

## TIBI

*120 Wooster St., (212) 226-5852* Nearly a decade ago in Hong Kong, Amy Smilovic started Tibi with just a few dress samples. Over the years, Smilovic's creations have blossomed into a line carried in stores all over the world. Now Tibi, known for its bold, graphic custom prints, has opened a flagship store in SoHo, a floaty, clean, loft-like space designed by the New York firm ArchLAB and featuring a great floral swirl of a hand-painted ceiling mural. Smilovic, who designs Tibi's exclusive prints, says of the shop, "It's such a testing lab. I love seeing why people come in and what they try on." And why not slip into something here: The dressing rooms are enormous, filled with natural light flooding in from skylights overhead, and everything on the racks feels fantastic—luxe, buttery and velvety. One could close one's eyes and

still navigate happily through the silks and sumptuously soft wools. But it's worth keeping them open for a strapless black dress with pale-gray embroidered peonies (inspired by an antique piano shawl) that has the look of a true classic or a '30s-style top with eye-catching buttons of stacked mother-of-pearl. Drawing on various decades past, the store offers '70s-inspired dresses in psychedelic prints of silk and wool jersey along with boxy, tweedy early '60s jackets with big lapels and oversize buttons. The overall feel is at once vintage and utterly current, and the clothes generally split the difference between sophistication and fun. Head over for some threads that are sure to be a treat for your senses. ★ Olive Ridley