



# New York's new chic

FASHION It was colour galore at New York Fashion Week, with many labels respecting a couture aesthetic, projecting a richer fall-winter to come, writes **Lola Cristall**

# Kate Spade

Kate Spade is the sort of brand that was ripe for extending into ready to wear. You've seen the brand appear on cellphone covers and pens, all from its roots in accessories and leathergoods. Why not clothing itself?

Tom Mora was tasked to extend the brand into ready-to-wear and Kate Spade debuted a collection alongside the traditional accessories by Jennifer Lyu. The 14 looks at the Whitney Museum of American Art brought forth colour-blocking and geometry, rocking bits of the 1960s along with the freshness of the 2020s. There was the unique Kate Spade Green, developed with Pantone, to commemorate the brand's 30th anniversary. Kate Spade might not have had a history in clothing, but it does now—and what a positive start!



**N**EW YORK is where *Lucire* began its catwalk coverage back in February 1999, and this season it seemed fitting to begin with what American designers had to show. We expected it to be colourful—for reasons explained in previous issues about trends—but what we didn't foresee was how many designers opted for opulence. The designers covered here all made a real statement, and showed that being bold for fall is the way to go.



Cynthia Rowley



Cynthia Rowley gets the prize for the most distinctive and memorable—and funny, it should be added—show at New York Fashion Week for fall 2023. Instead of models, she had a cast of comedienne, who performed an hour of stand-up at Sony Hall.

‘I start each day with ten minutes of stand-up,’ said Rowley. ‘I’ve long said I wish fashion were funnier. Not necessarily the clothes, but the attitude. After hosting a stand-up comedy night at my store in Montauk this summer with my friend and collaborator Seth Herzog, it became clear to me that it was time to realize my long-standing dream to host so many of my favourite funny ladies on one stage.’

Nikki Glaser, Rachel Feinstein, Arden Myrin, Rosebud Baker, Claudia Oshry, Ego Nwodim, and Michelle Buteau were the talent, hosted by Esther Ku. Guests included Olivia de Jonge, Eve Jobs, Cooper Hoffman, Jane Krakowski, and Alan Cumming. Looks include a long-sleeve cutout mini-dress, d pants, high-waisted draped high-low skirt with a cropped sweater and a long sleeve shift mini-dress.

## Kate Barton

Kate Barton had already wowed us with her spring collection, and this season, she continued her daring sculptural approach. An experimental collection, she fused different materials and engineered new fabrics, all while minimizing waste through draping and clever cutting.



DAVID LUO



## Chiara Boni La Petite Robe

We arrive at Chiara Boni La Petite Robe's fall-winter 2023-4 collection, focusing on everyday wearable elegance with a touch of couture and extravagance. The collection is inspired by German-Australian fashion photographer, Helmut Newton, a personality known for capturing boldly seductive silhouettes and eye-catching images. Renowned model, Coco Rocha, opened the show. The line consists of a simple colour palette including black, fuchsia, touches of gold and hints of white. Key looks include a peplum halter top and knee-high skirt, a long-sleeve draped column gown, a sheath mini boat-neck piece and a long cape sleeve dress. Oversized sunglasses, tie necks and delicate veils add grandeur and refinement. The wearer looks lavish while conveying sophistication. Chiara Boni La Petite Robe demonstrates remarkable Italian-made glamour, feminine flair and seductive silhouettes.

## Hervé Léger

Hervé Léger's creative director Christian Juul Nielsen continued the trend of absolute class on the New York Fashion Week runway as models presented various looks surrounded by an intimate group of invitees at the Club Room situated at Soho Grand. The brand is known for well-fitted body-embracing bandage dresses and continues to exude contemporary opulence and sophisticated distinction. The new season's collection includes tiered fringed ensembles and crop peplum tops with sweetheart necklines ranging from hues of celeste blue, flaxen yellow, white, fern green and black.





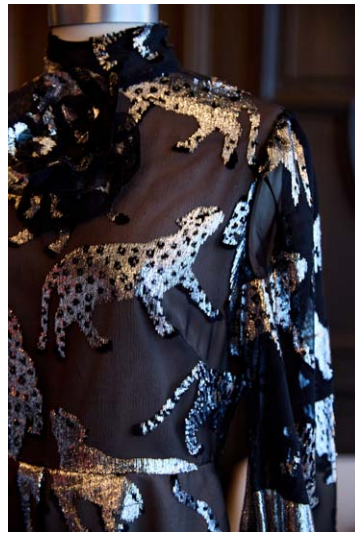
## Aknvas

Christian Juul Nielsen's Aknvas answered the question, 'What if America had a royal family?' with his fall 2023 collection. In fact, what would New York had one, and what would that look be? Ruffles, gathering, knits, sequins, and ball gowns to finish, but with far more colours than you might expect from a European royal house. Nielsen takes his couture knowledge and mixes it with sportswear, and the result was something very special.



## Naeem Khan

Naeem Khan celebrates two decades of absolute elegance by revealing his *20 Years of Glamour at the House of Khan* fall-winter 2023-4 collection, with delicate handmade embroidery, stunning textiles, detailed workmanship, and highly elaborate craftsmanship. Nearly fifty looks, suggestive of haute couture magnificence, emerged on the catwalk, ranging from formal ensembles to chic evening wear. An open-back sequined top with a matching miniskirt and elbow-high gloves, an asymmetric gown with an ostrich-feathered cape, a flounced short-sleeve mini-dress, a one-shoulder metallic gold gown, a straight-across neckline bodysuit with a delicate billowing cape and a feather trim dress. Glamour dominated the runway, something that the House of Khan has truly mastered over the years.



DAN LECCA

## Maison Atia

The talented team behind Maison Atia unveiled a sophisticated collection, presenting a range of faux fur glamour with opulent ready-to-wear looks. A delightfully private and glimmering Le Petit Salon at the stunning Baccarat Hotel in Midtown welcomed a select few to enjoy and admire a range of outerwear, dresses and accessories in the midst of shimmering fine crystals. Highly dedicated co-founders, Chloé Mendel, and business partner, Gustave Maisonrouge, incorporated sustainable luxury, elegance and comfort. Looks included empire silhouette long-sleeve dresses with a high neckline, intricately handmade flocet pins, oversized jackets, fitted vests and high-waisted culottes. •

*Lucire* staff contributed to this story.

