

# LA DOLCE VITA

*La Dolce Vita (1960) was shot in black and white, but everyone knows that when you close your eyes, a Fellini universe burns with the electricity and vibrancy of an eternal Italian autumn. The sweet, hedonistic and romantic spirit of that age lives on, evoked by the season's palette of acid yellows, turquoise and frenetic orange hues. Colour forecasting courtesy of Donna Bradley of WGSN, text by Anna Loren*

**P**assionate, full-bodied colours make a strong impact for next autumn, with Northern Hemisphere collections showcasing a hearty mixture of blues, greens, pinks, yellows and oranges. The message seems to be that the bolder, the better – think retina-searing bursts of citrus, bright pops of aquamarine and sensual, opulent purple.

The high drama of opera, the cool spray of the ocean and the rich hues of a Renaissance painting are all evoked by these heady shades, whether juxtaposed with neutrals for a more subdued look or worn head-to-toe for a jolt of pure colour. With the emphasis on colour, the garments are classically constructed and simple, allowing the materials – richly-dyed swathes of satin, pillied wool and patent leather – to speak for themselves. The look also has a strong 1960s influence – mod-inspired colour blocks make a big appearance, as do large round buttons and oversized plastic accessories in the same shades.

From Bottega Veneta's dreamy pink to Loewe's joyous blue, these colours infuse a hit of vitality into Autumn 2012's lines, conjuring up all the romance and decadence of classic Italy.



Blugirl



Blumarine



Brioni

## RESENE CRISTALLE

Resene Cristalle is a strong, tropical purple, fascinating and showy. Whether complemented with rich black or on its own, this bold, sensual hue commands attention. Classic Italian label Brioni used Resene Cristalle to traffic-stopping effect in its Autumn 2012 line, presenting knee-length skirts, a classic pantsuit and a figure-skimming satin dress in this luxe purple.



Loewe

## RESENE ENDORPHIN

A mid toned sky blue, refreshing and sporty, Resene Endorphin denotes joy and vitality. Spanish fashion house Loewe used this lighthearted hue liberally in its Autumn collection, juxtaposing polished blue leather bags and coats with conservative ensembles of black, white and brown. Cool, crisp and upbeat, Resene Endorphin lends just the right note of whimsy to structured garments and accessories.

## RESENE FRUIT SALAD

The aptly-named Resene Fruit Salad is sweet and delicious, a merry emerald green. Blumarine designer Anna Molinari sent her models down the runway clad from head to toe in this eye-catching, Crayola-bright shade – from shoulder bags to knee-high boots, classic dresses to cuff bracelets. Optimistic and uplifting, Resene Fruit Salad makes a strong statement by itself or tempered by more muted colours, such as Resene Pale Sky, a moody grey-blue.

## RESENE WAVE RIDER

An azurite blue with a glacial, steadfast mood, Resene Wave Rider comes into its own when paired with confident, youthful colours. Blugirl, Blumarine's range for younger women, worked Resene Wave Rider into a bright, retro-inspired ensemble, showcasing the wearability and versatility of this cool, violet-based shade.



Hermès



Bottega Veneta



Fendi

## RESENE SWITCHED ON

An acid bright yellow, razor sharp and severe, Resene Switched On is a no-holds-barred jolt of colour that's not for the faint-hearted. Milanese runways saw this bitter citrus hue deftly interspersed throughout Fendi's collection – used for bright accents like headbands, thick woollen tights, and stack-heeled Mary Janes. This green-tinged yellow works best with smoky, dusty shades such as Resene Double Schooner or Double Ash.



Blumarine

## RESENE OUTRAGEOUS

Resene Outrageous is a clear bright orange, full of frenetic adrenalin and purpose. As the name suggests, the hue denotes high energy theatricality with a hint of danger – and makes no apologies for it. By pairing this in-your-face citrus orange with a simple turtleneck and high-waisted skirt, Blumarine wisely let the colour do all the talking on the Autumn runways.

## RESENE NIAGARA

Resene Niagara is a showy peacock green, sporty and progressive. Recently-appointed Hermès designer Christophe Lemaire (formerly of Lacoste) used Resene Niagara to polished perfection on the Parisian runway, shown in elegant drapery, thick obi belts and chunky lacquered bracelets. Cool and dynamic, this refreshing green is reminiscent of a minty cocktail or a short dip in the Mediterranean Sea.

## RESENE CRANBERRY

A modern red violet, softly pink, Resene Cranberry works best with shades of similar intensity, such as the alluring, bluish purple Resene Gigas. Vicenza-based Bottega Veneta contrasted Resene Cranberry with tangerine in Milan, using chunky blocks of colour to evoke a strong '60s spirit. With its warm red undertones, this hue invokes images of romance and adventure.

- 1) Resene Wave Rider
- 2) Resene Switched On
- 3) Resene Outrageous
- 4) Resene Fruit Salad
- 5) Resene Cristalle
- 6) Resene Endorphin
- 7) Resene Cranberry
- 8) Resene Niagara

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