

WWD

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Fashion. Beauty. Business.

**BUY THE BOOK**

Pierre Bergé discusses the upcoming auctions of his library of rare and antique books. **PAGE 12**

**SPRING CALM**

Pantone's top 10 colors for spring focus on calm shades, with shots of coffee and red. **PAGE 14**

**PHOTO LIBRARY**

Moncler unveils a photo exhibit at the New York Public Library focused on its Maya jacket. **PAGE 15**

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RETAIL

Saks Plan Shakes Up Flagship

- The store is reworking its look in a \$250 million renovation.

BY DAVID MOIN

Talk about a makeover. After 18 months of thinking and rethinking how to elevate the shopping experience, the Saks Fifth Avenue team has finalized a three-year, \$250 million master plan for overhauling the Manhattan flagship – and they're ready to reveal what's in store.

The strategy represents a convention-breaker that is almost certain to shake up the industry – the beauty floor is moving from the ground level up to two, the main floor will convert to handbags and accessories; fine jewelry is moving down to a new concourse level, and a world of eveningwear and evening accessories will be created on nine. “We do not look at this as a renovation. This is a reinvention. A reimagination, and a redevelopment,” Marc Metrick, president of Saks, said about the plans in an exclusive interview, where he was joined by Tracy Margolies, Saks' chief merchant, and Kerry Mader, senior vice president of store planning, design and construction at Hudson's Bay Co., which owns Saks.

The project will impact most of the

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FASHION

Valentino Aims for \$1B-Plus Sales Target

- The fashion house's sales rose 59 percent in the first half, with growth in all markets.

BY LUISA ZARGANI

Valentino could be fashion's next billion-dollar baby. With sales jumping 59 percent to 478 million euros, or \$530.6 million, in the first half compared with 301 million euros, or \$412.3 million, in the same period in 2014, the storied Rome-based company is expected to hit the 1-billion-euro mark by the end of the year.

“We had set this target as part of a five-year business plan two or three years ago, but the brand is performing better

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Spring
Collections
2016

The Bright Side

Victor Alfaro fused Ellsworth Kelly's signature pops of color with his own strongly defined shapes in a spring collection that was both arty and luxe. For more from New York Fashion Week, see pages 8 to 11.

Victor Alfaro

Victor Alfaro has re-established himself rather quickly as a fashion force. While he relaunched his brand several seasons ago with a racy vibe, his trajectory has been toward a more overt take on languid luxe with a dash of arty. For spring, Ellsworth Kelly provided inspiration and, like the painter, the designer went minimal but not mundane. He incorporated ample geometry, layering, mixing fabrics and textures, seaming on the diagonal, and often connecting sliced fabrics with opaque strips for interest and sensuality while creating strong graphic lines. While much of the collection was black and pale neutrals, pops of Kelly color came in bright orange and yellow.

Backstage before the show Alfaro said he started his design process with sweaters, a basic beginning that morphed into an artisanal range of sumptuous hand-framed, fabric compilations – thick, braided knits; unfussy crochets and laces – over wide trousers and cropped motocross pants. For additional flourish, he strung long overlays of fringe onto dresses and gowns, some in “vegan leather,” and accessorized with Pilar Olaverri’s bold Calder-inspired jewelry. Relaxed American chic at its elevated best.

— Bridget Foley

Victor Alfaro

Lisa Perry

Lisa Perry looked to one of her favorites, the American installation artist Robert Irwin, as her starting point for spring. “We had stumbled upon one of his shows titled ‘Who’s afraid of Red, Yellow & Blue?’” she said. “Our answer to that is: We are not.”

Perry is no stranger to primary hues, but this season, she made red, yellow and blue the main event in a series of flirty Mod-ish silhouettes featuring colorblocking, circle prints and oversize, peekaboo grommets. Perry said she upped her attention to detail more than ever; it was evident in a subtle contrasting stitch on linen dresses or the slightly off-kilter placement of dress straps.

For the presentation, held inside her SoHo boutique, Perry deconstructed red Ikea tables and hung them on the wall like art. “I love the idea of high-low,” she said, adding that some of the looks in the collection will be sold at a lower price point for the first time. “I wanted to get the point across that you can have things look very chic and beautiful, but they don’t have to be expensive.” — Kristi Garced



See by Chloé

Clare Waight Keller loves to envision her romantic, free-spirited See by Chloé girl in different environs. This season, it was on a vacation in Big Sur, Calif., where a warm color palette of creamy whites, pinks and blues – bearing a slightly washed out, sun-faded appearance, particularly on knits – mimicked the Pacific coastline.

A bohemian spirit ran through Waight Keller’s silhouettes, which were fluid with a lived-in feel. There were peasant blouses, some hanging loose off the shoulder and featuring eyelet embroidery as well as floaty, ruffled sundresses and skirts in busy floral prints. Other more polished looks like a chevron-printed tweed jacket and Seventies-inspired striped bell-bottom trousers still struck the right balance of idiosyncratic and youthful. Denim offerings included a couple of variations, such as a darker indigo wash with colorful piping and a more bleached-out version, seen on one chic, ankle-grazing skirt. — K.G.

See by Chloé



Jeffrey Dodd



Lisa Perry



Lyn Devon