



create maternity looks that left the rest of us pregnant plebes crying into our man-sized shirtsleeves.

It wasn't long before design houses – such as denim dynamo Earl jeans and sophisticate Diane von Furstenberg – cottoned on to the sizable number of women clamouring for stylish maternity wear. Retailers such as Old Navy and H&M similarly got wise, and the clothing options for pregnant women started to get better.

But we owe big thanks to the entrepreneurial efforts of a handful of stylish moms who recognized the need for sexy, sophisticated, spunky maternity wear and launched the lines now seen on most pregnant stars. Liz Lange, for example, is the brainchild of a former *Vogue* fashion editor whose line of dresses and separates were worn by Kelly Ripa. Former public relations executive Angela Chew created MommyChic, a line that was favoured by Cate Blanchett. There's also Holly Robinson Peete, a bona fide star who's added "stylish maternity wear designer" to her resumé.

And of course there's Canada's own Eva Salem, who left a lucrative career at L'Oréal behind to open Belly Maternity – the only store in Canada to carry Cadeau (a line worn by Courtney Cox-Arquette and Debra Messing). Salem has just designed her own private label maternity tops (www.bellymaternity.ca). Pregnancy priced right, the colourful line of separates comes in at around \$100, offering



regular gals the chance to look as joyous as they feel.

For fashionistas wanting further inspiration from the stars, there will soon be a new crop of A-list ladies donning stunning maternity wear. Keep your eyes on Heidi Klum, Jennifer Beals – as well as Britney Spears, Angie Harmon, Tina Fey and Jennifer Garner – who will all be giving birth later this year. ▶



No womb for doubt: Heidi Klum (far left), Debra Messing (at top) and Christine Taylor (right) maintained sexy silhouettes during pregnancy



HEADS UP!

Hats off to the enterprising wives and girlfriends of the Toronto Blue Jays, who've just released a collection of baseball hats for their Lady Jays Fashion line. There's just the right headgear for everybody, whether it's a basic black trucker or a pink sueded confection with a zippered pouch (our favourite, at left). And to cap it off, part of the proceeds go to the Jays Care Foundation charity, which helps children in need. Visit www.jaysshop.ca or call 1-877-JaysShop for more info. – Melissa Hank