

Spring 2008: Loose, Flowing Fashions

Geometric Shapes, Bright Colors, '70s Styles

By Esther Nash

Top Buyers from the best departments stores and most exclusive boutiques are gathering in anticipation of Spring 2008 Fashion week. Celebrities, stylists and personal shoppers are among the lucky to make many of the guest lists. As your fashion correspondent, I am here to inform you on how to look your best each season with the utmost confidence.

IMG Fashion Senior Vice President **Fern Mallis** along with supermodels will be gathering at the Empire State building to kick off fashion week with a special lighting ceremony.

The daily suites will once again offer harried fashionistas an oasis of comfort with help of the **Cygalie Healing Spa**. I am looking forward to a little reflexology myself. Also for the holistic approach, look into **Nikken**, a company from Los Angeles that is improving the way we sleep, drink, and eat by providing us with a formula for longevity.

THE SCOOP: Looks like geometric shapes and bright colors and '70s styles will be strong in Spring 2008, so you can burn your diet book and forget about your goal of 1000 crunches a day. The look is loose and playful.

In previous seasons **Gottex** has been mostly skin, metallic colors and slimming lines. Spring 2008 is no different. This designer is known for exceptionally sexy



bathing suits. I predict we shall see a splendid new collection with the incorporation of no-sag LYCRA.

I foresee attractive cocktail dresses from **Anne Bowen**, business attire from **Anne Klein**, casual chic looks from **BCBG Maxazria**, sheer, beaded gowns from **Bill Blass** and funky doll dresses from **Betsey Johnson**.

Also be on the look out for upcoming designers presented at the Hudson by **Ron Smith**, who told me in confidence that, "The designers have a common theme of an architectural collection with geometric accents and soft colors of taupe, pale blue and pink, created mostly in silk and luxury fabrics. It's a serious intellectual showcase for Spring 2008."

Lileana for "Ill Wear" swimwear will have a look for Spring 2008 that is architectural early Hollywood glamour.

Melania Von Alexandria who will be showing hooded dresses with front zippers, hem lines above and below the knee, and domed sleeves.

Karen Sabag, designer for the very formal bridal customer and mother of the bride, will preview silk gowns that are full bottomed and very detailed.

Designer **Gavaskar** has worked mostly with purple accented by ivory and sand for Spring, and Laura Williams Couture.

Attendees of GEN ART's annual Fresh Faces design event will be able to view rising fashion stars. Those who gather for Style 360 held at the Metropolitan Pavillion will be able to see designer couture collections such as Indonesian born designer **Farah Angsana**. Her gowns are inspired by her international experiences and reflect aesthetics of multiple cultures and ethnicities.

The Style Salons' **Joy Dost** will be hosting the debut of **Jedda-Kahn** and **Zonkiri** at TE Casan in Soho, in partnership with papierdoll, Glam.com and fashiontribes.com. Jedda-Kahn will be presenting looks with a blossom pattern not quite floral in shades of blue and metallic. The designs are loose and above the knee.

Zonkiri's fashions are shimmery mixed with flat, hemline at the knee with soft peter pan collars. The look is what I call an Apron dress because of its deep front pockets. It's an installation show and cocktail event.

Randy Jones of the Village People will be celebrating his birthday and his fourth annual "Kings and Cowboys" party with Nightlife promoter **Keith Collins** at Retreat.

Henri Bendel's brown and white stripe 100th Birthday celebration will take place on Tuesday Sept. 11th at the Highline Ballroom.

Be sure to tune in on who, what, where and when it is acceptable to wear which designer for which occasion. Keep a look out for my fashion week wrap up article and you will have all the necessary information for what to wear in Spring 2008 and year round. Look for me front row and I will look for you!

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