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discover

Switzerland & Austria

LAURIN KRAUSZ

SWITZERLAND'S NEW TOPMODEL

PLUS

SUCCESSFUL START-UPS **GREAT WEDDING IDEAS** DESIGN, FASHION, CULTURE & LIFESTYLE









Top left: MARGELISCH Mireini bag and Rosche bag Below left: VARGU backpack and Vandis bag

By working with used and recycled materials like industrial waste or auto parts, natural resources such as water and air are preserved and less energy is used. The Fairtrade production ensures that all of the employees are adequately paid for the work they do. That also involves improving working conditions through education, to provide employment without any discrimination and to ensure that all employees have access to a safe and clean working environment. Reinhard Margelisch spends a few weeks in Delhi every year in order to gain a firsthand picture of the business, production processes and new developments.

In 2010, the designer took over the financing of a school in Orissa, South India. This project supports 60 socially disadvantaged children and orphans. The aim is to provide these children with books and nutrition, because poverty should not be a hurdle to education. Buyers of VARGU and MARGE-LISCH products support the ORISSA PROJECT in India and they are helping to make a difference to a child's future.

www.vargu.com www.margelis.ch

Below: Reinhard Margelisch in Delhi Bottom: Fairtrade Seamstress

VARGU

Be unique, recycle and love

Reinhard Margelisch defines himself as a descycler – that is, a designer and recycler. The young entrepreneur aims to create products which permit a perfect symbiosis between creativity, individuality, sustainability and social responsibility. All of his recycled designer pieces are exclusively produced in Delhi under EFTA (European Fairtrade Association) criteria.

TEXT: MERYEM HAUER | PHOTOS: PRODIS DESIGN GMBH

Originally a successful investment banker with his own company, the Bern-based Swiss designer's life changed drastically after a serious car accident in 2005. He dissolved his company and decided to travel around the world. During his travels he had a flash of inspiration in India: bags could be produced from waste materials under environmentally sustainable production processes.

Margelisch found a sewing atelier, which he as able to set up and extend. This required to be passion and patience, as he got used a under completely new condi-

tions and dealing with the incessant heat. The first bag collection, under the trademark VARGU (variations & arguments), appeared. The design of the bags is oriented around appropriateness and functionality. Due to the fulfilment of European Fairtrade standards, VARGU products are also available in the bookstore of the UN in Geneva.

MARGELISCH is the latest trademark of the designer and combines high quality buffalo leather with inner tubes or vehicle seat belts. This unusual fusion allows endless creativity as well as the production of original pieces.



