Filed 07/16/2008

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Document 1

Case 2:08-cv-04641-AHM-RC

INTRODUCTION

Plaintiff creates unique designs and silk-screens, prints and manufactures rotary printed textiles, primarily for use in the garment industry. This action is brought to recover damages for direct, vicarious and contributory copyright infringement arising out of the misappropriation of Plaintiff's intellectual property by the Defendants, and each of them.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. This action arises under the Copyright Act of 1976, Title 17 U.S.C., § 101 et seq.
- 2. This Court has federal question jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331m 1338 (a) and (b).
- 3. Venue in this judicial district is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(c) and 1400(a) in that this is the judicial district in which a substantial part of the acts and omissions giving rise to the claims occurred.

PARTIES

- 4. Plaintiff EKB Textiles, Inc. is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of California with its principal place of business located at 777 E. Washington Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90021.
- 5. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendant MACY'S DEPARTMENT STORES, INC. ("MACY'S") is a corporation organized and existing under the law of the State of Ohio with its principle place of business located at 7 West Seventh Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202.
- 6. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendant MACY'S WEST, LLC., is a corporation organized and existing under the law of the State of Ohio with its principle place of business located at 7 West Seventh Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202.

- 7. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendant G SQUARED FASHIONS, INC. ("G SQUARED") is a corporation organized and existing under the law of the State of California with its principle place of business located at 1710 Hooper Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90021.
- 8. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendant NINEYARD CO. is a corporation organized and existing under the law of the State of California with its principle place of business located at 725 S. Ceres Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90021.
- 9. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that some of Defendants DOES 1 through 3, inclusive, are manufacturers and/or vendors of garments to Defendant, which DOE Defendants have manufactured and/or supplied and are manufacturing and/or supplying garments comprised of fabrics printed with Plaintiff's copyrighted Designs No. 3362 and 3297 (as hereinafter defined) without Plaintiff's knowledge or consent or have contributed to said infringement. The true names, whether corporate, individual or otherwise of Defendants DOES 1-3, inclusive, are presently unknown to Plaintiff, which therefore sues said Defendants by such fictitious names and will seek leave to amend this complaint to show their true names and capacities when same have been ascertained.
- 10.Defendants DOES 4 through 10, inclusive, are other parties not yet identified who have infringed Plaintiff's copyrights, have contributed to the infringement of Plaintiff's copyrights, or have engaged in one or more of the wrongful practices alleged herein. The true names, whether corporate, individual or otherwise, of Defendants 4 through 10, inclusive, are presently unknown to Plaintiff, which therefore sues said Defendants by such fictitious names, and will seek leave to amend this Complaint to show their true names and capacities when same have been ascertained.

11.Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that at all times relevant hereto each of the Defendants was the agent, affiliate, officer, director, manager, principal, alter-ego, and/or employee of the remaining Defendants and was at all times acting within the scope of such agency, affiliation, alter-ego relationship and/or employment; and actively participated in or subsequently ratified and adopted, or both, each and all of the acts or conduct alleged, with full knowledge of all the facts and circumstances, including, but not limited to, full knowledge of each and every violation of Plaintiff's rights and the damages to Plaintiff proximately caused thereby.

CLAIMS RELATED TO DESIGN NO. 3362 AND 3297

12.Prior to the conduct complained of herein, Plaintiff composed a design assigned Plaintiff's Internal Design Number 3362 ("Subject Design"). A true and correct copy of the Subject Design is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

13. Prior to the conduct complained of herein, Plaintiff composed a design assigned Plaintiff's Internal Design Number 3297 ("Subject Design"). A true and correct copy of the Subject Design is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

14.Plaintiff applied for and received copyright registration for Subject Design No. 3362 on June 18, 2007, with the Subject Design being granted the assignment of Registration No. VA 1-420-495.

15. Plaintiff applied for and received copyright registration for Subject Design No. 3297 on January 22, 2007, with the Subject Design being granted the assignment of Registration No. VA 1-396-031.

16.Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that, without Plaintiff's authorization, Defendants, and each of them, purchased, sold, manufactured, caused to be manufactured, imported and/or distributed fabric and/or garment comprised of fabric featuring two designs which are identical to, or substantially similar to, the Subject Designs. (hereinafter "Infringing Garments").

17. At various Defendant retail stores, and each of them, across the United States, one or more of Plaintiff's employees found and purchased garments comprised of fabrics bearing the Subject Designs, which garments were manufactured under the direction of the Defendants, and each of them. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that one or more of the named Defendants owns and/or otherwise controls these labels and caused garments under those labels to be manufactured.

