

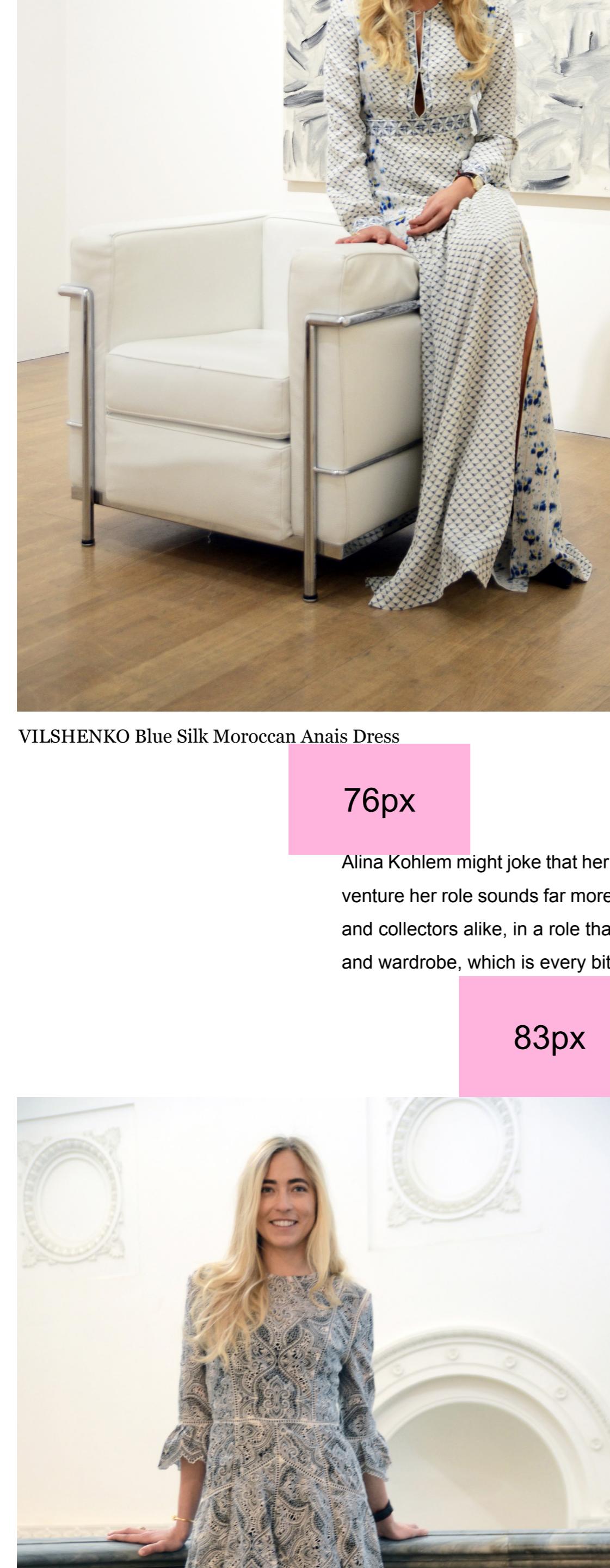
63px

THE CLOSE UP: ALINA KOHLEM

29px

