

Lara Chamandi®

Spring / Summer 23

METAMORPHOSIS

The myth of Cupid and Psyche is the starting point for a narrative that passes through the landscapes of the soul, intertwining the various drifts with other undertones, with distant yet parallel worlds. Through the power of beauty and love the human becomes divine, and vice versa, while the air breathes back subtle new expressions, new gestures to make the invisible visible. Just as in the silent, secret darkness of a cocoon the mysterious metamorphosis of the butterfly takes place, the emblem of freedom and liberation, of the desire for change, of curiosity and the urge to push the boundaries and overcome differences.

Thus dualism, a constant in the poetics of Lara Chamandi, becomes part of a new sensory experience that probes the Unconscious and is rooted in a complex symbolism, finding a clear analogy in the duality of the sign of Gemini. Myth, nature, constellations, the arcane. Lara Chamandi's S/S 2023 Collection translates the depth and lightness of a dreamlike vision into garments etched with a magical dynamic tension, suggested by the fluid geometries of the butterfly wings.

Wings that unfold ideally in all their broadness, revealing and proclaiming the energy, sensuality and power of the feminine, including through their variation of abstract macro-details. Unveiling the divine beauty of body and soul. Raising imperfection to perfection. Restoring consciousness and self-knowledge. Expressing the unspoken with delicate, fluctuating hand-made knitwear, enveloping draperies, fine lace and contrasting materials and effects. Workmanship that is intentionally imperfect and seems almost unfinished and incomplete, garments that are transformed to leave space for personal interpretation, and for dreams. The yarns used in the creations include abaca, a completely natural textile fibre obtained from the plant of the same name.

Air, the element of Gemini, implies a palette of fresh, bright daytime colours, while the ephemeral pigments of impalpable butterfly wings define sacred, absolute tones, spiritual and meditative, such as gold, ultraviolet and orange. In search of the perfect alchemy between appearance and essence, past and future, the collection introduces new equilibria and proportions, combining contemporary forms with styles reminiscent of the '20s and '30s. Thus the more voluminous garments inspired by casual and sportswear contrast with the sensual transparency of luxurious, lightweight fabrics, overlaying minimal silhouettes, while more palpable textures and crisp fabrics enhance the purity of architectural cuts that evoke and reinvent elements of the masculine universe, such as parkas and oversized pants.

After a series of metamorphoses that lead her into territories steeped in mystery, the woman thus becomes the absolute interpreter of talismanic attire, transforming herself into a muse, a goddess, a butterfly. For love, for beauty. To know herself. And to finally fly away, with both her body and her soul.

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Share capital € 100.000,00 i.v.

REA: MI 26236 47