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(For Copyright Infringement - Against All Defendants)

18.Plaintiff repeats, realleges and incorporates herein by reference as though fully set forth the allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 18, inclusive, of this Complaint.

19. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants, and each of them, had access to the Subject Designs, including, without limitation, through (a) access to Plaintiff's showroom and/or design library; (b) access to illegally distributed copies of the Subject Designs by third-party vendors and/or DOE Defendants, including without limitation international and/or overseas converters and printing mills; and (c) access to Plaintiff's strike-offs and samples.

20.Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that one or more of the Defendants manufactures garments and/or is a garment vendor. Plaintiff is further informed and believes and thereon alleges that said Defendant(s) has an ongoing business relationship with Defendant retailer, and each of them, and supplied garments to said retailer, which garments infringed the Subject Designs in that said garment was composed of fabrics which featured two unauthorized print designs that were identical or substantially similar to the two Subject Designs.

21. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants, and each of them, infringed Plaintiff's copyrights by creating, making and/or developing

directly infringing and/or derivative works from the Subject Designs and by producing, distributing and/or selling Infringing Garments through a nationwide network of retail stores and through on-line websites.

- 22. Due to Defendants' acts of infringement, Plaintiff has suffered substantial damages to its business in an amount to be established at trial.
- 23. Due to Defendants' acts of infringement, Plaintiff has suffered general and special damages in an amount to be established at trial.
- 24. Due to Defendants' acts of copyright infringement as alleged herein, Defendants, and each of them, have obtained direct and indirect profits they would not otherwise have realized but for their infringement of the Subject Designs. As such, Plaintiff is entitled to disgorgement of Defendant's profits directly and indirectly attributable to Defendant's infringement of the Subject Designs in an amount to be established at trial.

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(For Vicarious and/or Contributory Copyright Infringement - Against All Defendants)

- 25. Plaintiff repeats, realleges and incorporates herein by reference as though fully set forth the allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 26, inclusive, of this Complaint.
- 26.Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants knowingly induced, participated in, aided and abetted in and profited from the illegal reproduction and/or subsequent sales of garments featuring the Subject Designs as alleged hereinabove.
- 27.Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants, and each of them, are vicariously liable for the infringement alleged herein because they had the right and ability to supervise the infringing conduct and because they had a direct financial interest in the infringing conduct.

28.By reason of the Defendants', and each of their, acts of contributory infringement as alleged above, Plaintiff has suffered and will continue to suffer substantial damages to its business in an amount to be established at trial, as well as additional general and special damages in an amount to be established at trial.

29. Due to Defendants' acts of copyright infringement as alleged herein, Defendants, and each of them, have obtained direct and indirect profits they would not otherwise have realized but for their infringement of the Subject Designs. As such, Plaintiff is entitled to disgorgement of Defendants' profits directly and indirectly attributable to Defendants' infringement of the Subject Designs, in an amount to be established at trial.

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a. That Defendants, their agents and servants be enjoined from infringing Plaintiff's copyrights in any manner;

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- b. That Plaintiff be awarded all profits of Defendants plus all losses of Plaintiff, the exact sum to be proven at the time of trial, or, if elected before final judgment, statutory damages as available under the Copyright Act, 17 U.S.C. § 101 et seq.;
- c. That Plaintiff be awarded its attorneys' fees as available under the Copyright Act U.S.C. § 101 et seq.;
- d. That Defendants, and each of them, account to Plaintiff for their profits and any damages sustained by Plaintiff arising from the foregoing acts of infringement;
- e. That Plaintiff be awarded pre-judgment interest as allowed by law;

Case 2:08-cv-04641-AH		Filed 07/16/2008 Page 8 of 21	
	en e		
f. That Plair	ntiff be awarded the	costs of this action; and	
g. That Plair	ntiff be awarded such	n further legal and equitable relief a	s the
Court dee	ms proper.		
Dated: <u>July 14, 2008</u>		DONIGER LAW FIRM, AF	PC
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Exhibit A

Certificate of Registration



This Certificate issued under the seal of the Copyright Office in accordance with title 17, United States Code, attests that registration has been made for the work identified below. The information on this certificate has been made a part of the Copyright Office records.

Register of Copyrights, United States of America

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Caribbean Blues, Inc. d/b/a/ EKB Textiles 777 E. Washington Blv.

