

Fashion • *designer special!*

Ready for Some Style Lessons?

Meet designer Olivier Theyskens—once of Parisian fashion houses Nina Ricci and Rochas, and now of everywoman favorite Theory. We're in love!

BY ALEXANDRA MARSHALL



Belgian wunderkind Olivier Theyskens, 34, has long been a fashion-world darling, with a sense of sophisticated drama and knack for subtle innovation that make him a go-to for some of Hollywood's biggest stars. Those of us with reality-sized wallets have had to settle for vicarious red-carpet gazing until now, as Theyskens' Theory, his new collaboration with more affordable brand Theory, hits stores and websites. Theyskens cites Theory's reputation for sharp tailoring and "straightforwardness" as part of what drew him to the project, adding, "I was inspired to infuse simplicity and get right to the point with the clothing!" (Yes, he is charming. And very, very Belgian.) Theory
Continued on next page ➡➡



Try a Bra Top

"I love to see these lingerie tops under blouses or oversize tops," says Theyskens. Great with something sheer on top. (Bra, \$125)



Dare to Sparkle During the Day

A sequined vest adds just the right fashionable touch to a tank and khakis. Note the wedges: very spring '11! (Vest, \$625)

MODELS: FRANCES TULK HART; STYLIST: RACHAEL WANG; HAIR: ROBERT LYON FOR ATELIER MANAGEMENT; MAKEUP: FEINAVDO HADDAD FOR ANYKIRMAN.COM; MANICURE: GINA EPPOLITO FOR GINALS.COM; THEYSKENS: NELSON BARNARD/GETTY IMAGES

Fashion • designer special!



All clothing and shoes, Theyskens' Theory. See Glamour Shopper for more information.

loved the collection so much they named him its artistic director in October. His three best tips for all of us:

1. THINK SEASONLESS

Especially with accessories. "Velvet is for whenever you want," says Theyskens. Plush pumps can work with tights in chilly weather and anchor a tweed or corduroy skirt; in warmer weather, wear them with bare legs and a flouney dress.

2. LOOK FOR UNBASIC TOUCHES

The blouses, blazers and jackets in the collection all have a small

Choose an Unexpected Shape

"I find this cut sexy," says Theyskens. The key to pants like these is the wide, cinched waist that offsets the fullness. (Pants, \$425)

notch in the back of the neck (see bottom right). It's a couture innovation that allows you to wear the piece traditionally or pull it forward to make it more slouchy. "I personally often cut the middle back of my collars," says Theyskens. "They can fall better that way. On girls it is slightly sexy and more edgy."

3. START WITH A DRESS

A simple summer dress can be worn so many ways. "You can rock it with a vintage-looking leather jacket or romanticize it with a long, soft woolly shawl," says Theyskens. We also love the look of a thin tee under a bare dress for days when you don't want to show a lot of skin. (See *that* look in action, page 84!)

Stars ♥ Him!

Celebs have followed Theyskens from one label to the next. The guy's good!



Madonna in Olivier Theyskens, 1998

Reese Witherspoon in Nina Ricci, 2007

Kirsten Dunst in Rochas, 2006

4 PIECES FASHION EDITORS ARE FALLING FOR



A Bag That Hugs the Body
(\$795)



A Breezy, Girly Dress
(\$435)



A Velvet Wedge
(\$465)



A Leather Jacket
(\$980)

That genius notch!

STILLS: CATHY CRAWFORD AND STUART TYSON; STYLISTS: STARR MCCALEB AND ANNE WLAJEWSKI; MADONNA: JEFF KRANTZ/FILMMAGIC.COM; WITHERSPOON: STEVE GRANITZ/WIREIMAGE.COM; DUNST: PASCAL LE SECRETAIN/GETTY IMAGES