

DREW BROWN



en Rowland and her husband Walter were married in the e Manhattan church as her parents... exactly 39 years, to day, later. The couple met at a wedding themselves. "I was ng next to my husband's best friend," she recalls. "He ed to me and said, 'If you're single, I know your future husd." Guess he was right. Rowland grew up right here in okhaven. Her parents owned clothing stores, so you could that fashion runs in the family. As the former director of PR marketing for Austrian leg wear company Wolford, Rownow serves as the marketing brand manager for Spanx, loves being part of a team made up of "smart, creative nen." But after 14 years in New York, the transition back to int Virginia Highlands was difficult at first. "It was too quiet ight," she says. "I couldn't get to sleep without the sound of king taxis!" Now, when she and Walter, who serves as chief ness development officer for Northridge Interactive, are reacquainting themselves with the Atlanta restaurant ne, they enjoy trips back to NYC to visit friends and family.



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Sarah Bentley Powell has a life most

women would envy. A successful career in real estate as an agent for Atlanta Fine Homes/Sotheby's International Realty, she also designs a line of fine gold and enamel jewelry and teaches spinning classes—which helps to explain why she looks amazing just 10 months after giving birth to Pearson, her son with husband Wes Powell (also shown here), a pediatric dentist. The couple met in 2006 when Sarah was on a buying trip in New York as the Southeast rep for Tahari. They married in Washington, D.C., where she grew up. Her childhood included a lot of healthy political debate around the dinner table. "My stepfather, who was a career diplomat, was a Republican and



my mom was a staunch Democrat," she says, "so it was interesting, to say the least." Part of her youth was spent in East Berlin, Germany, where she and her sister would cross the wall everyday to attend school. That firsthand view of diplomacy and international relations now comes in handy, whether on frequent trips to Los Cabos, Mexico, where the couple has a villa at the tony Esperanza resort, or on other recent adventures to Morocco and Switzerland.

As the head of business development for one of the nation's leading renewable energy companies, Keith McDermott wears many hats. Biomass Gas & Electric (BG&E), or "Big Green Energy" as it's become known in the marketplace, builds renewable energy plants that produce green electricity from fuel sources that might otherwise end up as pollutants. A typical day for McDermott can include pitching stories to national media or meeting with potential investors, to lining up celebrity endorsements—which is a far cry from his previous post as the former head of sports marketing for the Southeast Division of Clear Channel. "This is so much more rewarding and meaningful than selling commercials for Jerry Springer," says McDermott. He is also a published author, having penned Lessons from Our Fathers, a collection of life lessons and other pearls of



wisdom imparted from such luminaries as Jimmy Carter and William F. Buckley Jr. In his downtime, McDermott likes to take in sporting events, concerts (he's a major Widespread Panic fan) and other outdoor activities that include Jake and Elwood, a pair of chocolate Labs he recently adopted from the Atlanta Dog Squad.

For fashion designer Eduard, inspiration comes from an unlikely source: music. "Music is the voice of the people," he believes. "And fashion and music have always gone hand in hand." And he should know, having worked in the music business on the management side for R&B group LeVert prior to answering his true calling in fashion. After serving three years in the U.S. Army stationed in Europe, Eduard studied fashion merchandising at the American College of London. Now, as CEO and creative director of Karma Designs, Eduard produces what he describes as "couture T-shirts for women," along with a men's line called Urban Legend. The distinctive shirts, featuring music inspired themes and bold graphic designs, undergo a unique washing process where rust is actually embedded into the fabric to create a distressed look. They are then specially washed to make them super soft. With sales taking off, Eduard now splits his time between Atlanta and Los Angeles, where his manufacturing operation is based, to ensure that shipments reach the 120 locations worldwide that currently carry his designs, like local Midtown boutique Thread House and Moda404, where he recently held a trunk show. And his designs are a hit with celebs, too, including Ciara, Snoop Dog, Tl and Dallas Austin.