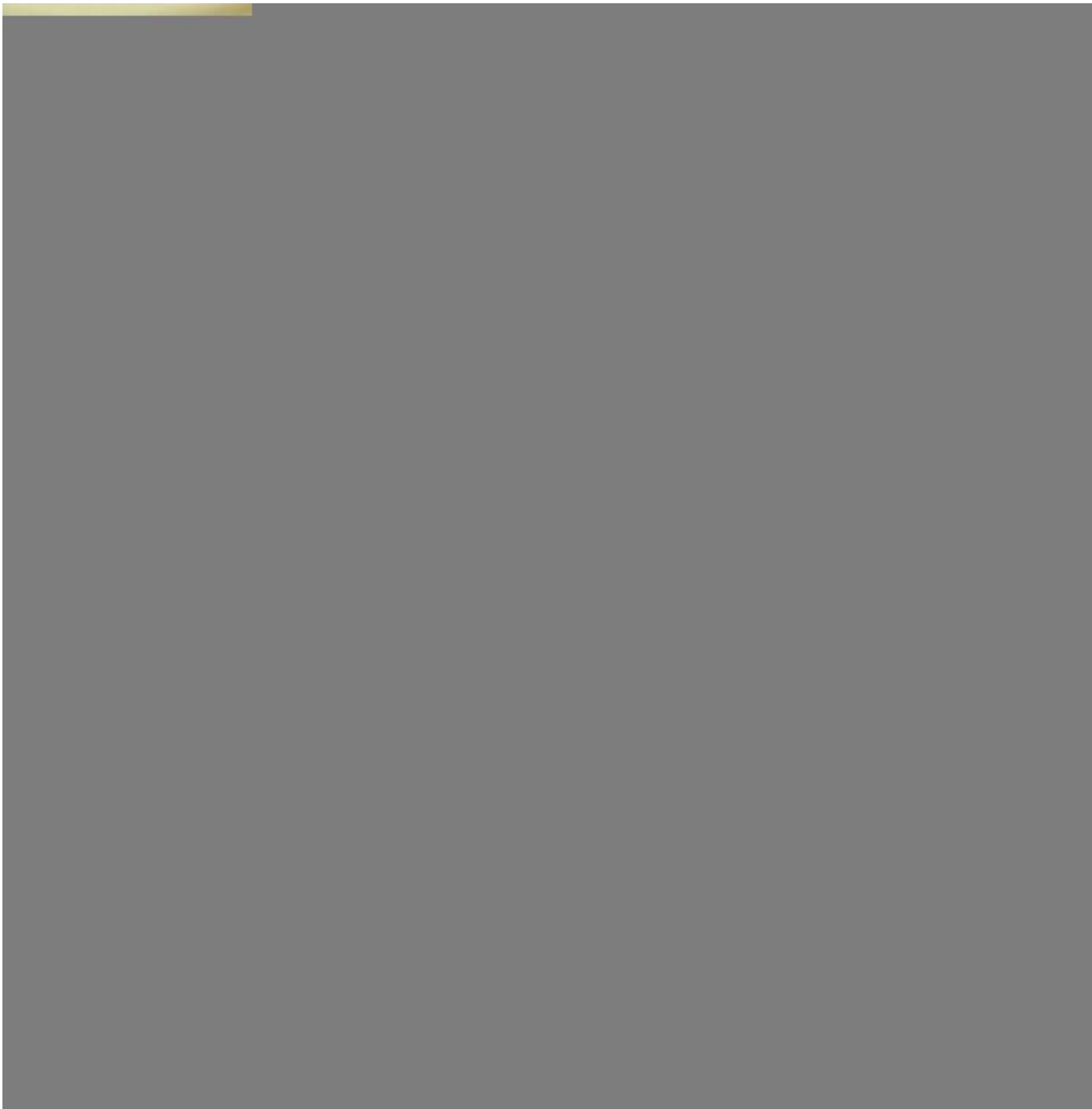












































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