

Written by Nadine Toren

Television personality and AZfoothills.com columnist Nadine Toren is scouring the area, finding savvy Valley features, bringing readers “on the scene.” Every day she'll introduce you to celebrities, athletes, and give you an inside look into local events and hot spots. She'll touch on topical issues, and keep AZ fans posted on all the big talkers around town.



While we're still seeing record temps, many of us are gearing up our closets for fall. Here are some autumn trends you'll want to get your hands on, courtesy of a timeless designer.

No newflash here—it's September and still sizzling outside; doesn't make dreaming of autumn attire very easy, does it? While the 100+ degree temps call for bikinis and flip flops, no doubt, cooler weather is in the somewhat-near future, and that's why we're talking fall trends.

Just walk through Scottsdale Fashion Square Mall; things like boots, sweaters, and pants are taking over store windows, as summer gear goes on sale. Now's the time to stock up on what's cool for the new season, and that's why we've turned to the Carolina Herrera clothing line for hot tips.

The Venezuelan fashion designer created her first collection in the early '80s and soon became known as the go-to-girl for everything bridal. She opened her flagship store on New York City's Madison Avenue in 2000, and has since set the tone for the latest in classic clothing, fragrances, menswear, handbags, and shoes. Her timeless label is for any-aged modern woman, and her staples include tweed skirt-suits, crisp white blouses, fitted jackets, chic cocktail frocks, and embellished evening gowns. She's the top pick for many celebs including Renée Zellweger, Nicole Kidman, Ivanka Trump, and Meryl Streep.

“Her brand represents today's woman. Her clothing is free and sophisticated,” said Perla Herrera—no relation to the famed designer.

Perla Herrera runs Carolina Herrera's Fashion Square specialty store, located on level one. Thanks to Perla, we have a sneak-peak at elite fall fashion trends, as purchasing Carolina products can run you \$5,000+.

“Prices start at \$100, but can go into the thousands. We value quality,” she said.

Autumn 2011 is all about rich color; that, according to Perla. She says you'll definitely want to fill your closet with chocolates, grays, oranges, and rich reds and purples. And good news here—everything goes. Perla suggest mixing and matching colors and textures; you don't have to decide whether you're going bohemian or sophisticated—you can create a healthy in-between.

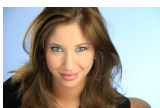
“Forget grasping a specific style.”

The feminine line is featuring high-waisted skirts, tunics, and great dresses this fall. You can't go wrong with a cute skirt paired with a sweater and boots, or an accessory infused dress.

“Feathers are really cool, and so is fur.”

Perla says your 3 main fall must-haves include an everyday tweed skirt, a comfortable jacket, and a not-so-basic black dress. It's all about luxury, exclusiveness, and minimalism.

For more information, visit: www.carolinaherrera.com.



Carolina Hererra's Elite Fall Trends

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