

# #BeSummerReadyFor2017

With the unveiling of Greenery as the colour of the year for 2017, the mood for spring/summer hints towards more healthy, outdoorsy and natural trends. Designers are moving beyond the clichéd florals to create earthy looks to offer the rekindle-with-nature vibe. Usher into 2017 with fluid fabrics and oversized chic silhouettes to sway in style. Hiral Oza spoke to prominent designers to find out trends that will take over spring/summer 2017.



## Designers

Madhu Jain, Ragini Ahuja, Samant Chauhan, Sanchita, Shikha Ghalsasi, Sonam & Paras Modi

## Colours

**Madhu Jain:** In the natural fibres segment – in which my work is rooted – I'd say that ivory and indigo will reign supreme. Naturally-derived colours are best suited for Indian climates, and who can deny the winnability of these two uber sophisticated shades!

**Ragini Ahuja:** Ivory and indigo. We have worked out a beautiful bohemian punk collection for SS17 with ivory, navy and shades of mushroom along with Ox-blood. Tan sheep nappa leather is an add-on in the collection.

**Samant Chauhan:** The colours in vogue for spring summer 2017 are olive green, sage green, ivory, off whites and subtle pastel shades.

**Sanchita:** Eggshell, nude, coral, yellow, blush pink, petrol, lavender, ash purple, navy and black are the shades that will trend in SS'17.

**Shikha Ghalsasi:** Natural nudes – beige, ecru, milk, nudes, dusty pink and light lilac will be the colours for SS'17.

**Sonam & Paras Modi:** Earthy colours along with monochromatic tones will be in fashion this season. Hues of burnt rose, shadow grey, lint, green tea and burl wood form the colour palette of our collection this season.

Samant Chauhan



Ragini Ahuja



Sanchita



Sonam & Paras Modi



Shikha Ghalsasi

## Fabrics/Textures

**Madhu Jain:** As a craft revivalist and textile conservationist, my lifework over 30 years has been inspired by natural fibres. I've experimented relentlessly with my team of Indian weavers in fashioning new weaves and textiles, and S/S 2017 will see more of the same, but with fresh weaves. The accent will be on eco-friendly weaves, as well as my favourite – Ikat!

**Ragini Ahuja:** We have always aimed to create incredibly practical clothing with relaxed fits and natural textiles that exude luxury with no hint of pretence. This season we worked with handloom chanderi and fine cotton silks.

**Samant Chauhan:** My collection has a lot of silks and khadi, particularly Bhagalpuri silk which I source from Bhagalpur. The texture is very earthy and three dimensional, with embellishments and thread work.

**Sanchita:** Fluid fabrics consisting of Washi organic fabric, satin georgette, brocade, organdy, silk cotton and cotton jersey, patchwork, and cotton chanderi will be trending.

**Shikha Ghalsasi:** Working on natural based linen flax fabrics – light weight and translucent.

**Sonam & Paras Modi:** Sheer is one of summer's hottest trends and has been incorporated in our collection along with handloom decadent silks and satins to create beautiful cascades and textures.



Sonam & Paras Modi



Madhu Jain



Ragini Ahuja



Samant Chauhan



Sanchita



Shikha Ghalsasi

## Prints/Embroideries/Embellishments

**Madhu Jain:** I'd say the top picks will be the deceptively simple Kantha stitch - expect to see a lot of it. And also of Shibori, in which I think we'll see plenty of innovation.

**Ragini Ahuja:** Again this season is a lot of hand cut fabric on fabric applique', leather on fabric applique' and metallic block prints for us. We have worked on original geometric artworks with fierce animal and floral details.

**Samant Chauhan:** Floral thread embroideries and hand-crafted beaded embellishments will be in trend in spring summer 2017.

**Sanchita:** Prints make an appearance in micro and macro from small insects to large orchid block repeats in discharge print. Surface embellishments include pearls, Swarovski stones, lovebird beads and thread work embroidery. All prints, embellishments and patchwork are created by hand using traditional techniques.

**Shikha Ghalsasi:** Organic textured printing with a play of yarn embellishments, not just superimposing on garment but merging in the print, so the print looks more three dimensional.

**Sonam & Paras Modi:** The use of embroidered appliques, which have a certain depth to them, will dominate this season. For our SS'17 collection, we have brought together delicate handcrafted embellishments like zardozi and pita techniques along with the use of vintage pearls to show exquisite detailing.



