



THE SWINGING SIXTIES

The sixties are swinging back in vogue, as designers look to the iconic era for their fall 2014 collections.

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THE SIXTIES were a significant time of change in the fashion industry, as Anna Wintour says, "growing up in London in the '60s, you'd have to have had Irving Penn's sack over your head not to know something extraordinary was happening in fashion". The iconic era has become a huge source of inspiration for designers and this year was no exception with several designers bringing out their inner mods, sending sixties chic models down the runway.

Gucci left its usual disco glamour behind for a striking fall collection of accessible daytime looks. "I think it's important in this time to make real clothes for women," Frida Giannini said after the show. Giannini looked to the house's archives for her fall collection, sending sixties-mods in dusty pastel hues down the runway in snakeskin go-go boots, chic mini dresses, shaggy fur coats, sophisticated peat

coats and flared trousers. This baby blue napa leather dress, matched by Resene Shinto, has a decidedly sixties flair with the black collar and the striking jewel embellishment. Giannini eschewed the perceptible black and white cliché of the sixties in favor of a pallet of cool pastel shades of baby pink, blue and green, which highlighted the house's signature trademark glamour.

Hedi Slimane's fall collection for Saint Laurent was nothing short of incandescent. Slimane has continued to implement the idea of appropriation throughout his collections at Saint Laurent, this season more so than ever. Glittering Mary Janes, tweed pea coats, luscious red capes, smoking pant suits and sparkly mini dresses donned the Edie Sedgwick clad models on the Saint Laurent catwalk. Californian artist John Baldessari featured in Slimane's invitations for the show, a prelude to the artistic

collaboration for his fall collection. A trio of glittering sequin shift dresses were a standout amongst the collection, specifically this black mini dress matched by Resene Cinder; which was credited as part of a limited edition of 10, designed in collaboration with Baldessari. Slimane's teenage dolly birds shimmered with rebellion and sixties glamour and highlighted Slimane's devotion to youth culture.

Tom Ford's fall 2014 collection featured strong, streamlined silhouettes and was a striking transformation from his colourful and elaborate debut in London last year. "When you go very far one way, you get in a mood to swing back the other way," he said after his fall show. Ford's collection was heavily influenced by his homes in Santa Fe and London and was a unique mix of swinging London meets western cowgirl. Models clad in needle-heeled cowboy boots marched down the runway of

striking ensembles of black velvet dresses, red alligator skirt suits and leopard shifts matched by Resene Dusty Road. But Ford, not forgetting his flamboyant roots caused a stir sending Karen Elson down the runway in a florid fox coat. The highlight of the collection was Ford's knockoff 61 sequin football jerseys, referencing Jay Z's unauthorized tee shirt for his current tour. "That sells for \$65 dollars" he says, "my knockoff will sell for \$6,500".

After fourteen years of Marc Jacobs at the helm of Louis Vuitton, Nicholas Ghesquière debuted his highly anticipated fall collection for the French fashion house. Ghesquière produced a pragmatic and accessible collection for a new kind of Vuitton women that dresses with "a new casualness, a way of mixing the clothes - casual with formal, who carries these codes in a very cool and functional way," he explains. In a nod to the sixties spirit of

Carnaby Street, Ghesquière opened the show with a black leather coat with a wide caramel collar, paired with an oatmeal turtleneck shift dress similar to Resene Solitaire. A slew of boxy leather coats, mini skirts and long sleeved mini dresses followed suit in a pallet of neutral tones and dusky hues, marking a new era for the house of Vuitton.

Valentino designers Maria Grazia Chiuri and Pierpaolo Piccioli presented an artistic fall collection inspired by 1960's artists Giosetta Fioroni, Carol Rama and Carla Accardi. From shirt collar dresses and embroidered tulle gowns to an array of gorgeous woolen capes, it was an utterly sixties inspired collection. Prints featured heavily throughout the collection, with the pop art graphics being a serious departure from previous romantic collections the duo have produced, whilst still in keeping the house's codes. The pink and red long-

sleeved polka dot mini dress, matched by Resene Knock Out was a standout amongst the collection, whilst Chiuri and Piccioli's signature virginal embellished tulle gowns gave the show an enchanting renaissance air.

In contrast to the soft femininity of Valentino was the killer sex appeal of a Versace mini dress, here matched by Resene Eighth Rice Cake, the house's trademark micro mini dresses were paired with thigh high suede boots in a nod to the sixties mod movement.

Dries Van Noten produced a swirl of eye-popping designs for his fall collection. Inspired by 1960's op artist Bridget Riley, Van Noten produced an array of swirling, colourful and kaleidoscopic patterned coats and dresses in vibrant hues of purple and orange, similar to Resene Longitude, for a quintessentially psychedelic sixties look. [@](#)