

Fashion FORECAST

From Hot Summer Looks To An Even Hotter Fall

(NAPSA)—This year's autumn and winter creations are likely to make one want to skip bikini season and head right into the excitement of fall fashion.

Celebrity stylist Phillip Bloch predicts that style for the cool seasons will be all about multiculturalism, mixing, matching, and fresh talent. "Fall is always such an exciting time in fashion," he says. "I love what I see from the usual big names, but it's even more fun to see the wave of new faces and ideas."

Here are Bloch's key trends for expressing fashion diversity, and some of his favorite new designers:

The newcomers. New York City's Fashion Week shined with more new design talent than ever before. Thanks to Italian wine-maker Ecco Domani, five new designers—including Zac Posen, Mark Kroeker, Tess Giberson, Peter Som and the design collective As Four—were awarded \$10,000 each and the opportunity to show during Fashion Week. The Ecco Domani Fashion Foundation will return for the Fall 2003 shows and applications for the new designer competition can be found on www.eccodomani.com beginning in September 2002.

Pants. The tighter, the better! Gone are the days of wide and full-legged trousers. Look for narrow cuts that tuck into boots, cropped pants—calf- and knee-high—as well as the classic jodhpur style.

Prints. Why not add a little flower power to the season—sheer florals are going to be big and bright. Also look for patterns in zigzags, paisleys and pucci-like swirls.

Black. While bright patterns make a winter comeback, you



For the fashion-conscious, new designers offer many highlights for the fall season.

can't go wrong wearing or pairing with black. Black is hot and black is cool. Black is chic and black is urban. Most importantly—black is back.

Accessories. It is about staying warm and this year, the way to do so in style is with shawls, scarves and mufflers. Wear them floaty, embellished, jeweled, short or long and don't be afraid to put with everything from coats to evening dresses.

Whether experimenting with new designers, mixing black with pucci, or trying the dress-over-pant look, fall dressing is about fusion. Don't be afraid to put together individual items and pieced-together patterns and fabrics. Get ready for fall fashion—this season, it's going to be hotter than a summer day!