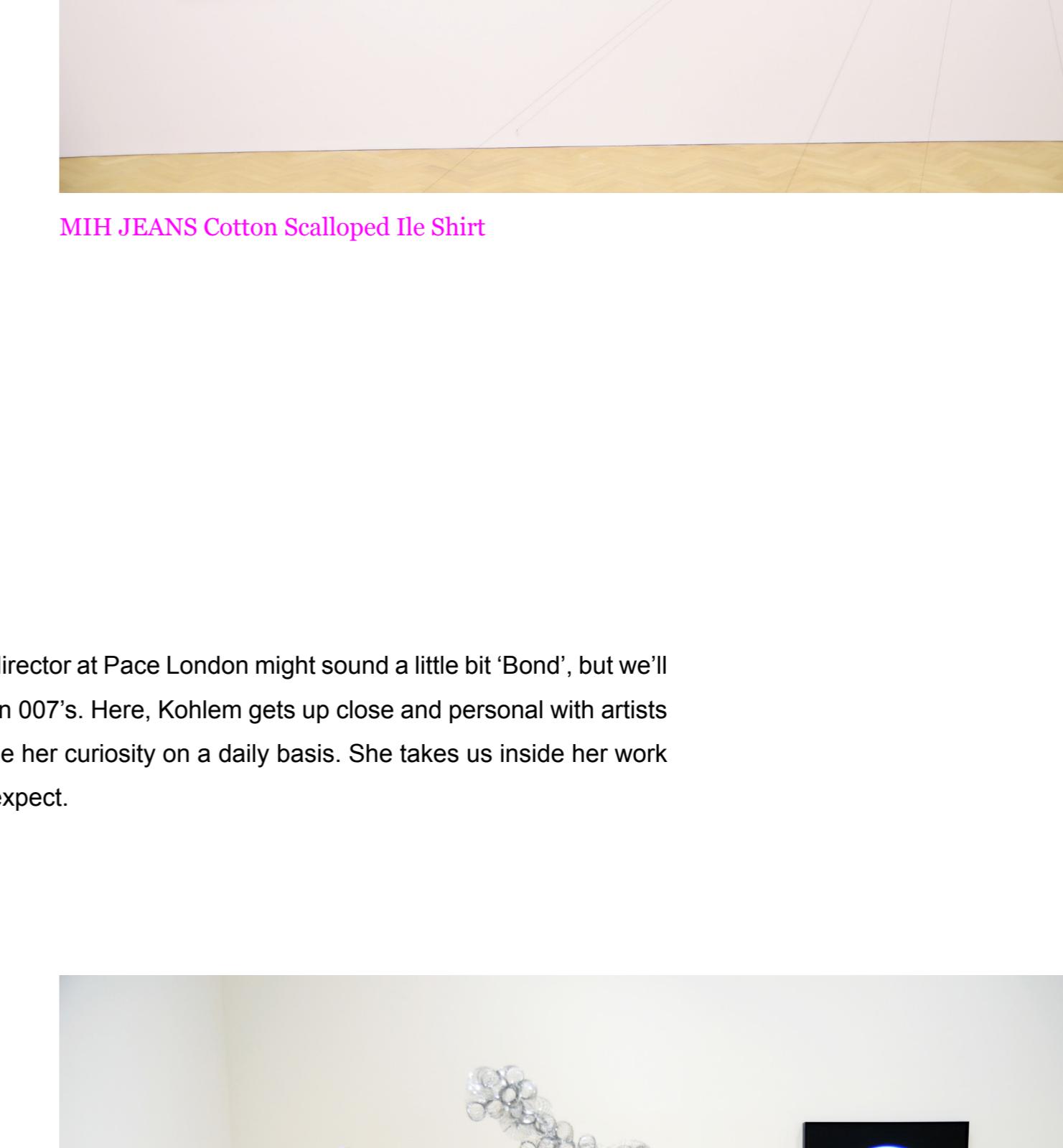
Inside the world of Pace London's international director

