

MANLY ELEGANCE

Flanella Grigia:
leather goods
at Federico
Polidori



Jewelry designer **Fabio Salini** (*fabiosalini.it*) looks for the same things in clothing, shoes and accessories that he prizes in the pieces he creates for such clients as the Queen of Jordan. "I like the idea of the workshop," says Salini, whose selection of Rome haberdashers bears this out. "It is about the handmade and the time an artisan puts into his craft." He gets his shirts, suits and even tuxedos, plus sweaters and scarves, at **Flanella Grigia** (*Piazza Pitagora 8; fgroma.com*), which "has a very family-feeling approach" despite being a larger operation than a storefront tailor, the best of which, he laments, "are now all dead!"

For shoes, Salini goes to **Marini Calzature** (*Via Francesco Crispi 97; calzaturemarini.it*), a maker of traditional, handcrafted leather footwear since 1899, and he procures additional leather

goods, both custom and off-the-shelf, at the tiny atelier of **Federico Polidori** (*Via di Piè di Marmo 7/8; 39-06/679-7191*), who whips up bags, belts, wallets and other accessories with a decidedly English equestrian look. ("My family used to hunt," Salini explains.)

On the more casual side, he likes **Strategic Business Unit** (*Via di San Pantaleo 68/69; sbu.it*), which sells its wares—including a wide range of its specialty denim pieces—from a wood-paneled former fabric shop.

Artfully attired artist and cultural events organizer **Angelo Bucarelli** (*angelobucarelli.com*), in contrast, whose curator aunt ran Rome's modern art museum for decades, still has a tailor or two up his well-fitted sleeves. **Elmerica Meschini** (*Viale Giotto 2; 39-06/574-1614*) has been producing his shirts—in his signature horizontal

stripes—since 1978. "She's good, and she's cheap," he says, before warning, "she smokes like a chimney, though, so once I take the shirts home, I have to wash them right away."

For suits, Bucarelli goes to **Franco Masino** (*Via Belsiana 60; francomasino.it*), who, he says, generally does the form-fitting Roman cut perfected by the city's ur-tailors, the Caraceni family (though he reports he's gotten the tailor to loosen up a bit for him). And he gets his glasses at **Mondelliani** (*Via dei Bergamaschi 49; mondelliani.it*), which stocks top brands from around the world in addition to creating its own specs. Co-owner Rosaria Riccioli has been selling him the same tortoiseshell pair for 25 years—until a few months ago, that is. "She imposed upon me to change," he says of his now-clear frames.