

EASTERN Opulence

FROM luscious reds to delicate kimono detailing, designers take the Orient Express in search of inspiration this season.

Following Danielle Scutts departure as former head of design, Matthew Williamson took the reigns for his latest collection, designing it himself, from the heart.

"I have been doing this a long time, and the trick is to not make a collection repetitive and boring," said Williamson.

With clear inspiration from his recent trip to Bali, the collection centres around brocades, embroidery, tapestry and embellishment, staple elements in a Williamson collection. The show opened with a maroon two-piece suede trouser suit embellished with floral sequin designs and a tassel belt. Maroon, similar to Resene Persian Red, held the collection together, telling the story Bali, incorporating traditional design motifs and reappropriating them for a western customer without losing the message or culture of Bali.

Williamson added, "we have to infuse some freshness in it, and here there are no curveballs, no tricks. This all came straight from the heart."

The Louis Vuitton show opened with quotes from the David Lynch film Dune in the form of a video clip ending with a quote from LV saying "oh, yes, I forgot to tell you, today, October 1, the LV house wants to explore the ability to travel to any part of the universe without moving. The journey starts here."

Clearly a futuristic show, the collection housed elements from various times and places across the

world. The chunky zip and leather details take what could have been a dated bomber jacket and catapults it forward into a modern offering on a classic eastern print colour matching Resene Roxy.

Missoni presented what has been described as an artful journey from morning to night, taking influences from sailboats and colours of the world as the day progresses. Another designer to include floral applique, this time in a softer palette Angela Missoni aimed to produce work of happiness, lightness, and sun-drunk indolence. Taking mens shirts and draping them interestingly around the female form gave birth to a collection that felt effortless and comfortable, as seen in this look matching Resene Negroni.

From his upbringing in Lebanon to his experience with Dior and Chanel, Rabih Kayrouz is well known for his expertise use of delicate fabrics and interesting cut with this collection being no different. Taking colours from an oriental selection Kayrouz produced a collection that mixes high end with low to produce a dynamic range of clothing. The collection was based on the narrative of a privileged girl who dreams of grittier horizons, explaining why the in-house designed rose pattern similar to Resene Pulse was caged behind grosgrain and surrounded by ivory. Whilst the "dangerous" choice to use satin was intentionally tacky, mixing all the elements together does wonders to explain the narrative, giving room for the designer to experiment with techniques as he finds his footing in the industry. 

-  RESENE RICE CAKE
-  RESENE MAYHEM
-  RESENE SEBEDEE
-  RESENE PURSUIT
-  RESENE NEGRONI
-  RESENE PULSE
-  RESENE DAREDEVIL
-  RESENE ROXY
-  RESENE PERSIAN RED

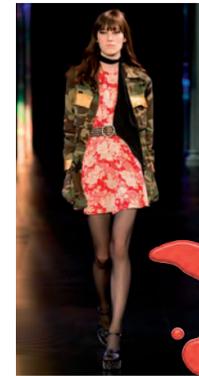
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