

## COLOUR TRENDING

# Sheer Delight

Summer fabrics are floaty, light, and decidedly revealing. Sheer fabrics have taken over fashion, from high street to the runway, and are perfect for the warmer seasons.

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Alberta Ferretti  
Resene Blue Diamond



Balmain  
Resene Beethoven



Valentino  
Resene Chill Out



Rodarte  
Resene Double Alabaster



Blumarine  
Resene Ballerina



Alexander McQueen  
Resene Cut Glass



Giamba  
Resene Cosmos



Anna Sui  
Resene Aviator

Alberta Ferretti's SS17 show was bold and sexy, while barely revealing any skin. Ferretti showed a collection of floaty and unstructured garments, made up of sheer layers which flowed from the body. A typically feminine designer, Ferretti's collection was a vision of elegance apropos to Mediterranean summer. A hint of masculinity was revealed through the multiple belts, which were used throughout the collection to cinch in the soft dresses and skirts. The palette consisted of turquoise, red, black and accents of purple, similar to Resene Blue Diamond. An unusual approach to summer colour, the combination of rich, deep hues blended well to create a fine, luxurious summer look.

Jungle fever took hold of Balmain at the SS17 show in Paris, as Olivier Rousteing's creations paraded through a set of tropical leaves. This season's Balmain woman

was softer than Rousteing's usually unashamedly power-dressed female, with more layers, more draping and more mystery. The show had a clear structure, with a colour palette slowly unfurling like a tropical flower, while the reserved designs gave way to more creatively cut garments which flaunted more skin in style emblematic of Rousteing. Opening the show were sheer jersey fabrics which were draped over bustiers, giving the designs an air of unusual modesty. The palette began with khakis and browns, close to Resene Beethoven, but expanded to a variety of bold colours, which evoked a tropical rainforest (complete with snakeskin embellishments).

Valentino presented a vision of romanticism, with soft, feminine detailing and vintage-inspired silhouettes. Helmed by Pierpaolo Piccioli, the Italian house returned to traditional handcrafting methods instead of using

digital prints on fabrics. The collection featured several gauzy, sheer maxi dresses, embellished with delicate embroidered details. Colours were soft, with an infusion of light red, which energised the collection and, when combined with soft pink, brought a fresh feel to the reserved cuts. Piccioli adorned a beautiful, sheer maxi dress in white with soft velvet in a cut-out motif, in a colour similar to Resene Chill Out.

Layers of lace, sheer ruffles, and a sense of delicacy and elegance were paramount at Rodarte's SS17 show. Starting from a refined palette of ivory, black and white, similar to Resene Double Alabaster; the collection combined impeccable tailoring and effortless femininity. Gossamery, sheer fabrics with exquisite detailing were layered and ruffled, which created the girlish aesthetic, and light, voluminous silhouettes. The collection

segued into a lavender and gold tinted palette, with flashes of metallic. A stand-out red dress featured puffed statement sleeves and was crafted from sheer fabric layered under the metallic red leaf.

Blumarine's SS17 collection had a distinctly vintage feel, as creative director Anna Molinari played with floral prints, broderie anglaise and 1950's inspired shapes. Sheer fabrics featured in a variety of dresses; some barely-there with relaxed cuts, some voluminous with bold gingham prints, and some embellished and reminiscent of Dior's 1949 beaded Junon gowns. The colour palette was established as decidedly neutral, consisting of whites and browns; but became more light-hearted as the show progressed, ending on a hue similar to Resene Ballerina.

Sarah Burton's vision of Scottish-inspired fashion was a contrast to that of Alexander McQueen's tortured

portrayal of the country. Burton presented dresses made from intricate Shetland lace, accessorised with leather belts and studded boots. The collection featured tailored suiting and bodices, mixing feminine and masculine influences. Maxi length dresses, accentuated with puffed sleeves lent themselves to a vintage aesthetic, like a long sheer dress in a colour akin to Resene Cut Glass. The sheer layers of fabric added to the other-worldly feel and gave a modern touch to the figure shrouding maxi dresses.

Giambattista Valli's SS17 collection for his junior line, Giamba, was a youthful, whimsical party; resplendent with sequins and applique. The young feel is especially observable through their relaxed cuts; which included bomber jackets, denim jackets, and girly ruffles, and through the bright prints which emblazoned the

collection, and sheer fabrics. The palette reflected the youthful approach with soft colours paired with black and red accents. A particular sheer mini shirtdress in a hue similar to Resene Cosmos featured a cat print and a contrasting collar which was a perfect continuation of the youthful essence.

1950's inspired kitsch ruled the runway at Anna Sui's SS17 show. The collection was equal parts cowboy Americana, and prairie housewife, with a splash of cheerleader-inspired lettering. Silky fabrics mixed with sheer fabrics to create sleek garments with barely-there detailing. Intricate floral prints were used throughout the collection, which had an unusually dark palette for summer; navy like Resene Aviator, red, and black were predominantly used, although patches of blue and red were shown towards the end of the collection. **AV**