

issue 03 . volume 01  
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# MONOCLE

A BRIEFING ON GLOBAL AFFAIRS, BUSINESS, CULTURE & DESIGN

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## Pedal Politics

*A global survey of bicycle culture and commerce*

MONOCLE reports on the most bike friendly city, the biggest brand and more



### E INVENTORY The May poll

Photographer  
David Sykes



### FOOTNOTES

01 **Chi Gomeana**  
Chi Gomeana began selling tea in 1881 and the Azores remains Europe's sole source of home-grown tea. Gomeana's most recent harvest yielded 40 tonnes.



04

### Miranon Miracle cure

Three rather merry lunch parties left a few of us nursing well-deserved hangovers. Thankfully, by the third we had reached Tokyo and help was at hand. In Japan, Miranon is administered to sufferers of upset stomachs, but we discovered it works wonders on the morning after. Once you've snapped open the glass vial and consumed its contents, you'll live to drink another day. [nippo-yakuhin.com](http://nippo-yakuhin.com)

02

### La Maison de Lola

Toys

Portuguese couple Lolanda Mealha and Álvaro Ramos got the kids' attention with their collection of La Maison de Lola dolls. Hand-sewn in their Lisbon workshop, the easy-to-wash wool critters are a throwback to the simpler days of children's toys. Mr Pumpkin (above, bottom left), in his smart hound's-tooth check getup, is particularly fetching. For naptimes, there's a set of plush pillows on offer. Launched recently, the dolls can be found at a few choice shops in Los Angeles, London and Tokyo or ordered online. — JC [laisondelola.com](http://laisondelola.com)

05

Rapha

### Pro cycling clothing

Londoners Simon Mottram and his creative director Luke Scheybeler quit their jobs to fill a gap in an already niche market. Both keen cyclists, they were disappointed with the lack of fashionable high-performance cycling clothing, so they created a high-end brand. "We started above a haperdashery in Camden. Now, with only six people we turn over more than a million pounds a year from a larger office a mile away." Rapha clothes are designed in-house and stress-tested by messengers, in order to ensure the best quality and durability. [rapha.cc](http://rapha.cc)



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