

- MAIN MENU
- HOME
- NEWS
- DESIGNERS
- FASHION CULTURE
- BEAUTY
- SPECIAL FEATURES
- FACTIO A-LIST
- WOMAN OF STYLE
- FASHION FOR HIM
- BOUTIQUE LOCATOR
- CONTACT US
- SIGN UP FOR FACTIO HERE

## Special Features

Daily News....updated constantly....

### Tupli Couture...Keeping up with the Blahnik's and the Choo's...

By Danielle Vega

So you found the perfect outfit, but there isn't a single pair of shoes in your closet that will go with it. Every woman has had this problem at some point or another. That is why Kathy Myczkowski and Tamara Chubinidze founded Tupli, a company that specializes in helping their clients design and create the perfect pair of shoes for all occasions.

European imported diamonds, beads, leather, suede, satin, color swatches, and anything else your feet may desire can all be found in the intimate salon. As long as an appointment is scheduled, a customer can come into the salon to have a one-on-one consultation with a creative designer and illustrator. Custom-made shoes will start at \$600, while custom-made boots will start at \$1,200. The maximum time it takes to get your specialty designed shoes back is 4 weeks, but it is well worth it! We caught up with the gems behind the well-heeled to shoes to dish on the craftsmanship, their style and oh yes, where they hope to be in five years...



Tupli Couture Custom-made Shoes: \$600

**Factio Magazine:** What inspired you to start Tupli?

**Kathy Myczkowski and Tamara Chubinidze:** We both always wanted to be involved in the fashion industry, but our career paths led us to the financial world where we both met over 3 years ago. From the beginning, we got along very well and discovered that we both had many things in common and shared the same dreams. From that point on, it was just a matter of time to come up with a business venture and pursue it.

**FM:** Tamara, you are thought to be the creative one, when did you know that you wanted to be a designer and how did you get started?

**TC:** I was designing shoes for my friends and I since I was a teenager. Receiving many compliments for the shoes inspired me to start thinking about doing it for others.

**FM:** How did you know that Kathy would be the perfect partner for you?

**TC:** Kathy and I got along very well from the moment we met. Our experience makes a perfect match for business partners.

**FM:** Kathy, you are thought to be the partner that is more business minded. What advice would you give to other entrepreneurs like yourself that are business savvy with a creative edge?

**KM:** Don't be afraid to go for it. You will never know what you're capable of until you will give it a shot. Being an entrepreneur is getting out of your comfort zone and taking chances others are unwilling to take. Remember, success is built on failures.

**FM:** What do you think makes the perfect pair of shoes?

**KM and TC:** That's a very individual question. For some people it may be comfort, for others it's the looks that count. For us, it is the big smile on our client's face once they received their shoes that tell us we've created a perfect pair.

**FM:** What did the most interesting pair of shoes you ever designed look like?

**KM and TC:** We have made many funky shoes, but the one most extravagant one was a pair of chicken leg skin sandals with semiprecious stones.

**FM:** Describe your signature style.

**KM and TC:** The whole idea of custom shoes is to create a pair bringing out our client's personal style and not to impose our own taste.

**FM:** Define the style where you are from (Poland and the Republic of Georgia).

**KM and TC:** The fashion style there is a European one, but since we both left our native countries in our teens, we lost direct contact with fashion trends there.

**FM:** According to you, which lady (past or past) has impeccable style and why?

**KM and TC:** Grace Kelly and Jackie Kennedy both had style that's timeless in our opinion.

**FM:** Do you think that money and style go hand in hand or can style never be brought? Is it something you just have?

**KM and TC:** We both agree that style is something you're born with. Sure money can buy you trendy designer labels, but to carry it off well you need to have style and grace.

**FM:** What key fashion pieces do you always have in your wardrobe?

**KM and TC:** In our closets, you'll find a few quality timeless pieces such as a little black dress, trousers or a pencil skirt. The seasonal things to buy are accessories, which is an inexpensive way to update the look.

**FM:** What is your biggest fashion vice? What are your favorite shops worldwide?

**KM and TC:** We love to browse through small boutiques anywhere we go to look for unique, one-of-a-kind items. They tend to be rather costly, but hey you're allowed to do it once in a while.

**FM:** What is a fashion no-no when attending special events, galas and more? Any tips on getting ready for an event?

**KM and TC:** Although each of us has her own individual style, we both agree that not looking out of place is the key. If your invitation didn't include a dress code, and you're not sure what to wear, do your research. Find out who or what the event is attributed to, who the hosts and key guests are. That should prepare you to fit right in.

**FM:** Where do you see Tupli in five years?

**KM and TC:** We're planning to be a worldwide known label and expand our showrooms to LA and Miami, and who knows maybe even Europe.