

By Terence Lim

## A MAN AND A WOMAN

Inspiration can take the strangest forms. Take Stefano Pilati, creative director of **Yves Saint-Laurent**. The Italian designer's Spring/Summer menswear collection was triggered by elements of human biology — gender-defining X and Y chromosomes, to be exact. For example, he toyed with the notion of sexual identity by incorporating women's fabrics into the collection. Rather than a runway show, Pilati chose to present his designs through seven short films starring British actor Jack Huston.



## WOO-ING THE MEN

**Woo Young Mi** may not be a household name among male trend-ites here, but all that's set to change. Club 21 Men will be bringing in the Korean designer's Spring/Summer 2009 collection. Woo is a pleasant anomaly in the industry as one of the few Asian women heading a menswear brand. Go light this season in neutral layers of translucent materials with the occasional flash of flesh.

The Woo Young Mi Spring/Summer 2009 collection is available at Club 21 Men.



The Paris Collection.

## CIAO, POZZONI

First, **Valentino** parted ways with creative director Alessandra Facchinetti. Then, the Italian fashion house did away with its Autumn/Winter menswear runway show. Now, the axe has dropped on menswear creative director Ferruccio Pozzoni. In a statement issued by Valentino, it was announced that both parties "decided not to renew the consultancy contract" — after just two seasons. Newly-appointed womenswear designers Maria Grazia Chiuri and Pier Paolo Piccioli will take over menswear, too.



## MAN BAG

Previously, men could only look on with envy while their better halves waltzed into **Furla** and emerged with the season's hottest bags. Now, for the first time, the Italian bag-maker is bringing its men's collection to Singapore. Revolving around a travel theme, expect chic carryalls like chic totes and roomy overnight bags.



The New York Collection.



## FORGET ME KNOT

Aside from being part of a dress code, the humble tie can also be worn to take one's style factor up a notch. *Style*: speaks to Yeo Kai Zher, director of **Blaack Ties**, for his best take on ties.



### What should men look out for when they're out tie-shopping?

Ties can be notoriously difficult to choose. The experience can be exasperating, even daunting, for some. Many just leave it to women to buy ties for them. Here's my pocket guide to picking the right tie: Occasion determines colour, while pattern and quality depends on how showy you want to be.

### Are there idiot-proof ways to pick the right tie for a particular outfit?

Choose your shirt first and look for its dominant colours. Then, choose a tie with accents in the same dominant colours as your shirt. Be sure that the patterns on the ties complement your shirt, not compete with it.

### What's the biggest misconception about ties?

A man should have more shirts than ties.



## IT'S RAINING MAN!

Singapore has such erratic weather that carrying an umbrella around is a good idea. But a broly is not quite the best fashion accessory — unless you're Gene Kelly in *Singing in the Rain*. Instead, invest in **Timberland's** Spring collection of men's waterproof wear. Rugged-looking, versatile and functional, the jackets are comfortable to wear and protect you from unpredictable weather conditions.

## THE JEAN GAME

With jeans being such a wardrobe staple, it's worth investing in a pair — or even 10 — that'll go the distance. Our faves: **Guess by Marciano** and **G-Star**. Guess' Spring/Summer men's collection features low-rise jeans reminiscent of the all-American man, while Dutch denim label G-Star focuses on improving its fit and construction. A stand-out piece from the latter — the Arc pants. Its twisted side seams and inseams results in a comfortably snug fit.



Guess by Marciano

G-star

## STREET CHIC

Hot on the heels of the Gant campaign, fans of *The Sartorialist* will get to see his work for **DKNY Jeans**. The blogger-photographer, otherwise known as Scott Schuman, shot the label's Spring/Summer 2009 campaign in his famous caught-on-the-street style. The only difference is that the models are actually New York notables like Sean Lennon, son of the late Beatle John, and model Chanel Iman, rather than regular stylish Joes. :

