



Fashion

OUR FASHION
CORRESPONDENT
SPEAKS TO TWIN
SPANISH
DESIGNERS IÑAKI
AND AITOR MUÑOZ,
WHO HAVE TEAMED
UP WITH FRENCH
BRAND NAFNAF TO
CREATE THE NEW
AILANTO
COLLECTION

■ "Usually we find inspiration in films, photography books, exhibitions, etcetera"

It takes two to tailor

MARTA WENDLINGER

● –What's it like working with a brother and what's more, a twin brother?

"Working with family members always has its advantages. Being twins gives us a vision with four eyes (which I guess see more than two), which helps us manage and supervise the majority of the different aspects that make up a collection."

–What's your philosophy with respect to fashion design?

"We try to ensure that the majority of the fabrics are of our own design, of a high quality, and we take a great deal of care with pattern design so that each item is perfect. This collection brings out printed designs which are exclusive to the brand; the colours and all the clothes are made with multiple details, embroidery work and detailed finishings."

–Where do you find the inspiration for your collections?

"Usually we find inspiration in films, photography books, exhibitions, etcetera. The Spring/Summer 06 'NAFNAF by Ailanto' Collection was inspired by journeys in Africa and the art created in the African continent. This starting point can be found in all aspects of the collection, in prints, fabrics and cuts. We also found inspiration in the work of the graphic reporter Ryszard Kapuscinski as well as in the aesthetics and traditions of the island of Madagascar."

"The Autumn/Winter 06/07 'NAFNAF by Ailanto' Collection is inspired by Peruvian cul-



Twin designers Iñaki and Aitor Muñoz (right) and two dresses from their spring/summer Ailanto line which they created in affiliation with NAFNAF



ture, with colours and details on the clothes which are reminiscent of traditional clothing and the native Indians of Cuzco and Titicaca. We have combined folds and pleats with gatherings and have decorated the clothes with frayed edges, tassels, woollen pompoms, braids, and

frills. Flowers are also present in the prints, the embroidery work, in wool, linen, with sequins or crochet-work."

–How did your partnership with NAFNAF for the Spring-Summer 2006 Collection come about?

"It was a NAFNAF initiative. From the very start we have had a good working relationship which both parties helped develop. They were looking for a young Spanish designer who would fit in with the company's style and personality, thus creating a collection which would reflect the best of NAFNAF and lend it a

fashionable touch. They wanted to bring 'catwalk fashion' to the streets, and we know that after looking into the Spanish fashion scene, they chose us for our prints and colours and because we had a really good vibe with them from the start. What we like the most about NAFNAF is the chance to try something new and different which gets us closer to a wider public."

–What plans do the Ailanto designers have for the future?

"With respect to NAFNAF, right now we have worked together in both the Spring-Summer 06 and the Autumn-Winter 06/07 collections. The project has been planned for the long-term as we are interested in working with a company as big as France's NAFNAF."

For more information on:
Ailanto– www.ailanto.com
NAFNAF– www.nafnaf.es

WINDOW SHOPPING

New shop digs underground

● Walking towards the recently inaugurated store, Underground Limits, on Carrer Magdalenas near Via Laeitana, I did not quite know what to expect. But as I approached the corner, I saw the cool, colourful sign and was later told that a young and famous graffiti artist has also painted the store's metal blinds with hip designs. It's all got to do with what Underground Limits is all about.

Once inside, there's a bit of everything. But what's unique about this store is that it showcases 20 young designers who

prefer "alternative movements" such as gothic, skate, pop and gay. There are different clothing lines by Martha Peters, Kalaine, Pupila, Falsa Modestia, colourful bags made out of recycled milk cartons, "cyber" jewellery created from computer parts, unique postcards with cartoon images of horror figures and much more. Most things are one of a kind or hand-made and all of the designers, although not necessarily Catalan, live in Barcelona.

The owner, Alicia Lopez–young, vibrant, and a great

publicist for the store–greeted me and explained that in addition to providing space for each designer's label, the store is also planning other cultural events such as painting and photography exhibits, catwalks with the store's alternative clothing, and is hoping to dress musical groups from Pupilo Records. Another thing that's a plus for the collaborators is that in addition to marketing the store itself, Alicia makes sure to publicise each designer regardless of the size of their contribution to the store.



It's young, fresh, and alternative; I found a lovely purple velvet bodice that I'd love to own even though I'm not a Goth.

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