



adaptability of men's fashion for women. A red velvety three-piece suit was worn in turn by both a male, then a female, model. Booties finished all the looks. Capasa said breaking gender barriers is an idea that drew him into fashion in the 1990s "and I think it is coming back."

Bowie, he said, has always been one of his icons. On Capasa's story board backstage was a Costume National photograph of Bowie from the early 2000s flanked by two wild wolves, looking, said the designer "like a Roman emperor. Even the wolves are subdued." "The magic, beside the incredible talent of his music, is that everything he touched became an icon. That is the meaning of a true artist," Capasa said. Capasa said he is fighting to protect his own creations against the "vampires" of fast-fashion that copy innovation, losing one battle against a copycat's powerful lawyers. "The only defense I have is creativity," he said.



Sicilian spaghetti western

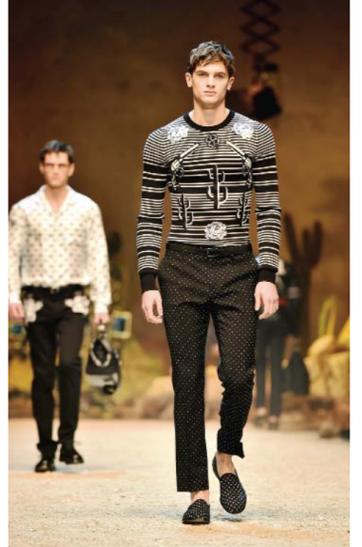
The invitation to the Dolce&Gabbana show came with its own soundtrack, playing Ennio Morricone's "A Fistful of Dollars" when opened, clearly foreshadowing that the designers Domenico Dolce and Stefano Gabbana had applied their Sicilian lens to the Spaghetti Western. The cinematically styled collection, titled "Sicilian Western" and inspired by Sergio Leone's popular 1960s films, had flashes of both of whimsy and danger. Light-hearted repeating motifs of cacti, crossed revolvers, a mustachioed cowboy and a saloon dancer were embroidered or printed on sweaters and shirts, as well as tailored jackets and suits, three-piece and double-breasted.

A bit more backcountry, a big furry brown coat recalled Leonardo DiCaprio clad in the skin of the bear that mauled him in "The Revenant." There were also bushy lambs-wool pants, worn with scoop-neck sweaters or thermal tops. Embroidery is emerging as an early trend in Milan, and the designers featured needlework on denim jeans, jackets

and shirts. Some models filmed the runway and fashion front-row as they displayed their wears, with the designers again upping their social media engagement by live streaming the films. Models in silken pajamas swarmed the runway for the finale, bringing sleepwear out of the bedroom and onto the street. Silken trousers were worn with thick-knit sweaters and pajama tops were tucked into straight trousers, completed with a bandanna knotted around the neck.

Super hero

German designer Philipp Plein taps the superhero in all men for next fall and winter. There's Bruce Wayne in an elegant tuxedo jacket with a not-so-discreet batman logo, carrying a leather backpack strapped to a skateboard. He soon transforms himself into Batman proper with a gold-embossed Batman logo on a sweatshirt with quilted shoulders. Luxurious backpacks carry the logos of Captain America and Super Man, while Spiderman graces a leather coat. Models carried leather-clad skateboards



Italian designers Stefano Gabbana (right) and Domenico Dolce greet the audience at the end of their show.



Models wear creations for Philipp Plein men's Fall-Winter 2016-2017 collection.