

AUDI FASHION FESTIVAL 2009

BAZAAR Harper's *daily*

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SINGAPORE

YOUR DAILY FASHION FIX *Where to be, what to wear, who to kiss!*



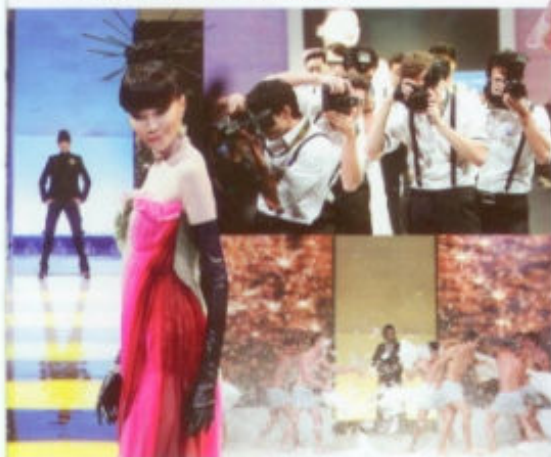
"Playground of Dreams" by MANGO May 9 at 3pm

The runway bloomed bright at Mango with the international Spanish brand's easy, feminine, and wearable pieces. One-shoulder mini-dresses, comfy rompers, sexy jumpsuits, and floaty frocks called to mind romantic forays in lush gardens, while shots of fluorescent hues were a nod to the splashy '80s. Tribal necklaces and organic adornments capped Mango's summer look.

SHOWS OF THE DAY

Raoul May 9 at 9pm

"We had a bit of a feather problem," joked Douglas Benjamin before the show, "but the feathers were white, and snow is white, and this is a fall/winter collection, so use your imagination!" Indeed, the remains of the pillowy plumes left a soft white coating along the inside of the Tent@Orchard, but it nevertheless seemed to work in Raoul's favour, creating an atmosphere that was ripe for the cosy pieces on show, from luxe fur chubbies to tweed pencil skirts topped with silk pussybow blouses in autumnal hues. Raoul loyalists in attendance would have surely coveted reworked signatures like a shirt dress in metallic coated lace, and the hippie-print dresses in flyaway chiffon. For the men, Gordon Gekko-worthy power suits, a play on textures and tailored shirts in bold colours gave the collection an '80s inflection. Cheeky feathers aside, this is a collection that transcends trends and will travel well — a swift reminder of Raoul's successful international expansion, doing what it does best.



Private Lives presented by Baker May 9 at 7pm

An air of mystery surrounded this runway pairing of furniture and fashion starring local style maven Dr. Georgia Lee. With 20 male models, Lee took centre stage in a series of vignettes, modelling outfits befitting each theme by the likes of Jean Paul Gaultier, Vera Wang and couturier Dominique Sirop, who was in attendance. The surreal finale — involving Chopard jewellery, a homoerotic pillow fight and thousands of white feathers descending upon the runway and audience — provided plenty of talking points, and images that would resonate long after guests had picked the plumes out of their hair.

REACTIONS on RAOUL



"I was blown away! There was an air of elegance and understated sexiness. For every show I do, I personally request that Raoul dresses me up."

— Andrea de Cruz



"There were lots of classic pieces that were beautifully made. I'm proud of Raoul, a local brand making it big in the international scene."

— Karen Ng