

Robb Report

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FOR THE LUXURY LIFESTYLE

## FrontRunners: Cashmere Connoisseur

Valerie Louthan's baby-skin-soft Scottish-made men's sweaters are made from more than mere cashmere. Her classic designs use the fine underhair carefully combed from three to four Mongolian goats for a single sweater and from as many as seven for a cashmere wrap. "I go to Scotland three times a year and supervise to be sure the hand-finished edges are done one at a time," says Louthan, who divides her time between a Harbour Island, Bahamas, home and a pied-a-terre in Palm Beach, where she also operates her only retail operation (561.833.0809).

Her cable-knit crewnecks, bird's-eye pattern golf sweaters, and one-ply Sean V necks (named for customer Sean Connery) are available in 25 different colors. The two-ply cable sweater comes in eight choices of two-tone colors.

At private trunk shows this fall in Tuxedo Park, N.Y. (September 27 and 28) and Beverly Hills (at the Peninsula hotel, October 17 and 18), Louthan will introduce her new single-ply reversible cashmere zip jacket and cashmere and silk roll-collar sweater.

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