

# ARTS & LIFE

ALI

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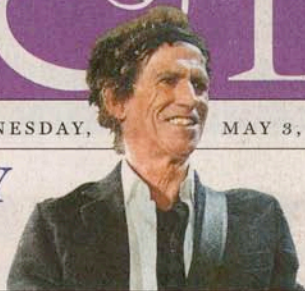
MAY 3, 2006

## MOD MATERNITY

TV host knows the best in bump couture. *Govani, AL3*

## THE FALL GUY

Did Keef tumble from a tree? A boat? Or a combination of the two? *AL2*



Wake-up wonder-woman Liza Fromer has little trouble finding aces maternity wear

# How to look great with child



SHINAN GOVANI  
Scene

So, does the hardest working "bump" in Canadian television have an agent yet?

No, but it is looking pretty spiffy.

Talk to me, **Liza Fromer!** You of the playful, early a.m. mien and persuasive blond hair? How ever have you been managing mixing morning television with morning sickness for all these months? During a time when live television is rarely this *live*?

The short answer? "I don't get morning sickness," the TV host, who's expecting a boy in July, told me when we spoke a little while ago. "Amazingly," she endnotes.

And actually, Liza confides, she's been secretly enjoying being pregnant. "It's still the 4 a.m. wake-up call, but I can get away with not putting on mascara!"

"I bow down to **Gwyneth Paltrow!**" the *Breakfast Television* host adds. She presumably made it safe for kooky, 21st-century career women everywhere to put buns in their respective ovens. In other words: "Now, being pregnant is fun!"

And, of course, it also means

you can go hallelujah shopping, as Liza has been, trying to assemble new and comfy things to wear every single day on unedited TV. Belly — the store that puts the 't' back into maternity — has been one of her primary stops. That pleasant shop on Mount Pleasant was started by **Eva Salem** in an effort to bring hot pregger clothes from shops like A Pea in the Pod in New York, and pile it high with stuff from designers such as **Chip and Pepper**, **Liz Lange** and **Diane von Furstenberg**.

"I got my Earl jeans," Liza is telling me. "And my Bella Dahl jeans, which I wear, like, four times a week."

"You want clothes that can accentuate," she goes on, sounding like she's explaining the periodic table to me. "And I'm all about the orthopaedic footwear."

I bet she is! Quite a whirlwind it's been for Toronto's springiest wake-up call. Over the course of one year, she got married, got Jewish and got pregnant. Having wed investment banker **Josh Gerstein** just last summer, you could say she got in the family way faster than you can say *BT!*

In fact, in the very early months, when she hadn't formally announced that she was pregnant but was displaying definite signs, she got quite a bit of viewer feedback. "I had people writing in," she says, "telling me, 'you're kinda letting yourself go!'"

The intimacy between viewer and TV host — especially in the intimate, playpen environs of morning television — is something that's endlessly fascinating to me. People, who've been following the pregnancy *Truman*

*Show*-style, have been writing with all kinds of mommy tips and warnings. One regular supposedly calls in every time Liza crosses her legs on the show — an apparent no-no.

And the gifts. Let's not forget the gifts. Liza gave me a sneak-peek at the accumulation underneath her desk over at the Chum offices. It's like a trailer, almost, for an upcoming feature entitled *The Baby*.

People have also sent in art work. And blankets. And everything else under the morning sun. "Look at this!" the TV star shows me, as we both peer closely at a bequeathed bottle. It's labelled Earth Mama Bottom Balm.

### I SEE, I HEAR ...

That after our **Susur Lee** had finishing battling New York's **Bobby Flay** in an especially dicey episode of *Iron Chef America* — on tonight on the Food Network at 9 p.m.! — he was found snacking on Doritos in his green room ...

### AND ALSO ...

That **Clive Owen** got some satisfaction, and more, when he made the scene at the bar called Stone's Place on the western reaches of Queen. It was the official wrap party for *Shoot 'em Up* — the bloody reel that the British macho-man has been working on in these parts. And so says one of my moles: "He was so charming and open to all that you can definitely see the star quality."

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PETER REDMAN / NATIONAL POST

Breakfast Television host Liza Fromer was more than happy to model a few choice outfits at Belly on Mount Pleasant. At left: Ms. Fromer tries on a Liz Lange top with Chip and Pepper jeans; top right: a wrap by Diane Von Furstenberg; and bottom right: Liza in a multi-coloured Von Furstenberg dress.