



BY ASHLEE PIPER



→ BERLIN-BASED UMASAN

## compassion on the catwalk

**Animal-derived** skins, feathers, fur, wool, silk, and adhesives are no longer de rigueur when it comes to couture. For Fall/Winter 2014 Fashion Weeks from New York to Berlin, a class of designers is debuting humane collections that mirror the principles of plant-based cuisine: the ingredients are slightly different from the norm, but the construction, artistry, and quality are every bit as sumptuous.

### FEET FORWARD

**CRI DE COUER'S** covered wedges, lush florals, and rubber lug heels blend royal opulence and function; **OLSENHAUS** offers a futuristic take on rocker plaids and slick metallic boots. **BEYOND SKIN'S** 40s-inspired collection at Project London showcases Italian woven fabrics and recycled faux suedes. **NICORA JOHNS'S** hip boots and flats are made in America by artisans paid a fair wage; **KRŽE STUDIO** blends Italian craftsmanship with breathable materials.



→ ATELIER TAMMAM

### ARM CANDY

Spotted on the arms of some of the red carpet's most famous celebrities (hello, Anne Hathaway), **JILL MILAN** boasts versatile satchels and clutches made from waterproof, dirt-resistant recycled PET. **FREEDOM OF ANIMALS'S** line of bags is made from recycled polyurethane and benefits The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust; Brazilian accessories house **CANNA** updates its classic totes with metallic accents and canvas in whimsical prints.



→ VAUTE COUTURE

### PRETTY PRINCIPLED

The first all-veg label to be included in New York City's Fashion Week in 2013, **VAUTE COUTURE** expands its outerwear collection; knitwear designer **MIAKODA** shows off hand-crocheted accessories in wear-anywhere neutrals. Vintage-inspired gowns dominate at **ATELIER TAMMAM**, the first fashion house to earn the Vegetarian Society of the United Kingdom's official approval. **UMASAN** dazzles at Berlin Fashion Week with its use of high-tech materials such as SeaCell, derived from algae, and Energear, which reflects infrared rays to radiate energy back to the body.

### MEN OF VIRTUE

Ethical haberdasher **BRAVE GENTLEMAN** channels "nostalgic Americana" with slim-cut suits, fedoras, and gloves, all handcrafted from recycled materials. Avant-garde Parisian men's footwear designer **ROMBAUT** debuts boots made from fig tree bark, a biodegradable material ethically sourced from Uganda.

