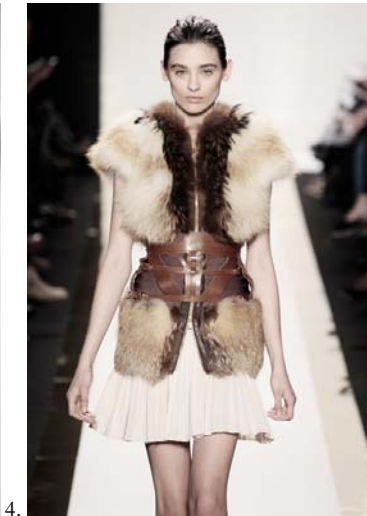


New York 1 – The Belted Waist

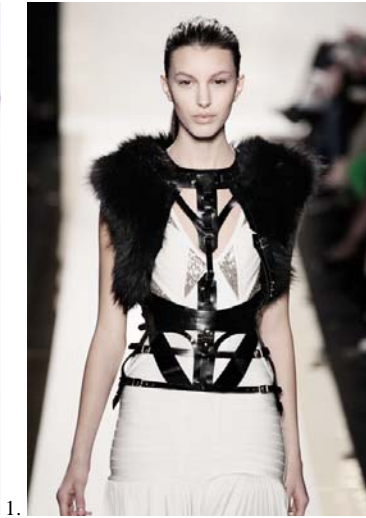


1. DKNY
2. Badgley Mischka
3. Helmut Lang
4. J Mendel
5. Hervé Léger
6. Monique Lhuillier

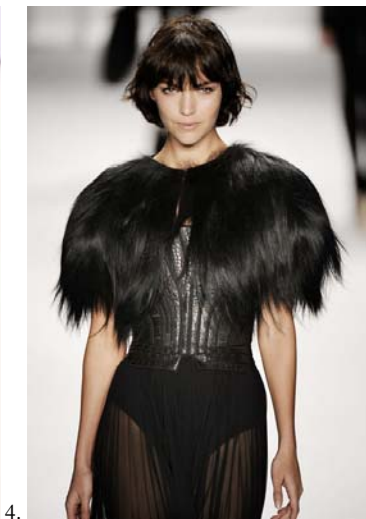


An overriding theme at the New York collections was for a new feminine sensibility, whether it be glamazon diva, retro prettiness or streamlined modernity – feminine form is a key trend for next winter and the belted waistline is a key component, lending a classic hourglass appeal to the season. DKNY showed a myriad of linear belted silhouettes while Badgley Mischka and Monique Lhuillier gave us vintage updated and Hervé Léger had a selection of bondage-inspired belt styles that offered an interesting juxtaposition when worked with fur.

New York 2 – The Capelet



1. Carolina Herrera
2. Hervé Léger
3. Badgley Mischka
4. Carolina Herrera
5. J Mendel
6. Vera Wang



Another classic feminine silhouette is the capelet and it was all over the runways in New York. From vintage-inspired glamour at Badgley Mischka to the long-haired silhouettes at Carolina Herrera and J Mendel, where the styling put more emphasis on shoulder definition, to the luxe appeal at Vera Wang and Hervé Léger, where it was about unexpected fabric and fur combinations. Next season will offer up a capelet silhouette for every woman's wardrobe.

New York 3 – Ultraviolets



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.

1. Dennis Basso
2. Tory Burch
3. Bibhu Mohapatra
4. Peter Som
5. Bibhu Mahapatra
6. Tory Burch

Colour was a strong trend from the New York runways that we can expect to see throughout the collections but one colour story in particular looked very new indeed. Hyper colour and ultraviolets were predicted for next season; electric blues, racer navies and fluorescent violets and purples; but the unexpected twist here, is to see them worked back to teal green rather than deep forest green, which would give a more heritage appeal. It's a beautifully rich, lush palette and yet remains fresh and modern at the same time. We look forward to seeing whether other cities follow suit.

New York 4 – Short & Sweet



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.

1. Roland
2. Dennis Basso
3. Thom Browne
4. Marc Jacobs
5. J Mendel
6. Ohne Titel

Whether it's the bolero styles at Thom Browne and Roland, the cropped gilet at Dennis Basso, or the short boxy jacket silhouettes at Marc Jacobs and J Mendel... the message is *short and sweet*. Retro influences playing out on the runways offer a classic take but what looks really new is the layering aspect of this trend – to layer a piece like the bolero over a fitted jacket silhouette for an update on retro dressing that gives it an entirely modern edgy appeal as seen at Thom Browne. This could also work by layering a capelet style over tailoring.

New York 5 – Foxy Lady



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.

1. Vera Wang
2. Chadwick Bell
3. Michael Kors
4. Altuzarra
5. Dennis Basso
6. Brandon Sun

There was a feminine elegance running through the New York collections that put classic furs like fox centre stage. High neck fox ruffs could be seen working in contrast to delicate sheer fabrications at Vera Wang and Michael Kors while the fox stole was a key item for many designers, whether it be a traditional version as at Chadwick Bell or a more modern take as at Altuzarra. The face framing quality of fox has always made for an elegant, sophisticated trim detail and was worked beautifully at both Dennis Basso and newcomer Brandon Sun.

New York 6 – Fur Fabric Mixes



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.

1. Ohne Titel
2. Tracy Reese
3. Prabal Gurung
4. Peter Som
5. Monique Lhuillier
6. Vivienne Tam

Fur and fabric combinations have never looked as good as they do this season which is a positive sign for the industry. Designers everywhere are using fur and now, seem to have truly mastered the art of working with fur as they do every other fabric handle. Combining it with wovens and even stretch fabrics, as did Monique Lhuillier for a stunning, form fitting dress silhouette. Ohne Titel and Prabal Gurung gave us utterly contemporary looks while Tracy Reese and Vivienne Tam used fur as a way to add contrasting texture. A favourite, Peter Som's asymmetrical coat silhouette, gives us a taste of modern luxury at it's best.

New York 7 – Ladylike



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.

1. Monique Lhuillier
2. Dennis Basso
3. Bibhu Mohapatra
4. Valvo
5. Oscar de la Renta
6. Barbara Tfank

Ladylike dressing was the strongest trend to emerge from the New York runways and is by far, the key statement for full furs. Vintage inspired looks with a 50s slant at Monique Lhuillier and Dennis Basso were *to die for* and the short-haired chubby both cropped, at Oscar de la Renta and longer-length, at Barbara Tfank offered a plush retro feel to the trend. Texture too, was an important statement seen throughout the shows and we love the juxtaposition of coloured lamb worked with 50s-inspired appliquéd separates at Bibhu Mohapatra as well as the grooved high-neck coat at Valvo.