

CLUB TROPICANA

Hedonistic summer nights and a bright optimism sparks for next summer as indicated by the recent Northern Hemisphere Spring 2011 collections. By Dan Ahwa

Wow! Pretty much summed it up with their 1983 hit *Club Tropicana* when they describe an ideal summer getaway: *Fun and sunshine - there's enough for everyone*, and for next summer, bright block colours make an impact after fashion's current obsession with all things minimal and monochromatic. Phoebe Philo of Celine continues to pioneer a neutral palette, influencing a swathe of designers and the high street since her debut for the French luxury label in 2009, however this season that minimalism continues with a hit of block colours in acid tones. A perennial favourite for summer, the colour orange makes a welcome return and is lighter in tone and citrus in its consistency. Even Philo's made a bold move to for summer with the inclusion of a bright orange leather dress for Spring 2011. Verging on fluoro tones, summers citrus colours of yellow and orange were also seen everywhere at the likes of Karen Walker, Damir Doma and Victoria Beckham Collection. From mandarin to pineapple, the colours are fashionably fruity and full of zest. Designers elsewhere also make a welcome back statement to a colour range that evokes fun, carefree and tropical days in the sun. Hot pinks get a check in at Jason Wu with a bright fuchsia gown making a bold statement; while summer's aqua marine colours (as highlighted in last month's Resene Colour Forecast) make a daring presence at Versace and Maria Katrantzou. Acid brights work well when reflected by the sun, so keep this palette in mind when it comes to swimwear and resort inspired separates from maxi dresses, kaftans and oversized languid shirts and tees.



versace

RESENE AQUARIUS

A blue inspired with the spirit of air, water and new beginnings. Vibrant and carefree, Resene Aquarius works well against crisp white linen or a healthy summer tan.



RESENE SWITCHED ON

An acid bright yellow, razor sharp and severe, this yellow is sure to turn heads over summer. The design team at Italian label MaxMara featured an eye popping floor length playsuit in a vibrant Resene Switched On tone, the perfect accompaniment to those blue sky days ahead.



max mara

RESENE KNOCK OUT

A bold cherry pink with memories of hot summers and halcyon days. True to its name, this pink is sure to wake you up and stop you dead in your tracks.



victoria beckham collection



RESENE APRIL SUN

Resene April Sun is an intense burst of gold and orange, vibrant and energetic, perfect when matched with softened blues or bright yellows for a full on effect. Victoria Beckham utilised this tone for her surprisingly cohesive Spring 2011 collection that was energetic in its colour choices of mandarin and purples, yet characteristically demure.

- 1) Resene Aquarius 2) Resene Switched On
- 3) Resene California 4) Resene Niagara 5) Resene Knock out
- 6) Resene April Sun 7) Resene Pursuit

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jil sander

RESENE CALIFORNIA

Raf Simon's vision for Jil Sander Spring 2011 was the notion of excessive minimalism pared with acid brights on voluminous silhouettes. One colour that stood out was a Resene California orange, sunburst in colour and more hectic than restrained.



oscar dela renta

RESENE NIAGARA

For a more wearable turquoise tone, Resene Niagara is the perfect choice for those summer silhouettes from maxi dresses to bikinis; Resene Niagara is a showy peacock green, sporty and progressive. Oscar de la Renta's playful garden party dress is highlighted in a breezy Resene Niagara tone.



prada

RESENE PURSUIT

A racy and combustible orange, Resene Pursuit was matched perfectly at Miuccia Prada's brave, bold and obvious Spring 2011 collection inspired by a typically eclectic combination of inspirations from hospital scrubs, Josephine Baker and 17th century cherubs.



BRIGHT HIGHLIGHT FROM LONDON FASHION WEEK 2010 CHRISTOPHER KANE SPRING 2011

"Princess Margaret on Acid" was how Welsh born designer and London Fashion Week favourite Christopher Kane described his latest offering for next season. A combination of acid colours on lace (which was actually cut out leather) and argyle sweaters made for a fun yet considered collection of traditional shapes from ¾ length sleeve cardigans and crew neck sweaters to A-line skirts and cocktail shift dresses. A study on royalty gone bad, the neon brights are easily deciphered when worn with summer's organic shades of of beige, grey and white.

