

COLOUR TRENDING

GREEN EYED MONSTER



Erika Cavallini  
Resene Bitter



Vivetta  
Resene Vista Blue



Chanel  
Resene Beethoven



Creatures of Comfort  
Resene Xanadu



Gucci  
Resene Chelsea Cucumber



Alberta Ferretti  
Resene Flourish



Valentino  
Resene Aquamarine



Chloé  
Resene Frontier

If Alexa Chung and Miuccia Prada vacationed together in Los Angeles and then designed a collection based on their experience - Vivetta's aesthetic would be the result. Steeped in trends, the Cruise 2018 collection was a mod fashion girl's fantasy, with statement pieces galore and an effervescent selection of colours. Gingham, puffed sleeves, embroidered patches and kitten heels all piled in on top of each other - the epitome of extra. Combined with candy-fresh tones, from apple red to Resene Vista Blue, the collection was steeped in retro-Californian vibes.

If you've been perusing recent collections, wondering where you've seen them before, you wouldn't be alone. Many designers are eschewing futurism in womenswear in lieu of demure, classic shapes and 1950's inspired cuts which have a

timeless air. Erika Cavallini's Cruise 2018 collection did just this, with relaxed, wide leg pants (in Resene Bitter), classic tailoring, and midi-length skirts.

With Valentino, it's all in the details. You may glance over the collection and think it just looks like a continuation of Pierpaolo Piccioli's previous work, but Cruise 2018 is so much more complex! Take, for example, unusual pocket-placement on a coat similar to Resene Aquamarine or a bomber jacket cut without the ribbed waistband. Denim pants were stained with red paint, although it was so delicate that it's an easy detail to miss, as are the cut away cuffs of shirts. Piccioli's signature full-length gowns crafted from intricate lace and embroidery were also included, as were distinctly un-Valentino-ish ideas, like full-body tracksuits and incredibly low-cut dresses.

"Tropical Safari!" screamed Alberta Ferretti's Cruise 2018 collection, with its jungle-print patterns, slouchy button downs and zebra motifs. With cuts which were as classic and serene as the patterns were wild, the collection had an intriguing dichotomy which played out between floaty layers and stiff-collared jackets, and the deep purples and muted greens close to Resene Flourish.

Chloé has got post-2000's boho-chic down to a fine art, and they're sticking to what they know. Think flares, slouchy kaftans, fringed suede boots and crocheted ponchos. While the garish maximalism of Michelle Alessandro at Gucci may seem worlds away from Chloé's louche aesthetic, their approach to collection-spanning design is similar - the collections mesh together with minimal differences between seasons, only subtle differences are noticeable to the


most avid fashion follower. The colours were muted, with hues ranging from Resene Frontier to soft ivory and blues. Clogs are back for Spring, which is fabulous.

Off-White's Cruise 2018 collection ironically did not feature any off-white hues. It was instead filled with jewel hues (like Resene Half Limerick) and crisp, cold whites. The contrasts continued with structured garments almost military-like in style, and dresses which appeared to be simply draped over models. Sheer lace contrasted with rough-finished linens. A new-season quirk; striped cotton (reminiscent of your dad's 1990's work shirts) which was draped as softly as

the jewel-toned silk dresses. The entire collection had a fresh, introspective air, and seemed like the kind of thing Solange Knowles would wear on date night.

Andy Warhol famously said "Fashion is closer to art than art is." Alessandro's work for Gucci gives undoubted proof to this statement. With collections so decadent, so richly assembled and so vast in influences - no one aspect is important. The mismatch and maximalism and pushing together of such an overabundance of little, yet significant, details is the point. It's overbearing and challenging, fashion for the sake of art, and yet commercial. Gucci has had unprecedented revenue growth since Alessandro

took over. Gucci is a treasure trove and dress-up box, a treat for the viewer as much as the wearer, an unashamed exploration of ugliness. Amidst the pearl embellishments, fur cuffs and art-deco detailing was a cool green similar to Resene Chelsea Cucumber.

Spring has sprung at Creatures Of Comfort; with shirring, ditsy florals and oversized trousers. The cool-as-a-cucumber brand showed oversized overalls, co-ordinated ribbed sets, and muted khakis (Resene Xanadu) mixed with soft light blues. Menswear influences were in the form of oversized tweed suits and floor-length duster coats. There were also trousers with shirring - and if that's not ground-breaking, what is? 

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