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# Apolis: Common Gallery

**A new gallery-shop-event space hybrid in downtown LA**

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by [Max Gold](#) in [Style](#) on 14 November 2011

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Brothers Shea and Raan Parton founded Apolis with the simple idea that people can live better lives if they are given equal opportunity. Now, seven years later, they've opened [Apolis: Common Gallery](#), a new shop that opened in a spare, industrial-inspired space in downtown LA on 10 November 2011.



The space serves as the first regionally branded Apolis space to host gallery exhibitions, collection releases, [film](#) screenings and talks by advocates of Apolis' global mission. The layout of the gallery boutique communicates the [philosophy](#) behind its products—clothing and accessories created in conjunction with international manufacturers to provide disenfranchised people with jobs as a means of empowerment through opportunity instead of charity. For instance, [Nepal Project](#) and Citta International Co-Op partnered up to create limited-edition [Transit Elite Sweaters](#) and [Watch Caps](#), which employed 50 knitters for two months of work. Apolis has initiated similar projects in other parts of the world, from [Bangladesh](#) to [Uganda](#).



Sartorially, the selection is solid, with a somewhat preppy shirting collection in a comprehensive color palette that includes the made-in-California [Standard Issue Utility shirt](#), inspired by the classic work shirt style. They offer [a couple of variations](#) on the traditional canvas chino pant—also made locally from 100% cotton

canvas—and a range of shorts so popular they're already sold out.



We also liked Apolis' high-quality travel accessories by [Transit Issue](#). The dopp kit, passport carrier and zip wallet are made from 100% full-grain aniline Italian leather, and the luggage tags come with a brass snap enclosure and a sturdy black-coated steel buckle so they won't fall off en route.

Shop Apolis [online](#) or at the new location in LA's arts district.

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