

A FASHION RULES! FRENZY AT NEIMAN MARCUS NORTHPARK

BY CHRISTINA GEYER. PHOTOGRAPHY JASON WYNN

More than 600 partygoers buzzed around Neiman Marcus NorthPark, anxiously awaiting any sign of the Hollywood starlet mentioned on their invitation. At the party co-hosted by *PaperCity* magazine, celebutante and clothing designer **Nicole Richie** flew in to launch her new fashion collection, Winter Kate, meet and greet swarming fans, and sign the latest Fashion Rules! puzzle.



BLUES LOUNGE BASH

Per NM VP and fashion director **Ken Downing's** declaration that navy, cobalt and turquoise are chic for spring, the designer sportswear salon on the third floor was transformed into a fashionable blues lounge for a swank pre-party — a hub for those wanting a sip of bubbly before meeting Miz Richie. *PaperCity* co-editor **Brooke Hortenstine** hosted this smart little soirée where socials sipped Nicolas Feuillatte One Fo(u)r Brut from petite blue champagne bottles and

munched mini-burger sliders and cerulean candied popcorn. "I have to go downstairs and see the collection," said **Hassie Harrison** before spotting the honoree of the evening. Richie appeared from a back dressing room in gray skinny jeans, a black-and-white kimono-style top and platforms, and parted the pre-party sea of fans to ride the main escalator down to the second floor. **Elena** and **Steven Boss**, **Mary-Jane Harris**, **Emily Steed**, and **Steve Kmetz** followed close behind.



Our Brooke Hortenstine sat down with demure designer Nicole Richie to talk kimonos and Winter Kate before Richie faced her mass of adoring fans.

HOW INVOLVED ARE YOU IN THE DESIGN PROCESS OF YOUR CLOTHING AND ACCESSORY LINES?

NR: I design it, I do everything.

A MUST-HAVE ITEM FROM WINTER KATE?

NR: The kimonos, because they're great pieces to throw on over jeans, over anything. You can make it your statement