

Gai Mattiolo.
Photo: Reuters



Kirk Kara sapphire and diamond wedding set



BLUE streak

IN A SENSE, THE BLUEING OF AMERICA IS STREAKING.

From fashion to home decor, the color range of rich blues is quickly moving—rushing, so it seems—to be fall/holiday's primary palette. The season's ready-to-wear runways were resplendent in exciting and electric indigo, cobalt, and sapphirine—far from baby, powder, or pale blue, and more like blue ribbons, perhaps.

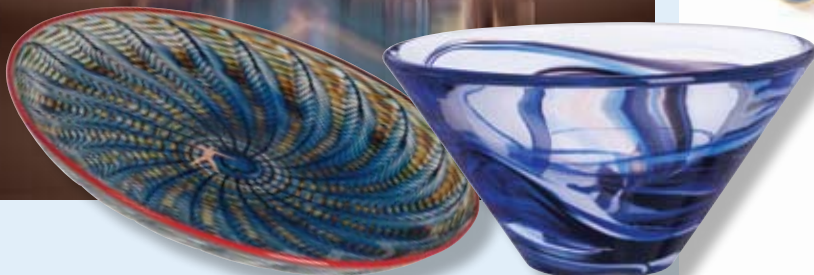
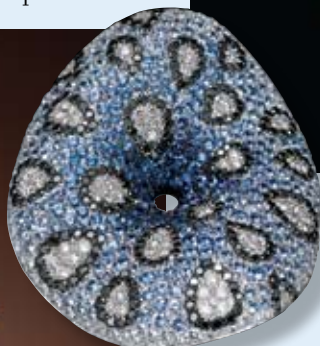


Hublot watch in pink gold with blue dial, diamonds, and rubber strap

Louis Vuitton "Tambour" diving watch



Kosta Boda "Peacock" and "Tempura" bowls



Palmiero Jewelry Design "Rain" ring in blue sapphires, black and white diamonds



Paula Crevoschay opal and 18k gold ring

Color Story sapphire and iolite bracelet



Tamara Comolli "Bohemian" bracelets with amethyst, iolite, blue and green tourmaline, and topaz



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Language!

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Stephen Webster brooch in 18k white gold, sapphires, and diamonds



Gumuchian platinum, diamond, and sapphire ring



Michael Hero "Artistic Frame" collection

Paola De Luca, creative director for the international firm, Trends & Jewellery Forecasting, based in Arezzo, Italy, discusses color—and especially blues—going forward for autumn/winter and into spring: "An important conceptual macro trend that's affecting the fashion world is one I call 'Daily Luxe.' It's inspired by water and ice—water mania, sort of—all the stages of water, going from liquid, crystallization, and fog, to rain, sleet, and snow. So, actually, it is a color palette from white to gray to light blue and dark blue." Although, De Luca says, "The imperial blues and coastal fiord blues are especially important, manifested in gems like blue sapphire and iolite."

The dramatic blues De Luca refers to are also indigenous to a fashion trend, which, she says, is an important new emerging one among young fashion designers, particularly designers in Europe. "It's a macro trend I call 'City Circus.' Think of lights and neon—a kind of circus of life. The palette is bright, everything from gothic to glam to pop to what we call *zapping*, meaning fast. So the colors—like the blues—are very bright and extreme. In the deeper blues, what's a good way to describe it? Think of surf-the-web blue."

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