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**m**

saturday magazine

PRIZE WRITER  
OUR WINNING SHORT  
STORY IS REVEALED

COMING CLEAN  
MEL GIBSON ON  
WHY HIS DARK  
DAYS ARE OVER

# TWO BY TWO

INSIDE THE INDIAN VILLAGE WHERE THE EXTRAORDINARY NUMBER OF TWIN BIRTHS IS PRESENTING RESEARCHERS WITH A MEDICAL MYSTERY

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# m is all about...

Celebrating women on Mother's Day



## Polly Becker at Bastakiya

Boston-based Polly Becker describes herself as an "editorial illustrator", although her more recent pieces transcend what is traditionally regarded as illustration. Actually, you might recognise her designs from the pages of *M* – see our Vivienne Westwood cover "Great Dame" (April 11, 2009) and "The Jane Drain" (September 26, 2009). When the team at S\*uce boutique first spotted her work in *M*, they "fell in love", says spokeswoman Melina Mitri, and got in touch with her to ask if she'd like to collaborate on a project for this year's Al Bastakiya Art Fair.

Becker studied illustration at the Rhode Island School of Design. Her work has been on show in galleries in New York, Boston and San Francisco, although her collaboration with S\*uce for Al Bastakiya is her first solo exhibition. By using flirty, girly details in every piece, they tried to emphasise the fact that looks can be deceiving. Becker says she "focuses on the idea of women and adornment" and her meticulous attention to detail is a way for her to "control very carefully what is being seen".

The series, which can be seen at House 58, next to the central plaza, is made up of eight assemblages of two-dimensional faces against their theatrical three-dimensional costumes. Pearls, crystals, gems, antique jewellery and glass baubles adorn their dresses and jump off the pieces, immediately distracting you from the women's plain faces. Becker will be flying in to attend the first day of the exhibition on March 15 and all of her exhibits are for sale. The fair runs until March 21. See [www.bastakiyaartfair.com](http://www.bastakiyaartfair.com)