

COLOURS OF JOY



Mrunal Khimji, a fashion designer of Indian ethnic wear, helps you kick off the Diwali celebrations by celebrating your appearance

Swati Hora
Muscat

Attiring is as inherent to festivity as feasting. Think of the traditional Royal Reed Dance Festival of the Zulus or the sprightly fanfare of the Rio Carnival of the Brazilians, the gear is what gears one up to relish and regale.

While in India, the fun has begun for the jamboree called Diwali, the festival of lights, it is time to start decking up for the occasion, here in Oman too. Well, for creating the looks that are sure to bring out the diva in you - fashion designer and consultant, Mrunal Khimji is ready to help! In her spacious apparel store, Mrunal's, the word *Shringar* (adornment), written on the cover of a book, draws one's attention as much as the apparels around, abounding

DIWALI SPECIAL



in rich colours. It is amid these graceful folds and drapes that one realises how each aspect of the store has been discerningly chosen to soothe the mind and create a mood, truly reflecting *Shringar*.

Colours can be reflective of varied moods and going by this philosophy, she suggested, "bright and happy colours since Diwali is a festival full of light, celebration, happiness and pos-

WHAT'S IN VOGUE

- ▶ Yellow gold
- ▶ Nail paints in neon and bold colours
- ▶ Pumps with kameez - salwars/churidars
- ▶ For saris, if not stilettos, then fetch style and comfort from wedges
- ▶ Fabrics for Muscat - stretchable satin, chiffon and georgette
- ▶ Appliqués on simple fabrics

itivity. Red always works. So does a fuchsia pink and hues of yellow." An avid follower of international fashion trends, Mrunal didn't forget to give tips for those who like to take cues from the international trends and combine those aspects to keep their style unique and one of a kind. "Go for a lot of pinks, a lot of coral orange and a lot of blue like a turquoise or aqua green. Fawn colours were in

vogue until last year but people who like hues of golden can choose them too," recommended Mrunal.

Colours alone cannot do the job of getting the right look and that is where, the necessity of the playfulness of design and draping emerge. "Simple elegant clothes. Nothing jazzed up or over the top. This year, clothes are going to be a lot simpler and accessories are going to play a

ery bold role. Accessorise your-
elf well but don't overdo things.
ot very heavy stuff since our
colours and embroidery are bold
ough in their own way. Ele-
ance and simplicity this sea-
on," declared Mrunal.

Clearly, the richness of
colours will lend an elegant look

can definitely make the best of a
traditional old Banarsi or Kanjee-
varam sari lying in the closet.
"You can never go wrong with
them. Jazz it up with a western
blouse. For instance, if you have
a beautiful Banarsi sari with a
border woven in real zari, see the
colour of zari and get a matt - se-

**From simple salwar kameez to heavy tunics
with light jewellery to a simple sari with a
bold border, one can experiment with
different wears**

is season and only the appro-
priate ensembles would en-
ance such a look. "Muscat is a
mall place. Everybody wants to
ok different in the parties with
most the same set of people. A
ariety of clothes is required.
rom simple *salwaar kameez* to
eavy tunics with light jewellery
o a simple sari with a bold bor-
er, one can experiment with
ifferent wears," said Mrunal
whose collection boasts of such
ieces and more.

Diwali is an occasion to
plurge on new attires,
ut if you're not in a
ood to revamp the
ardrobe, you

quins gold blouse stitched with
it. Wear it with a polki or a *jadau*
or an antique gold jewellery set.
While yellow gold is back in
vogue, nail paints in neon and
bold colours have a very impor-
tant role to play this year. You
can mix and match. And if you
find that difficult, go to a fashion
consultant like me," said Mrunal
who confidently assures of
being able to turn a piece of
fabric into an ensemble of
your choice.



Grand entrance
A beautiful entrance to the hou
is like the first chapter of a nov
You arrest your guest there!
So, Geeta suggests dishes
out some old trays (preferab
wooden) of different shapes ar

Geeta Uppal who n
an interior decorati
SCA Pvt Ltd, in Delh
yourself tips on ho
your home this Diw

**Celebrate
in st**

Swati Hora
Muscat