Sonam & Paras Modi



Shikha Ghalsasi



Ragini Ahuja



Madhu Jain



Samant Chauhan



Sanchita

## Silhouettes that will spring & that will stay

**Madhu Jain:** With people moving towards a more global dress sense and style, asymmetricals and Indo-western fusion clothing will be on the ascendant. Comfort dressing will also make major inroads into the fashion world!

**Ragini Ahuja:** We always work on oversized anti-fit silhouettes season after season. This season we have tried re-inventing the Kameez – voluminous with details like bell sleeves, cold shoulder and gathered with a yoke. The collection includes longline jackets, over-sized kameez, long dresses and functional pants to make a set. Sheer voluminous ivory styles are here to stay for summer.

**Samant Chauhan:** Small is out and big is in! A line silhouettes will be in, flouncy hems and fitted bodice pieces will be in vogue.

**Sanchita:** Sporty and on-the-go dresses, kaftans, elongated 'rapper' t-shirts, light weight jackets and soft tailoring, pyjama sets, loose shorts, and kimonos will be dominating my collection.

**Shikha Ghalsasi:** Pleats, straight fits, pinafores, and easy fits will be trending for the coming summer.

**Sonam & Paras Modi:** Statement sleeves, power shoulders and structured jackets have created a positive stir in the fashion scene and hence are here to stay.



Sonam & Paras Modi



Ragini Ahuja



Samant Chauhan



Sanchita



Shikha Ghalsasi



Madhu Jain

Samant Chauhan

Shikha Ghalsasi

Sonam & Paras Modi

### Top 3 SS'17 clothing items to hoard

**Madhu Jain:** Anything in linen and mulmul to up the coolness quotient will work well. Even loose Moroccan pants. For a formal evening, teaming up a black or midnight blue long tunic with a contrasting light coloured pyjama or pants will look stunning.

**Ragini Ahuja:** Long and light cover-ups for summer, sheer shirts or kameez, and bell sleeved shirts.

**Samant Chauhan:** Knee length dresses, embellished foot wear and leather bags.

**Shikha Ghalsasi:** Cotton dresses, an embroidered vest coat and quirky scarves.

**Sonam & Paras Modi:** Embroidered cape jackets, sultry bustiers, and edgy pants.

### Inspiration for SS'17 collection

**Madhu Jain:** Nature! and eco-friendly textiles. That's my USP.

**Ragini Ahuja:** Spring/Summer 2017 is a new take on "OVERSIZED INDIAN" - relaxed silhouettes exaggerated with graphic bohemian details. A neutral palette of navy, greys and beiges come together with red for this symmetric boho story. This summer we offer longline silhouettes like summer jackets, shirts, maxi dresses and appliqué pants in sheer chanderi and cottons.

**Samant Chauhan:** An unprecedented fusion of ethnic cultures followed the arrival of the Grecian influence at the north-western borders of India. The Aryan influence has been chronicled in historical documents of travelers and left its imprints on Indian architecture and design. We've pick up the strands when the invasion of India is called off and those who had arrived now depart the villages of Dha and Hanu in the valleys amidst the ruins, they leave the traces of distinct Aryan features and the iconoclastic style of dressing. The wedding of the cultures is averted by their unplanned departure and yet the courtship continues with the amalgamation of their ways and ideas and traditions. The collection witnesses their departure and beholding of their heritage.

**Sanchita:** Inspired by prickly cacti and orchids that interpret a second skin, the resort and SS '17 collection is reminiscent of a surrealistic tropical garden in its fullest and lushest glory. In contrast to rich flora,



Shikha Ghalsasi



Ragini Ahuja



Samant Chauhan



Sanchita



Sonam & Paras Modi

architectural influences nodding at the 'Bauhaus' style intermingle in harmony, trying to reinterpret fashion codes to tell a more layered narrative, bringing in tradition, craftsmanship and longevity to the forefront.

**Shikha Ghalsasi:** Dried flowers- so underrated, yet have a quiet beauty about them .

**Sonam & Paras Modi:** Our collection this season celebrates the cultural interaction between the charm of the nautch and the sophistication of the British Raj.

### One trend you wish to say R.I.P to this year

**Madhu Jain:** I firmly believe that less is more, so without a doubt, my vote would go to: overuse of embroidery.

**Ragini Ahuja:** The absolute fit! Summer is all about easy voluminous styles. RIP anything too fitted.

**Samant Chauhan:** Cold shoulder tops! I think they have been over done in 2016 and definitely need to be gone in 2017!

**Shikha Ghalsasi:** Skinny Jeans and cold shoulder tops.

**Sonam & Paras Modi:** Layered, asymmetrical lehengas and ruffles.