



Two young girls wearing Peters' signature T-shirts

## **Little ChurchGurl** For The Savvy, Sassy and Saved Woman

## BY: L. CHANNEL SKINNER AND Y'ANAD BURRELL

"When it comes to haute couture, I've always been a fan of Coco Chanel. Her name was synonymous with elegance and chic," says Michelle Peters, owner of ChurchGurl. Peters' signature couture tops erupted onto the fashion scene as the premiere brand of the "savvy, sassy and saved woman". ChurchGurl made its debut at the Stellar Gospel Awards in 2003, and within one hour, the 500 rhinestone studded T-shirts flew off the display tables and into the wardrobes of recording artists such as Mary,Mary, Destiny's Child, and Karen Clark-Sheard, just to name a few.

Michelle Peters, a self-proclaimed "ChurchGurl," developed the concept for her line after a random act of creativity and self-expression. Known for being the daughter of a Pastor, Peters was constantly "ousted" at the secular events she attended with friends. Thus, she decided to paint the word "ChurchGurl" with a glitter pen on a high- end T-shirt while on her way to bible study one day. "Everyone thought it was a little sloppy, but a great concept. So I trademarked the word and started saving money to make my vision a reality," explains Peters.

Peters' fashion sense derives from her love of the eclectic consignment shops of the

Bay Area. Her conceptual line of clothing brilliantly caters to women who are traditionally looked upon as being ultra-conservative and disinterested in the trends of high fashion. She has marketed her line, traveling alongside First Lady Kitty Griffin at various speaking engagements, including the Mega Fest with TD Jakes and the Gospel Music Workshop of America. Her line was also highlighted in Gospel Today Magazine

Peters attributes her love of fashion to the many women in her life who taught her about infusing personality with style. When asked about her own personal tips in creating the perfect look, Peters states, "In the words of CoCo Chanel, 'A little black dress, Chanel No. 5 Fragrance, and rows of pearls,' will always be classic and timeless... but I say, 'Throw your hair in a ponytail, put on a ChurchGurl boy-beater, some jeans, boots, leather jacket, sunglasses, and a nice handbag, and get to stepping!'"

For more information about ChurchGurl, log

Michelle Peters, owner of ChruchGirl

on to www.churchgurl.com.