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The Runway Rundown: Bottega Veneta Finds Beauty In Rebirth And Ferragamo Looks To The Roaring Twenties

On the fourth day of Milan Fashion Week, Maximilian Davis at Ferragamo, Matthieu Blazy at Bottega Veneta and Dolce & Gabbana proved the city's edge.

BY [NAOMI PIKE](#) PUBLISHED: 25 FEBRUARY 2024



On the fourth day of Milan Fashion Week, creativity met with exceptional craftsmanship as Bottega Veneta, Ferragamo and Dolce & Gabbana headlined the schedule, turning out fine-tuned collections that came with inspirations to note and accessories to covet.

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The Inspirations

A century on, Maximilian Davis looked to the

1920s — the decade of Ferragamo's inception — for inspiration this season. Distilling the decade through his perspective offered an overall look to liberation seen in the era's drop-waist hems and relaxed fluidity. 'The visual codes of an era of emancipation are reduced and refined for a collection that reflects the self-expression of the twenties – on both sides of the century,' said the show notes, while Davis himself commented: 'The 1920s used clothing as a way to celebrate freedom. And that expression of freedom is something which resonates with me, with my heritage, and with Ferragamo.'

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Over at Bottega Veneta, Matthieu Blazy was inspired by the idea of rebirth, looking to barren landscapes and the life that endures in these spaces, aligning them with the contemporary state of the world. He also explained in a post-show quote that his inspirations came from 'nonumentalism of the everyday: a sense of allure and confidence in the pragmatic, utilitarian and purposeful'. He added: 'In a world on fire, there is something very human in the simple act of dressing... We all watch the same news. It is hard to be celebratory at this point. Still, the idea of rebirth is beautiful, too. These are the flowers that bloom after the earth is burnt – they give a sense of hope. They come back stronger than ever. Here, elegance is resilience.'

The Front Row

At Bottega Veneta, a discerning front row complete with supermodels and Oscar winners, each with an existing relationship with Blazy's tenure at the house. Julianne Moore was in attendance in a super chic look of light-wash denim jeans and a striped shirt collar poking over a grey knit along with her husband, Bart Freundlich. Sat with the couple was an all-leather clad A\$AP Rocky and Salma Hayek, while Kate Moss, Shygirl, Zaya Wade and James Blake were seen across the show space.





The Sets

Blazy always sets his shows amongst an arty scene to appease his creative crowd. For AW24, he was inspired by the South of Italy, and especially the cactus that grow in Calabria. 'It is an idea of resilience – the cactus grows where nothing else can grow. The show might have a sense of introspection, but one with resilience and a feeling of hope,' he wrote. The inspirations manifested plainly in the large-scale Murano glass flowering cacti that were dotted around the space, with guests invited to take a seat on LC14 Cabanon stools by Le Corbusier, which were all burnt by hand. 'Originally, the stool was a whiskey box that he found and repurposed; a pragmatic thing that became a legend,' Blazy shared.



BOTTEGA VENETA

At Dolce & Gabbana, models walked a fittingly glamorous concourse gilded with a golden touch to offset the rest of the black show space to match the collection's palette. Then, at Ferragamo, Davis opted for a stark light-lined space allowing the technique and textures of his fashion to take centre stage.