69px



VILSHENKO Blue Silk Moroccan Anais Dress

76px



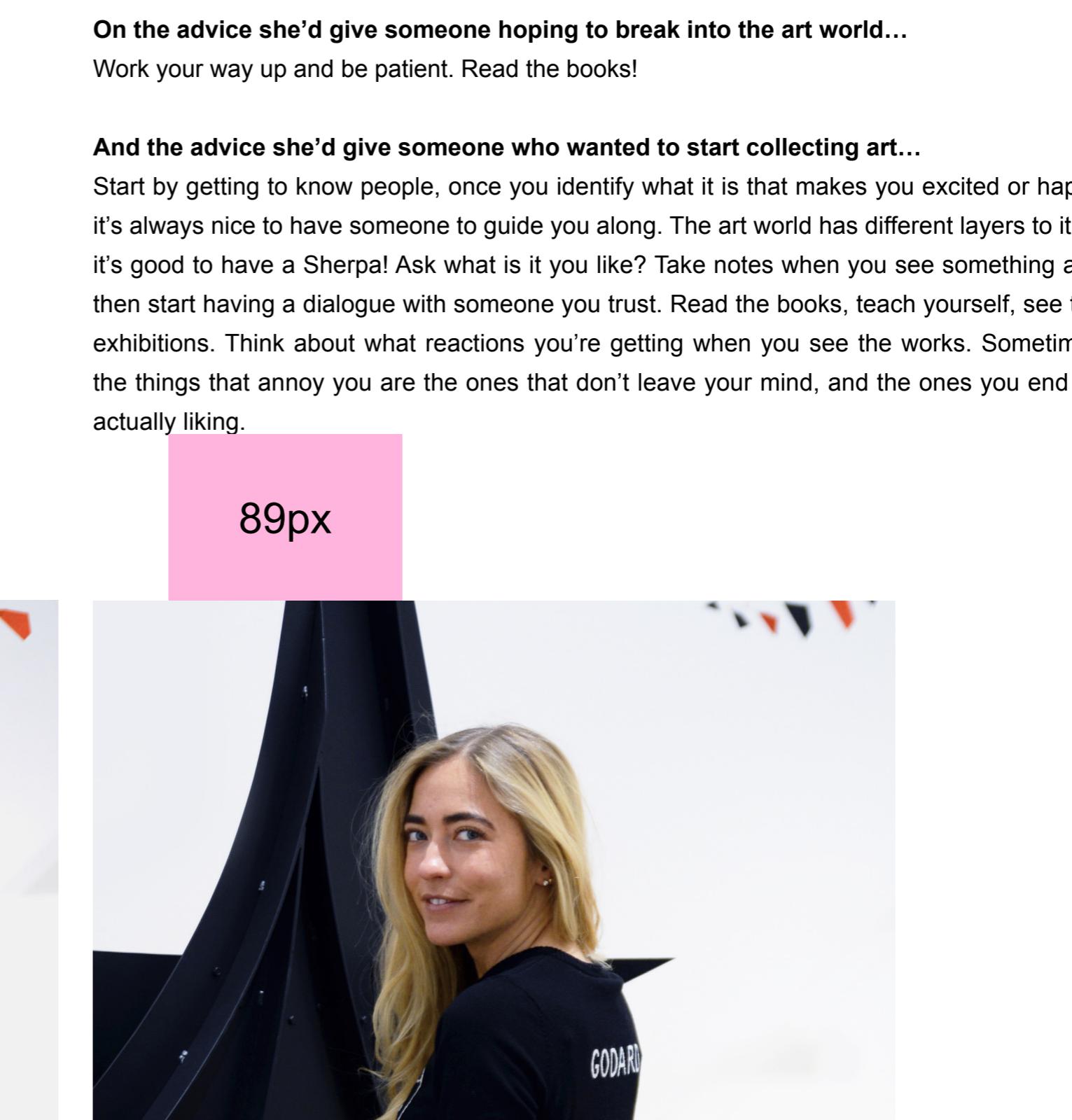
MIH JEANS Cotton Scalloped Ile Shirt

83px



ZIMMERMANN Black Embroidered Empire Dress

133px



MIH JEANS Cotton Scalloped Ile Shirt

75px

On her role at Pace...

I've been working in the art world for nine years and I'm now an international director at Pace gallery. 'International director' sounds like Bond but actually means, being half German, I work with a primarily Germanic group of clients or artists.

On Pace's USP...

Pace is fantastic because we've been around for a long time and we've grown a lot of our artists' careers from the beginning. It feels exciting to be part of an institution like that; it's very much hands on in that sense. Pace is an international gallery, one of the top galleries, but also a family business; it's such an honour to be part of that.

On the best – and worst – things about working in the art world...

The best thing for me is that you never stop learning, whether it's about art or things and perspectives that correlate to art. It's a really fulfilling field for those who are curious. Every job has its bad days, we all get exhausted from time to time, but at even on a bad day we're still talking about art, which is always a nice thing.

