## **DESIGNER FOCUS: VILSHENKO**

Russia's dreamiest export



Vilshenko Black Paisley Lucia Midi Dress & Black Wool Floral Embroidered Erin Cape

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Being true to herself has served Olga Vilshenko pretty well thus far. Her collections have been proudly promoting her east-meets west lifestyle since 2011, as a Russian living between London and Moscow, with every striking stitch. Handcrafted to couture-like standards using lessons learnt from her mother and fashion school, the designer's ultra-feminine silhouettes are richly detailed with the folkloric flourishes of her homeland. Ornate flowers and intricate prints are signatures executed with stunning symmetry on top of the finest fabrics. Vilshenko is anything but colour shy and all of her artful elements work together harmoniously to create a captivating sense of bohemia.

For Pre Fall 16, Vilshenko's inherent romance is darker and more dynamic. Citing Nikolai Kornilievich Bodarevsky's paintings, specifically 'Girl from Little Russia', as her inspiration, black is boldly used to balance the vivid embellishment. Even though dresses and separates are high necked and low hemmed as usual, slits allow for playful peeks of skin and flounces give skirts a flattering fluidity. With free-spirited formality always ensured, Vilshenko is now the go-brand for stylish women like Alexa Chung who want to make an entrance wherever they go.

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Olga Vilshenko. Image via @vilshenko



Leandra Medine wearing a Vilshenko blouse. Image via vogue.co.uk



Image via @vilshenko



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