## Stylist brings professional eye to fashion makeovers

By Phaedra Haywood The New Mexican

l'adore Michele Oppenheimer, elle est tres prop! Excuse the French, ladies and gentlemen, but I figured if I was going to tell Oppenheimer what I thought of her it should be in her native language.

I hired Oppenheimer to consult on this year's makeover package because of her 25 years worth of experience in the business. A native Parisian, Oppenheimer spent the majority of her working life in Beverly Hills, where she spent five years working as personal shopper at Giorgio Armani and 10 years as a personal shopper at Saks Fifth Avenue.

She's dressed Hollywood execs, government officials, socialites and even some stars - including Tina Turner.

And that is why I picked her. But it's her compassion — and passion for fashion — that made me love working with

Oppenheimer pulls no punches. If she doesn't like something, she won't hesitate to proclaim it "horrible" (though even that word sounds elegant and genteel in her French-accented English). And there was more than one time during our three-day shopping spree that she muttered a barely audible "mon dieu," when traffic, slow service or an inept sales clerk warranted the

But at her core, (or her couer, if you prefer) Oppenheimer truly wants people to feel and look their best (not someone else's best) and she wants to help them make that happen.

She has sharp eye for color, style and cut that made her an invaluable member of this year's makeover team.

Oppenheimer offers a smorgasbord of fashion-related services ranging from a simple



Michele Oppenheimer, a stylist with more than 25 years in the business, helped The New Mexican with this year's makeovers. NEW MEXICAN FILE PHOTO

consultation — where she'll review your current wardrobe and advise you how to put together outfits from clothes you already have - to a full wardrobe makeover that includes all of the above plus culling old items and purchasing new ones. Oppenheimer also offers varying levels of

personal shopping services, from total wardrobe purchases to a "fashion emergency" hunt for the perfect outfit for a wedding, class reunion or other milestone event.

To learn more about Oppenheimer's background and services, visit her website, www. micheleoppenheimer.com.