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Neck And Neck

07 September 2009

JANE CARR is gearing up to show her accessories collection in Paris this September, but before that the London-based designer will preview her colourful scarves at **London Fashion Week**. Carr, a **Central Saint Martins** graduate, spent four years as Versace's head of printed textiles for womenswear - an experience she said "allowed me to discover who I am" - before establishing her eponymous label in 2005.

"I love the freedom of having the last say," Carr told VOGUE.COM of her own line. "The new collection is the biggest we've made to date. Entitled *Parade*, it's inspired by a combination of couture fabrics such as tulle, clipped ostrich feathers and leather broguing; it's about the decay of decadence."

Department stores including Liberty and Selfridges have reported a lift in the sales of accessories, especially scarves, in the past year, as shoppers seek to enliven their wardrobes without overspending. Carr, who cites optimistic designers including Christophe Decamin, Alber Elbaz and **Alexander Wang** as some of those she admires, thinks this trend could be here to stay.

"For me a scarf can transform how I feel, add a splash of colour and you can reinvent yourself for the day," Carr explained. "I think scarves are a great canvas, both for print and the individual. The ways they are worn are so versatile and personal. They are great to customize and refresh your look while being luxurious and comfortable."

Carr also revealed: "We're working on a capsule fashion collection with a department store in Japan, so watch this space..."

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