Los Angeles Ca. 90021

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Exhibit B



Certificate of Registration



This Certificate issued under the seal of the Copyright Office in accordance with title 17, United States Code, attests that registration has been made for the work identified below. The information on this certificate has been made a part of the Copyright Office records.

Marybeth Peters

TES COPYRIGHT OFFICE

REGI VA 1-396-031

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REGISTRATION

	Register of Copyrights, United States of America	
4		NATURE OF THIS WORK V See Instructions
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· *	Year in Which Creation of This Work Was Completed This information must be given in all passes in all passes published Date and Nation of First Publication of Tomplets this information Month	THE PRINCIPLE WORK
	COPYRIGHT CLAIMANT(S) Name and address must be given even if the claimant is the name as a suther given in space 2. V	IAN_2 2 2007
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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENT TO UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE FOR DISCOVERY

This case has been assigned to District Judge A. Howard Matz and the assigned discovery Magistrate Judge is Rosalyn M. Chapman.

The case number on all documents filed with the Court should read as follows:

CV08- 4641 AHM (RCx)

[X]	Western Division 312 N. Spring St., Rm. G-8 Los Angeles, CA 90012	Ц	Southern Division 411 West Fourth St., Rm. 1-053 Santa Ana, CA 92701-4516	L	Eastern Division 3470 Twelfth St., Rm. 134 Riverside, CA 92501
Subs	sequent documents must be filed	at the	following location:		
	py of this notice must be served v a copy of this notice must be ser		e summons and complaint on all def n all plaintiffs).	endar	nts (if a removal action is
			NOTICE TO COUNSEL		
	:=======:=:	===	· ===========		=======
A	Il discovery related motions	shou	ald be noticed on the calendar	of the	e Magistrate Judge
			te Judge has been designated		
	Pursuant to General Ord	ier us	0-07 of the United States Distr	ict C	ourt for the Central

Failure to file at the proper location will result in your documents being returned to you.

Stephen M. Doniger, Esq. (SBN 17>314) Scott A. Burroughs, Esq. (SBN 235718) DONIGER LAW FIRM APC 300 Corporate Pointe, Suite 355 Culver City, California 90230 Telephone: (310)590-1820	
UNITED STATES I CENTRAL DISTRIC	
EKB TEXTILES, INC., a California Corporation,	CASE NUMBER
PLAINTIFF(S) V. MACY'S DEDARTMENTSTORES DIG on Ohio	CV08-04641 AHM (RCx)
MACY'S DEPARTMENTSTORES, INC., an Ohio Corporation; et al.,	
[See Attached "Schedule A"] DEFENDANT(S).	SUMMONS
must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached document counterclaim cross-claim or a motion under Rule 1 or motion must be served on the plaintiff's attorney, Steponic Doniger Law Firm APC, 300 Corporate Pointe, Sujudgment by default will be entered against you for the region of the regi	2 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer sphen M. Doniger, Esq. , whose address is site 355, Culver City, CA 90230 . If you fail to do so, elief demanded in the complaint. You also must file
	Clerk, U.S. District Court
Dated: JUL 1 6 2008	LA'REE HORN By:
[Use 60 days if the defendant is the United States or a United States 60 days by Rule 12(a)(3)].	Deputy Clerk of the United States. Allowed 1192
CV-01A (12/07) SUMM	IONS

Document 1

Filed 07/16/2008 Page 18 of 21

Case 2:08-cv-04641-AHM-RC

"Schedule A"

EKB TEXTILES, INC., a California Corporation

Plaintiff,

vs.

MACY'S DEPARTMENT STORES, INC., an Ohio Corporation; MACY'S WEST, L.L.C., an Ohio Corporation; G SQUARED FASHION, INC., a California Corporation; NINEYARD CO., a California Corporation; and **DOES 1-10**

Defendants.

Case 2:08 NOTE 641 THE STRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT CALIFORNIA CIVIL COVER SHEET

