

Yarns, fabrics, accessoires fall/winter 2012/2013

Fancies and colours

Colours and fancies have made a comeback for the winter season 2012/2013, and almost ascetic sobriety and rustic-natural designs continue to be up-to-date, too. Fashion is zapping through all eras and across cultural borders. The focus remains on sustainability, value, and details.

In these confused times (natural disaster in Japan, riots in North Africa), it's a good idea to keep it cautious and rational without losing instinct, that's Angelo Uslenghi's recommendation for the winter season 2012/2013. The coordinator of the Milano Unica trend team said that during the presentation of the trend themes "Neat", "blurred", "rugged" and "precious". In contrast, the Italian yarn fair Pitti Filato put the focus on sustainability, true to the motto of "recylcethic". The rising demand for commodities and their mounting prices are drawing a

lot of attention toward recycling and reusing. The industry is in it, too. For example, the German company Madeira Garnfabrik uses recycled polyester for its embroidery yarn "Polyneon 40", reportedly without having to put up with colour or quality constraints. (cf. p. 20)

What's more, the German trade show Munich Fabric Start with its seasonal slogan "detailoring" makes it clear that fashion is zapping between casual and tailoring and has virtually internalised the craft and the knowledge of values. This comes along with further

sleeve-like fashion silhouettes, says the trade show's trend expert Joachim Baumgartner of the Trendbüro Zoo. It's all getting more sensual, visceral and a wee more laid-back. This is a mood that could benefit the upstream industry after the commodity prices have somewhat stabilised, where hopes are high for more normal times to come back, after months of ceaseless price discussions.

Slow down

Dispersion and perfection are showing the way into modern classicism. Accessoires specialists like Knopf Schäfer (D) are catering to that trend in the women's wear segment with themes like "Perfect Modernisme" und "Smart Tailoring". Fabric-covered buttons, finest metal zippers but also plain –high-quality horn materials are on display, suitable for colourful clean looks. Metal-brushed buttons and colour finishings convey allure and a hint of masculinity. It's all revolving around "exquisite materials plus unpretentious soft shapes". It is in that spirit that Knopf und Knopf International (D) present excellently fashioned basic buttons in sober colours, earth tones and with matt surfaces – spherical and in the flat unisex variant. Moreover, narrow belts wrapped around the waist multiple times as designed, for instance, by Bodo Jagdberg (D) in a range of leather looks, are becoming increasingly important. According to Acces-

Romanticism mountain climber by Bodo Jagdberg



Photo: Bodo Jagdberg

soires expert A-TEX Germany (D), metal and leather combinations are important in general. Beside caramel and gold-tinted brown tones, metallic copper and dark gold accents, gold glitter-infused yarns and prints in the style of Flemish paintings evoke the riches of times long past. Softly falling fabrics with a full feel for draping effects continue to be important. These include double-bond articles made of cotton blended with polyester, Cupro or viscose, wool double faces (Viscotex (I)) and modern classics with a creped surface and satined back as shown by Philea (F). Knitted goods, among the season's chief characters, appears in blends of Merino wool with cashmere or angora. Mohair is playing "a leading role", points out spinning company Igea Manifattura (I).

Pure nature

This is contrasted by a range of rustic, felted and knitted fabrics for taglio-vivo articles. Generally there's a lot of brushing; blending and slurring is ubiquitous. Different yarn gauges are used to create three-dimensional structures often reminiscent of tree bark or bare rock, or interpreted graphically. Also, accessoires like coarse ropes, snap hooks (e.g. Bodo Jagdberg) and thick leather buttons with fancy seam edges (Knopf und Knopf) evoke images of nature and mountains. Sanded cotton, velvet and fine cord, lasered, yarn-dyed and cross-dyed are inherent parts of the fabric spectrum. Fur is a source of inspiration even to spinners. In the accessoires sector, little hooks and clip fasteners with opulent looks designed for use with coats and jackets are a must (e.g. Knopf und Knopf). Second-hand effects continue to be up-to-date. Vintage leather, patinised coats of arms, burnt and lasered urea and real horn buttons are presented, among others, by button specialists of the Kahage-Butonia Group.

Eccentric outbursts are a no-go in the fall/winter 2012/2013 fashion season; still, alongside neutral tones, almost summer-like colours, patterns and a wealth of fancy yarns prove that there's room again for fun and visions. Nevertheless, topics like sustainability, nature, slow-down and folk continue to be firmly rooted in fashion. Wool and woolly looks remain extremely important up to the outdoor segment, as do knitted goods. Fabrics and colours invoke a warm and sober mood, despite the many orange and red hues. The accessoires appear more flashy in part.