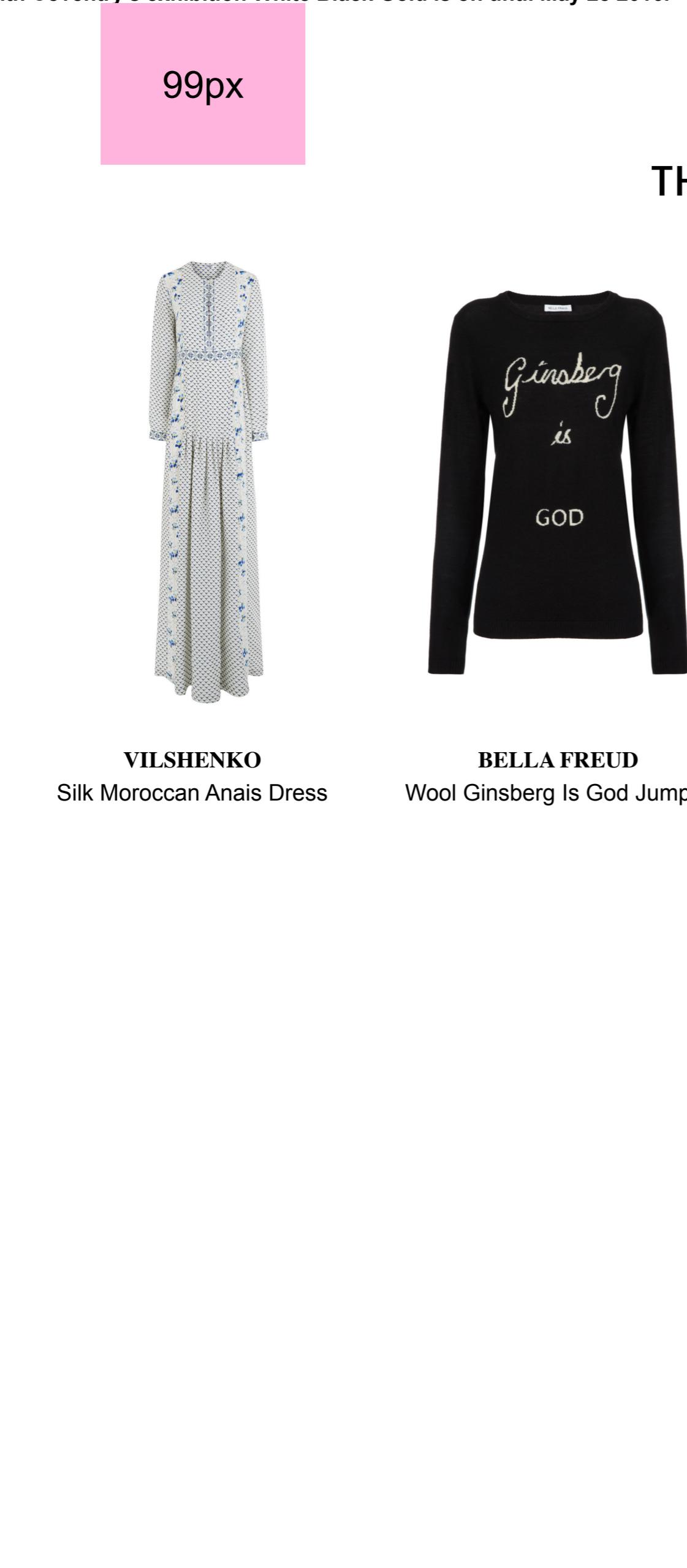
On the advice she'd give someone hoping to break into the art world...

Work your way up and be patient. Read the books!

And the advice she'd give someone who wanted to start collecting art...

