

INDULGE

from russia with love

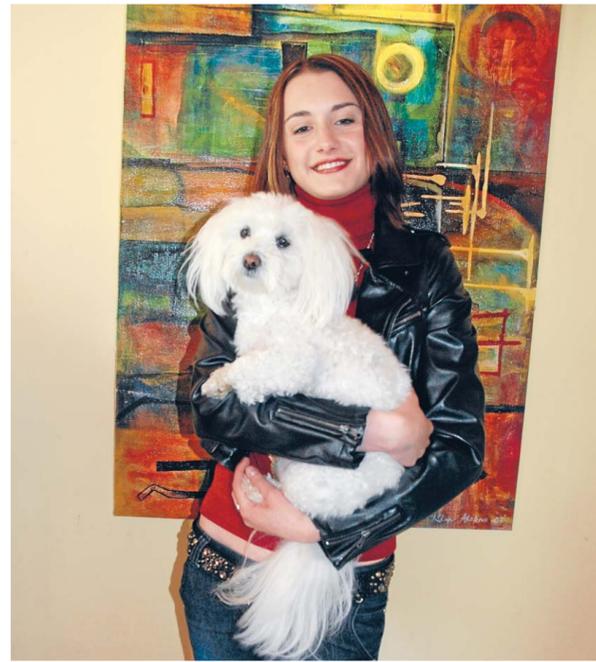


Two years ago Maryana Petrovskaya hit the limelight after winning a modelling competition. Fashion reporter **Craig Lawson** catches up with her and discusses her dreams.

Face of Venom: Her international good looks have helped Maryana Petrovskaya to become the face of Invercargill's Salon Venom.

Moving from Russia to Invercargill has helped this teenager to pursue a dream she never thought possible. Maryana Petrovskaya, 17, says the move to New Zealand has opened up a world of opportunity for her. "I would never have modelled in Russia, it is just too dangerous," she says. Young models can be taken advantage of, people can be harsh and it's a tough environment. She arrived in Invercargill three years ago and it took seven months for her international good looks to be noticed by Kiwi fashionistas. Winning the first Venom Model Search competition in 2007 has seen her become the face of the Invercargill hairdressing salon. Venom owner Adrian Barclay says she is magical to watch when in front of the camera. "She can move between looks so easily, from glam to beautiful to edgy," he says. She has modelled throughout New Zealand, including iD fashion week in

Dunedin and Wella Trend Vision in Auckland. She has been back to Russia once since moving to New Zealand and recalls the emotional experience. "I was really nervous. It was really hard going back to see my friends and family," she says. She arrived in the middle of winter to a very low temperature of -3degC. Her family enjoyed seeing photographs of her new-found success and were pleased to see how well she was doing. It was sad for her to leave Russia, but she is enjoying the New Zealand lifestyle. "My life is here now and I was definitely happy coming back." Next year she will complete her final year at James Hargest College and plans to go to university. But she still has a dream of an international modelling career. "I want the glamorous life of a supermodel with all the travel," she says.



At home: Maryana Petrovskaya, 17, at home with her pet dog Sophie.



At home in Russia: Maryana Petrovskaya returned to Russia last year to visit her family and friends.

puffing on chocolate

When David Edwards first unveiled an inhaler that puffs micro-particles of chocolate into your mouth, he never expected the initial production run of his Le Whif to sell out in less than a month. **Lionel Laurent** reports.

Parisian outlet Colette or direct from the makers. Now Le Whif will have to convince the Galeries' 700,000 daily visitors to spend 5.95 (NZ\$12.39) for a pack of three Whifs or 32 for a pack of 18. Edwards said that by the end of 2010, Le Whif should be available in the United States, Asia and several European markets including Britain and Italy, where consumers are more used to unwrapping chocolate than inhaling it. "We've gone from this artistic experience to a product that's selling in the biggest department store in Paris," Edwards said. "There's more to come." He hinted at a whole range of possible inhalable flavours, including savoury snacks. **Challenges ahead** It won't be easy. Le Whif still needs work: Sucking too hard on the inhaler can lead to a mouth full of powder. A new design planned for early 2010 should help fix this, and will offer new flavours on top of the existing mint, raspberry and dark chocolate range. Edwards' ultimate aim is to one day float Labo Group on the stock market, or to sell specific brands such as Le Whif to bigger industry specialists. Reuters



naughty or nice

Which one will you be this weekend?

Naughty: When good girls go bad
 ▶ 12 fresh rosemary sprigs
 ▶ 6 fresh raspberries
 ▶ 45ml Martini Vermouth
 ▶ 60ml cranberry juice
Method:
 ▶ Muddle rosemary, raspberries in a mixing glass.
 ▶ Fill halfway with ice and add vermouth and cranberry juice.
 ▶ Shake 8 to 10 times.
 ▶ Double strain into a chilled martini glass. Garnish with raspberries speared by a rosemary sprig.
 If you thought you were naughty before, wait till you try this.



...or Nice: Fruit burst
 ▶ 2 strawberries
 ▶ 1 sprig of mint
 ▶ 45ml lemonade
 ▶ 45ml lemon juice
 ▶ Ice
Method:
 ▶ In a shaker, muddle together mint and strawberries, and then add the remaining ingredients.
 ▶ Shake vigorously with ice for 20 seconds.
 ▶ Pour entire contents of shaker into a tall glass.
 Switch off the mobile phone and spend the weekend with the family.



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