Folk & Fun

Patterns as if from the Navajo culture, a variety of denim looks and ethnic colours are critical accents. A-TEX, for example, has taken on the denim theme with intense washing for accessoires. Fabrics in typically British style, printed yarns, ultra-fine tweed, a spectrum of bouclés, nap and frieze yarns provide subliminal colours and agitated surfaces. Tone-in-tone combinations like red to coral, pink or aubergine are novelties. Leather fasteners, metal accessories of aged brass



Super-soft but voluminous by Velcorex

or copper, lasered mother-of-pearl buttons with metallic printed motives or coloured enamel decorations (Knopf Schäfer) are reminiscent of the bohemian and Brit chic. In contrast, a rather bold air is imparted by asymmetric buttons in expressive materials and intense lime, turquoise and royal blue that culminate in innova- ▶

TRENDS WINTER 2012/2013

Everything but simple

The Winter 2012/2013 season is not about "standing out at all costs" but about achieving refined sophistication. An abundance of dyed yarns, fancy yarns, fine bouclés, jaspé yarns, wool-covered cotton yarns, viscose crepe and fine knop yarns create lively textures, bulky handles and "warm" looks all the way through to sportswear. Besides indoor woollen blends with a touch of Brit Chic, wool still remains a strong theme for coats. Gold coatings and shimmering golden velvet suggest that pile fabrics and luxury both have a place in this season's fashion. Velvet is interpreted in rib structures which are not only found in ultra thin but also in extra wide 70s-style designs. Besides the woollen and velvety handles, it is the modern, neoprene-like materials and light papery handles, the cool techno fabrics and elegant matt finishes that are challenging the current trendy looks. They include fine crepe fabrics made of viscose and polyamide blended with wool, warp knitted fabrics made of polyamide with micro-modal and double-faced fabrics with a crepe and a satin face. Colour remains a central element this winter, with demand high for red, blue, grey, petrol and the spectrum of browns.

[www.munichfabricstart.de]



Wool looks and wool remain a major theme – View Premium Selection

MADEIRA

Ecology in the look!

Ever since the beginning of 2011, a significant portion of recycled polyester fibres has been incorporated in the production of Polyneon 40. Madeira thus once again exceeds industry requirements and adopts rational solutions to ensure the value of fine embroidery is maintained as environmental decisions become increasingly important. This means that already today, Polyneon 40 and its sustainable production has an additional bo-

Madeira thus once again exceeds industry requirements with Polyneon 40



Photo: Madeira

nus appreciated by many customers around the world. There are no restrictions when it comes to colour selection and no quality compromises. Thanks to Madeiras many years of experience the company can decide for which of the 360 Polyneon 40 colours this raw material can be used. Prices remain the same, even though manufacturing costs are approx. 10 % higher due to more expensive greige goods. The production of recycled polyester requires more energy, it uses no crude oil and waste mountains are reduced. These factors played an important role in choosing the mix of greige goods.

[www.madeira.de]

► tions like the Coca-Cola buttons made of recycled cans that are used by the Kahage-Boutonia Group to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the cult drink. Topp Textile, German manufacturer of special tapes, offers a men's and boys' outerwear construction kit that customers can use to select fashionable bias tapes, in uni, printed and colour-woven fashion, for jacket pipings, edge bindings and trouser waistbands.

Sweet Home

The volume megatrend is also having an impact on the yarn segment. Round knitting yarns are light as a feather and predestined for large feel-good articles with distinct ribs,

Advertisement

braids or half cardigan stitch looks. Devorés, wool lace and crochet effects, super-soft jerseys, silk organza, felted silk crepe, super-soft but voluminous knitted fabrics made of wool/



Photo: Cariaggi

Glass pearls incorporated in cashmere/silk yarns offered by spinning company Cariaggi (!) look like dewdrops

alpaca have a feminine look and feel, too. Zip fasteners are following the style, amongst others, with Lurex inserts, mirror-like add-ons, polished teeth and an overall silky look, for example, from Italian specialist Lampo with its ultra-fine, light-weight article T3 Colibri. Glass pearls incorporated

Knitting yarns are light as a feather and predestined for large feel-good articles with distinct ribs



Photo: Woolmark

in cashmere/silk yarns offered by spinning company Cariaggi (!) look like dewdrops. Light glossy finishings elaborate on the "frost and ice" theme. [Regine Hövelmann]