I (a) PLAINTIFFS (Check box if you are representing yourself □) EKB TEXTILES, INC.						IDANTS CY'S DEPARTMEI	NT STO	RES, INC., an Ohi	o Corporation; et a	1.	
(b) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address and Telephone Number. If you are representing yourself, provide same.) Stephen M. Doniger, Esq. (SBN 179314) Doniger Law Firm APC, 300 Corporate Pte., Suite 355, Culver City, CA 90230 Telephone: (310) 590-1820					Attorney	rs (If Known)					
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION		ce an X in one box only.)		III. CITIZENS (Place an X	HIP OF	PRINCIPAL PAI ox for plaintiff and	RTIES -	For Diversity Cas	ses Only		M
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff		3 Federal Question (U.S Government Not a Par	ty)	Citizen of This S			F DE	F	r Principal Place this State	PTF □ 4	DEF
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defenda	nt 🗆	4 Diversity (Indicate Cit of Parties in Item III)	izenship	Citizen of Anoth	er State		2 🗆 2		nd Principal Place	□ 5	□ 5
YVV ON THE				Citizen or Subject	t of a Fo	reign Country 🗆	3 🗆 3	Foreign Nation		□6	□6
IV. ORIGIN (Place an X in o	ne box c	only.)							· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
Proceeding State C	Court	Remanded from Appellate Court		einstated or 5 copened	Transfer	rred from another d	istrict (s	Dis	trict Judge	al to Defrom	
V. REQUESTED IN COMPI	LAINT:	JURY DEMAND: M	Yes □	No (Check 'Yes'	only if d	emanded in comple	int)		iviagi	Sirate J	uage
CLASS ACTION under F.R.O	C.P. 23:	□ Yes ■ No				DEMANDED IN (A WINTER O			
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION (Ci			ich you a	re filing and write	a brief s	statement of cause.	Do not	cite jurisdictional s	statutes unless dive	rsity.)	
OTHER STATUTES		CONTRACT	1.15.48	TODEC	a 5.58 A	al francisco de casa en en en en en en		And the second second	T	·	
☐ 400 State Reapportionment	□ 110	Insurance	PER	TORTS SONAL INJURY		TORTS		PRISONER	LABC	77 T. 174 T.	
□ 410 Antitrust		Marine	□ 310	Airplane		PERSONAL PROPERTY	☐ 510	PETITIONS Motions to	□ 710 Fair Lab	or Stand	dards
☐ 430 Banks and Banking ☐ 450 Commerce/ICC	130	Miller Act	□ 315	Airplane Product	□ 370	Other Fraud		Vacate Sentence	Act □ 720 Labor/M	amt	
Rates/etc.	□ 150	Negotiable Instrument Recovery of	□ 320	Liability Assault, Libel &	□ 371	Truth in Lending		Habeas Corpus	Relations		
☐ 460 Deportation		Overpayment &	1	Slander	J□ 380	Other Personal		General	□ 730 Labor/M	gmt.	
□ 470 Racketeer Influenced		Enforcement of	□ 330	Fed. Employers'	385	Property Damage Property Damage	□ 540	Death Penalty	Reporting	g &	
and Corrupt Organizations	0 151	Judgment Medicare Act	□ 340	Liability Marine	1	Product Liability	15 340	Other	Disclosur Disclosur Disclosur	re Act Labor 4	A ot
☐ 480 Consumer Credit	☐ 151 ☐ 152	Recovery of Defaulted	□ 345	Marine Product	_ B	ANKRUPTCY	□ 550	Civil Rights	☐ 790 Other Lal		101
☐ 490 Cable/Sat TV		Student Loan (Excl.	I	Liability	422	Appeal 28 USC 158	□ 555	Prison Condition			
☐ 810 Selective Service ☐ 850 Securities/Commodities/		Veterans)		Motor Vehicle Motor Vehicle	□ 423	Withdrawal 28		ORFEITURE / PENALTY	☐ 791 Empl. Re Security		
Exchange	133	Overpayment of		Product Liability		USC 157	□ 610	Agriculture	PROPERTY		'S
□ 875 Customer Challenge 12		Veteran's Benefits		Other Personal	C 441	IVIL RIGHTS Voting	□ 620	Other Food &	■ 820 Copyrigh	ts	
USC 3410 3890 Other Statutory Actions	□ 160	Stockholders' Suits		Injury Personal Injury-	442	Employment	□ 625	Drug Drug Related	□ 830 Patent	,	
□ 891 Agricultural Act	I□ 190	Other Contract Contract Product	1	Med Malpractice	□ 443	Housing/Acco-	023	Seizure of	□ 840 Trademar SOCIAL SEC		J.
3892 Economic Stabilization		Liability	□ 365	Personal Injury-	ļ	mmodations	l	Property 21 USC	□ 861 HIA (139.	5ff)	
Act	□ 196	Franchise	□ 368	Product Liability Asbestos Personal		Welfare American with	L (20	881	☐ 862 Black Lur	ıg (923)
1893 Environmental Matters 1894 Energy Allocation Act	R	EAL PROPERTY	ļ	Injury Product		Disabilities -		Liquor Laws R.R. & Truck	□ 863 DIWC/DI	WW	
1895 Freedom of Info. Act	□ 220	Land Condemnation Foreclosure		Liability MIGRATION	_	Employment	□ 650	Airline Regs	(405(g)) □ 864 SSID Title	e XVI	
1900 Appeal of Fee Determi-	□ 230	Rent Lease & Ejectment	□ 462 1	Naturalization	. ⊔ 446	American with Disabilities -	□ 660	Occupational	□ 865 RSI (405(g))	
nation Olider Equal	□ 240	Torts to Land	1	Application	1	Other	□ 690	Safety /Health Other	FEDERAL TA	X SUIT	S
1000 0	⊔ 245 □ 290	Tort Product Liability All Other Real Property		Habeas Corpus- Alien Detainee	□ 440	Other Civil	_ 5,0		☐ 870 Taxes (U.: or Defend		uIII
State Statutes	- 270 .	One Real Property	□ 465 (Other Immigration Actions		Rights			□ 871 IRS-Third USC 7609	Party 2	26
											

