



The Fashion Issue

**SPARKLES, SUITS
& SMOOTH VELVET**

7 trends to wear now

**BARBARELLA
RETURNS**

The rebirth of
Paco Rabanne

**FEMINISM VS
FASHION**

The secret life
of a supermodel

KING KARL

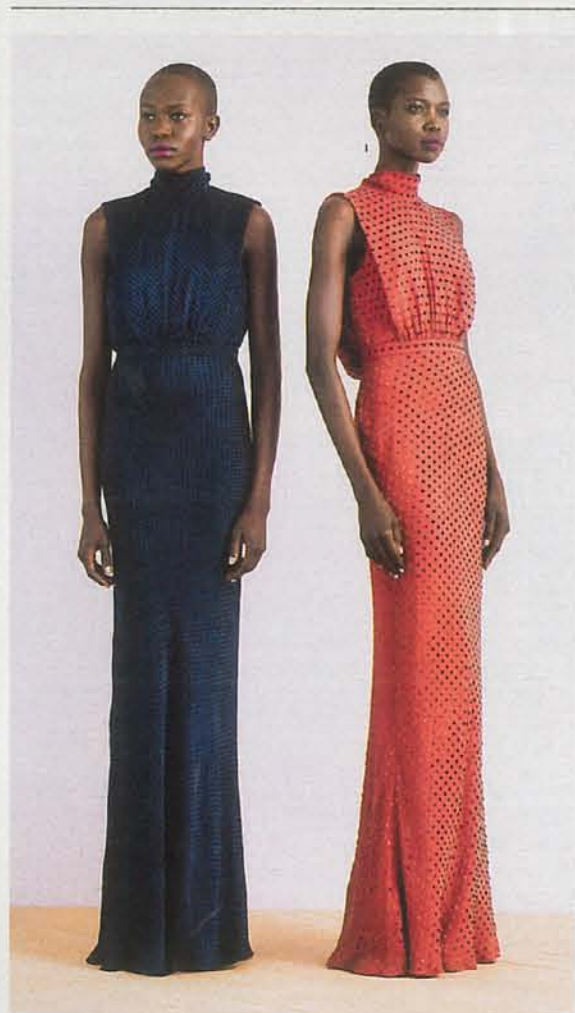
Lagerfeld, Fendi – and the
rise of the £1 million coat

Brands of hope and glory

This week brings you 21 of the best British designers. Prepare to love. By Sophie Warburton and Emily Cronin

Jumpers for cocktail hour. Yes, really

If knitwear was a category at Crufts, Alex Gore Browne would be Best in Show. She has a fine pedigree, training in textiles at Central Saint Martins under the guidance of Louise Wilson, before setting up her own brand. She has sold designs to Donna Karan, Matthew Williamson and Louis Vuitton, who included her pieces in ready-to-wear collections; and designed, made showpieces and consulted for Alexander McQueen under the direction of Lee McQueen and Sarah Burton. Most recently, she worked as a knitwear consultant for Nina Ricci. Her 'cocktail sweaters' move the goalposts in the night-time glamour category, offering a welcome alternative to the LBD. Savannah sweater, £640, alexgorebrowne.com.



ELEGANCE OF THE EAST

Saloni Lodha represents the multiculturalism of British style. Born in India, she moved to Hong Kong, then London, where she set up her brand in 2011, before returning to Hong Kong. Big on bold colours and standout patterns, hers are grown-up clothes for grown-up women. Dresses, £675 each, salonilondon.com.



Little treasures

Simple ideas are often the best, and Loquet London is a case in point. Founded by Laura Bailey and Sheherazade Goldsmith, the jewellery brand plays on the Victorian idea of lockets, charms and keepsakes. Whether it's a necklace, bracelet or ring you're after, choose from 16 chains, 47 lockets and more than 100 charms. Feeling indecisive? Help is at hand on Loquet's website, where you can 'create' your own locket before ordering to get a better idea of the finished product. Then all you need to do is add to basket. Charms from £30, loquetlondon.com.

THAT'S SHOE BUSINESS

Londoners Natalia Barbieri and Jennifer Portman, founders of the luxury shoe brand Bionda Castana, met at business school, so although not formally trained in cordwaining, they know a thing or two about what working women want from their footwear. Their designs have a loyal following among celebrities, with the Lana hailed a classic. Angeliqe shoes, £565, biondacaastana.com.



AND SO TO BED

Morpho + Luna doesn't make your granddad's flannel nightshirt. No, the London-based loungewear brand's version comes in slate-grey Italian wool, with sharp details like a Mandarin collar and satin piping. It's just one piece from a luxurious range bent on upgrading your nightwear. The boyish silk-satin pyjama shirts, lace-edged cotton nighties and coquettish lace-and-cotton playsuits are also tempting, and so cosy that – be warned – you'll want to keep them on all day. Inès pyjamas, £385, morphoandluna.com.