



Arts & crafts

Glamorous artsy is the look, says **Laia Faran Graves**

In this age of financial uncertainty, fashion seems to be giving the nod to good old-fashion techniques and styles worthy of our grandmothers' generation, such as tassels, feathers, crochet and macramé. But, as always, to keep things fresh we are not talking about a recycled boho look. No, this look is far sharper: structured with a hint of glamorous artsy.

Single-shade crochet dresses were all over the catwalk for SS 2011 (Gucci, Mark Fast, Salvatore Ferragamo) in a palette of brown, beige – even

pink. When wearing them, make sure that accessories are kept to a minimum to avoid a busy country look.

If you like feathers and fringing, you can pluck your perfect look and shimmy away. From a Hollywood-looking light peach cocktail dress (Chanel) to a full-length golden dress (Versace), the runway is your oyster. For a less formal look, go for a day dress with feather trim (Chanel) or some feather-trimmed shoes (Pringle).

And for a rock'n'roll approach to homespun crafts, go for tassels as seen at Lanvin, Dior, Ralph Lauren and Roberto Cavalli. Wear them on bags, jackets, skirts or dresses, tops and necklaces.

Soften the look by keeping it fairly monochrome, working with complimentary shades of one hue, and team up with tasselled heels. To complete the look, add plenty of dark eye shadow and, obviously, nude lips.

Feathered hem dress
£150. Monsoon
59 The Broadway
Ealing W5 5JN
020 8840 3114



Souffle feather sandal, £55
Office, 27-28 George Street
Richmond TW9 1HY
020 8332 7449