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Case Number:

CV08-04641

AFTER COMPLETING THE FRONT SIDE OF FORM CV-71, COMPLETE THE INFORMATION REQUESTED BELOW.

Case 2:08 NIVE 1541 THE HISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT CALIFORNIA CIVIL COVER SHEET

VIII(a). IDENTICAL CASES: If yes, list case number(s):	Has this action been	previously filed in this court	and dismissed, remanded or closed? WNo 🗆 Yes				
VIII(b). RELATED CASES: H If yes, list case number(s):	ave any cases been	previously filed in this court th	hat are related to the present case? ♥No □ Yes				
	A. Arise from the saB. Call for determinC. For other reasons	ame or closely related transacti ation of the same or substantia would entail substantial dupli	ions, happenings, or events; or ally related or similar questions of law and fact; or ication of labor if heard by different judges; or at, and one of the factors identified above in a, b or c also is present.				
IX. VENUE: (When completing t	he following inform	nation, use an additional sheet	if necessary)				
(a) List the County in this Distric	t: California Count	zoutside of this District Or	if other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH named plaintiff resides. f this box is checked, go to item (b).				
County in this District:*			California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country				
EKB TEXTILES, INC Los A	ingeles County						
(b) List the County in this District ☐ Check here if the government, County in this District:*	t; California County , its agencies or emp	outside of this District; State sloyees is a named defendant.	if other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH named defendant resides. If this box is checked, go to item (c).				
	You America		California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country				
G-SQUARED FASHION, INC Los Angeles NINEYEARD CO Los Angeles			MACY'S DEPARTMENT STORES, INC Ohio MACY'S WEST, L.L.C Ohio				
	; California County cases, use the locat	outside of this District; State i	if other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH claim arose.				
County in this District:*		the second second second	California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country				
Los Angeles County							
* Los Angeles, Orange, San Berna Note: In land condemnation cases, u	ardino, Riverside, Vase the location of the	Ventura, Santa Barbara, or S ne tract of land involved	San Luis Obispo Counties				
X. SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY	(OR PRO PER):		Date July 15, 2008				
but is used by the Clerk of the C	Court for the purpose	of statistics, venue and initiati	mation contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings to of the United States in September 1974, is required pursuant to Local Rule 3-1 is not filed ing the civil docket sheet. (For more detailed instructions, see separate instructions sheet.)				
key to statistical codes relating to Se	ocial Security Cases	:					
Nature of Suit Code	Abbreviation	Substantive Statement of	Cause of Action				
861	НІА	All claims for health insurance benefits (Medicare) under Title 18, Part A, of the Social Security Act, as amended. Also, include claims by hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, etc., for certification as providers of services under the program. (42 U.S.C. 1935FF(b))					
862	BL	All claims for "Black Lung" benefits under Title 4, Part B, of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969. (30 U.S.C. 923)					
863	DIWC	All claims filed by insured workers for disability insurance benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended; plus all claims filed for child's insurance benefits based on disability. (42 U.S.C. 405(g))					
863	DIWW	All claims filed for widows or widowers insurance benefits based on disability under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. 405(g))					
864	SSID	All claims for supplemental Act, as amended.	security income payments based upon disability filed under Title 16 of the Social Security				
865	RSI	All claims for retirement (old age) and survivors benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. (g))					

CV-71 (05/08)