

Fashion

Old standbys like the T shirt and the stiletto get a decidedly technological redesign in the hands of true innovators



From top: Taffin gold-and-citrine cuffs; Faraone Mennella gold necklace; Taher Chemirik gold necklace

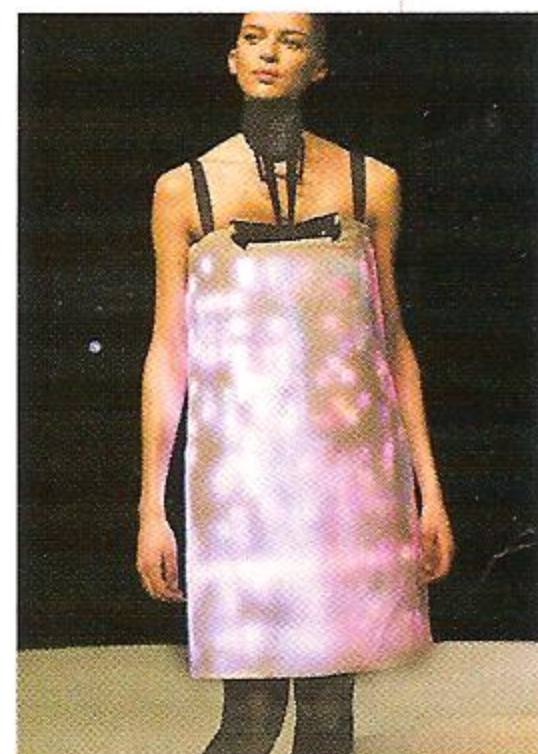
JEWELRY

Four jewelry designers, four boldly different looks. Since **Taher Chemirik's** eponymous collection launched two years ago, word of his strong, artistic designs has spread among the fashion cognoscenti like wildfire and has garnered the young line a loyal following. **Faraone Mennella**, founded by friends Roberto Faraone Mennella and Amedeo Scognamiglio, has inspired legions of copycats with its glamorous hand-twisted gold links, a must-have for the socialite set. Jacqueline Rabun's flowing work for **Georg Jensen** offers a modern and refined take on the organic style the brand is known for. **Taffin's** James de Givenchy has been compared to design greats like Fulco di Verdura and Jean Schlumberger. His opulent, often one-of-a-kind pieces stand out thanks to a generous use of unusual semiprecious stones like spinels and mandarin garnets. —By Betsy Kroll

A Stitch of Technology

SWAROVSKI

It may be just glass, but the crystal bling from Austrian maker Swarovski always looks like so much more. Transparent, LED-assisted versions of Swarovski stones showed up in a jaw-dropping series of high-tech designs by Hussein Chalayan at his fall show, right. And if these concoctions are too out-there for you, get in on the crystal craze with a shimmery dash from Sisley's Swarovski-bejeweled eye pencils. —BY ALICE PARK



SPLENDID T SHIRT

T shirts may be a dime a dozen, but that didn't stop Splendid founder and lawyer-by-training Moise Emquies from trying to come up with an innovative twist to the wardrobe staple. By starting with the yarn, and after 10 years of trial and error, Emquies hit upon the Splendid solution—an even mix of Supima cotton and micro Modal, a buttery rayon that drinks in dyes for a rich look. This season, he debuts Splendid Girls, for tweens who can't wait to grow up to wear his Ts. —A.P.



COLE HAAN

Under creative director Gordon Thompson's guidance, innovation has become a key ingredient of Cole Haan's success. Thompson's suggestion in 2000 to incorporate Nike Air technology into Cole Haan loafers was radical—and very popular. So much so that last fall the company launched the 4-in. State of the Art high heel with Air cushioning. Now you can really kick up your heels. —B.K.

