

SUMMER 2010



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Bespoke life
John Lobb

**AFRICA'S
NEXT STEP**
BY ALEC RUSSELL

Meet 'Mr
Lamborghini'

Featuring

**SIMON CALLOW
MATTHEW PARRIS
MICHAEL VAUGHAN
ZOE WILLIAMS
LULU GUINNESS
HILARY MANTEL**

Beauty

By Alexandra Shulman

The summer is all about shades of beige: so think nude, taupe, cream, camel and ecru, says fashion writer *Lynnette Peck Bateman*



The financial world has had a real shake-up and fashion's response has been to play safe. Classic items with staying power were showcased on the spring/summer catwalks in neutral shades. The key is to buy luxurious quality items: an embellished cream coat or dusky-pink silk scarf that will last in your wardrobe long after any talk of recession has gone.

Welcome to the so-called 'new nudes', which suit relaxed fabrics such as chiffon, silk and lace. Now is the time to ditch black and embrace beige. The beauty world has also adopted this, and Chanel's spring 2010 make-up collection was awash with beige, brown and khaki nail polish, eye shadow and blusher. Nail colours ranged from a shade called *Inattendu* described as 'refined beige' to *Particulière* (below).

Bespoke is back, too. Think personalised stationery for your thank-you letters; handmade not high-street hats for weddings; shirts tailored to your taste, and luggage made to your specifications, personalised with your initials.

The trend for neutrals is set to continue into autumn and winter 2010/2011. On the catwalk at Chloé we saw dusky silk blouses in taupe, at Giles 'mushroom' leather skirts and Stella McCartney was all about sheer 'blush' tunics. This is all a reaction against girlie floral clothes and anything too pretty or frivolous. It isn't just the stock market – even fashion is getting serious.



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