

/// NOM*D AUTUMN WINTER 2006 // C'MON

At a time when fashion is in the thrall of the new femininity is it any surprise that Nom*D has produced one of their most androgynous collections yet?

For Winter 06, the Dunedin label has focused its vision once more on the traditional elements and fabrics of men's tailoring.

As always, the influences are vintage and slightly subverted. A classic man's tailcoat is freshly interpreted with details like sweat shirting sleeves and a buttoned-on panel that allow the garment to be worn two ways – either with long tails or as a cropped jacket.

The lining of the tailcoat is light cotton 'cowboy shirt' check – a key fabric for Nom*D this season and another nod towards archetypal menswear influences. Touches of cowboy check are mixed deliberately throughout the range along with overdyed camouflage prints, Nirvana tartans and moody paisleys.

The colour keys for the season are saturated and intense – a visceral red, blackened aubergine and midnight teal. Black is, as always, the backbone of the collection.

The nod towards femininity in this range comes in the form of schoolgirl tunics and pinafores in stiff wools that have a slept-in look, and in Nom*D's knitwear for the season which includes oversized cardigans that mix up heavy and light gauge knits in fresh reworkings of traditional shapes and knit textures. Cardigans with basketweave front panels and swollen pockets reference a look favoured since the fifties by sweet little old ladies – reinterpreted with a knowing, streetwise edge in a collection that, as always, is as far from 'nana' as you can possibly get.