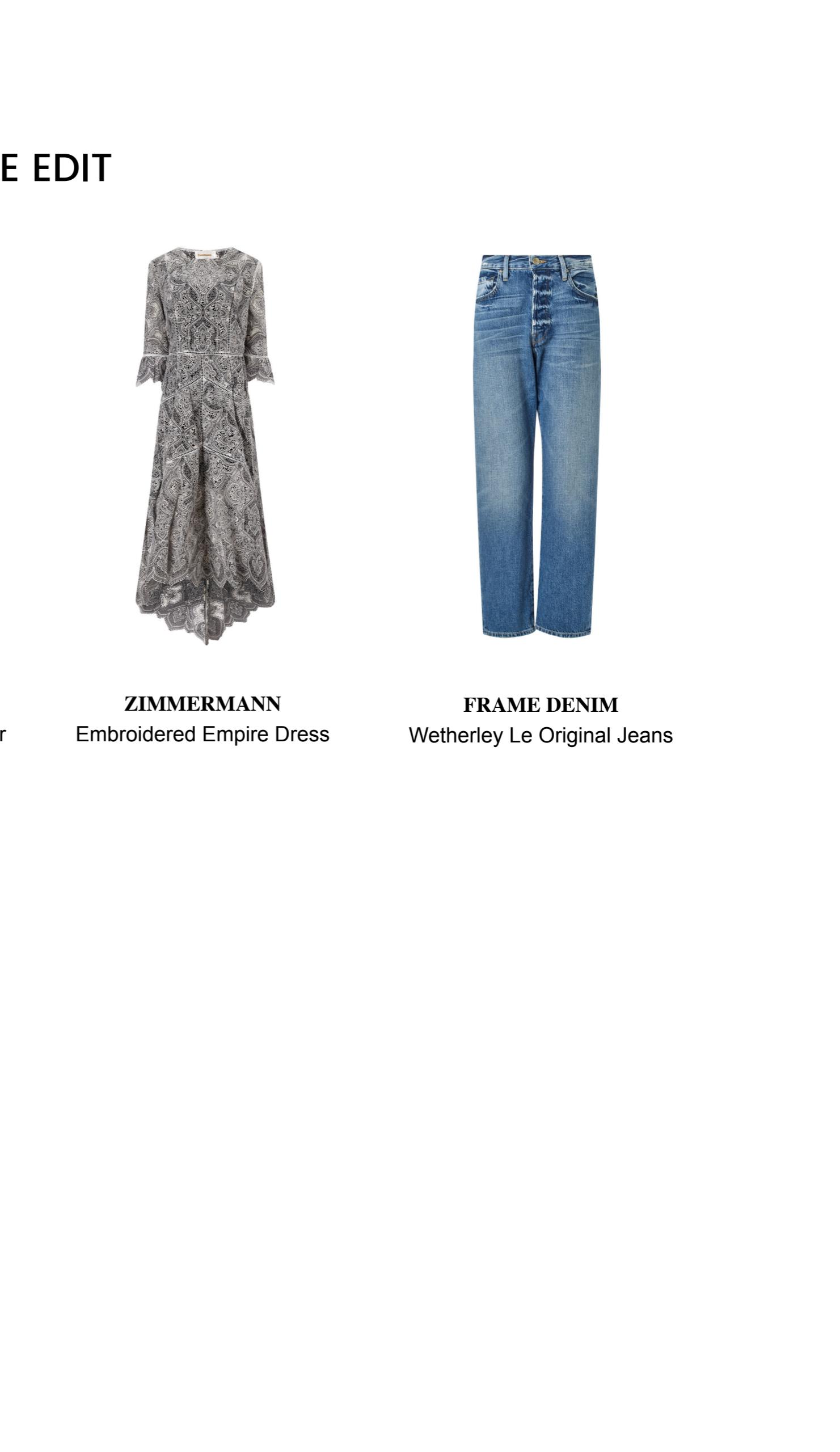
Start by getting to know people, once you identify what it is that makes you excited or happy it's always nice to have someone to guide you along. The art world has different layers to it so it's good to have a Sherpa! Ask what is it you like? Take notes when you see something and then start having a dialogue with someone you trust. Read the books, teach yourself, see the exhibitions. Think about what reactions you're getting when you see the works. Sometimes the things that annoy you are the ones that don't leave your mind, and the ones you end up actually liking.

89px



BELLA FREUD Black Wool Ginsberg Is God Jumper

99px



VIVETTA Striped Satin Iona Dress

On the exhibition that cemented her desire to work in the art world...

I'm pretty sure I always wanted to work in art but the first time I got weak in the knees was at an exhibition of Viennese Art from the early 1900s. There was something particularly touching about it, I loved it.

On the piece she'd buy if money were no object...

That's so mean! It's impossible to choose. My taste varies from having a Max Beckmann to Calder to Agnes Martin.

On her diverse tastes...

I think that's specific to my personality. Me being a German American growing up in a small village [in the Black Forest] and a big city [Miami] lends itself to my indecisiveness in that sense. I also went to California for a year, then university in New York.

On her London life...

I've been here for three and a half years now and I love London, it's a good place to call home. I don't foresee myself leaving London anytime soon, there's so much to do here. Whether it's going to Sadler's Wells or walking through the park (I still never know where I am after three years... there's always constant discovery!). You can go to north London and be this person, or go to east London and be that person; there's a sense of freedom in it being so vast.

On her personal style...

For work I dress in an early-90s, conservative look. I love loafers. As soon as I'm outside the gallery, I dress like it's the 70s, in kaftans and things like that. I don't really like thinking about what I wear too much either way, so if I know I have my 'look' either way, it's easier.

On her personal style icon...

Brigitte Bardot, always. Even in a pair of red Repetto's, she was able to exude a certain confidence.

Pace London, 6 Burlington Gardens, London W1S 3ET

British artist Keith Coventry's exhibition White Black Gold is on until May 28 2016.

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THE EDIT



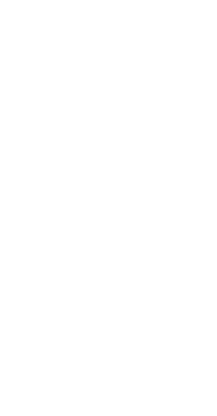
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FRAME DENIM
Wetherley Le Original Jeans