JOHNLAWRENCESULLIVAN

By

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SPRING & SUMMER 2027 COLLECTION

"Androgyny"

Strength and fragility. Beauty and ugliness. Discipline and impulse. Reason and desire. Liberation and restraint. Masculinity and femininity.

Rather than existing in opposition, these forces coexist within a single body. The Spring/Summer 2027 collection explores the body as a site of ambiguity—a body that inhabits the space between seemingly contradictory states. Instead of resolving these tensions, the collection embraces them, proposing garments that allow the wearer to inhabit the boundary itself.

A key point of departure for the collection was Modern Lovers (1990), the portrait series by French photographer Bettina Rheims. The work captures bodies liberated from conventional ideals, social roles, and prescribed notions of gender, presenting forms of self-expression that exist beyond established norms.

Within the menswear offering are boat slit-neck tops, shorts constructed to resemble skirts, and shoes featuring heels. Conversely, garments traditionally associated with menswear—including double-cuff shirts and mini-length jumpsuits developed through an exaggerated interpretation of military shirts—are presented within the womenswear category, intentionally blurring the boundaries of conventional gender codes.

This exploration extends to the textiles as well. Materials traditionally associated with femininity and ornamentation—including Raschel lace, net tulle, crushed velvet, and patent finishes—are employed throughout the collection, contributing to an androgynous expression of the body.

The collection also examines the Japanese concept of shibari—a word that carries multiple meanings. It refers both to the discipline and structural constraints inherent in tailoring and to the physical act of binding the body. These dual interpretations are brought together throughout the collection.

Inspired by the bondage drawings of Nancy Grossman, tailored jackets and coats feature self-fabric tapes extending from beneath the lapels, allowing the garments to be tied around the body in a manner reminiscent of bondage. These details merge the discipline of tailoring with the physicality of restraint.

As a symbol of transformation and renewal, the collection also draws upon the skin of snakes, which continuously shed and regenerate. Snake and lizard patterns, along with python leather, appear not merely as decorative motifs but as a "second skin" that reinforces the collection's central theme. These elements are incorporated into shoes, belts, bags, and gloves, extending the idea of transformation across the body.

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