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SPRING'S MOST WANTED

Suzanne Rogers reveals what she's coveting to celebrate the dawn of a new season.

Perhaps Robin Williams said it best: “Spring is nature’s way of saying, ‘Let’s party!’” With that first kiss of springtime warmth, and those early tulip and crocus buds shaking off the last vestiges of snow to supplant winter’s dull greyness, it feels like cause for celebration—a joyous renewal. Time to pack away the woollens and welcome lighter, brighter cottons, silks, and linens. Time, too, for some refreshing wardrobe additions.

At the top of my go-to list this spring are dresses from Gül Hürgele’s latest collection. The Istanbul-based designer takes her inspiration from sunny Mediterranean shores and chic Parisian cafés. The results are breezily elegant, perfect for my upcoming trip to Mykonos, and for beachside entertaining at our Caribbean home-away-from-home.



Gül Hürgele

I’m also enthralled by dresses from The Vampire’s Wife, a British label co-founded five years ago by Susie Cave, wife of Australian singer-songwriter Nick Cave. The quirky name comes from an yet-to-be-published novel by her husband. A stunning, dark-haired beauty, muse to the likes of David Bailey, Helmut Newton, and Azzedine Alaïa, Cave has earned an impressive following. Fans include Chloë Grace Moretz, Cate Blanchett, and Florence Welch, who aptly described Vampire’s Wife creations to the *New York Times* as a “mix of femininity and slight witchery.” Beautifully fitted and delicately ruffled, dresses like the flowered silk Hummingbird and cotton, rose-patterned Cinderella Blue Gypsy are absolutely delightful. Her jewellery collection includes a wonderful charm bracelet, its 13 charms fashioned of gold and precious stones, each inspired by a Nick Cave song.

Speaking of jewellery, it’s hard to imagine anything more ideal for springtime than the vibrant drop earrings of Indian designer Ranjana Khan. She cunningly combines various materials—textiles, metals, feathers, semi-precious stones, shells, or whatever else strikes her fancy—to create rainbow-hued collections bursting with vivacity.

And spring, for me, always means a new pair or two of Linda Farrow sunglasses. Whenever I’m in London, I drop by her Mayfair gallery to discover what creative innovations she has in store. The Spring 2019 collection includes an array of playful cat-eye styles in Italian acetate, tortoiseshell, or gold-plated titanium, and oversized shades in peach, tobacco, and black that can’t help but recall Jackie O strolling through Manhattan on a bright May afternoon.



Sunglasses by Linda Farrow, \$825



Dress by The Vampire’s Wife, \$2,200

Suzanne Rogers: photographed by Chris Nicholls. Gül Hürgele Spring/Summer 2019: courtesy of Gül Hürgele.