Feminine lace, defined waists and Gothic accents rule the runway with gowns inspired by England’s Victorian era.

Photographs by Kurt Iswarienko
Period Piece

A Study in Sophistication

This ivory tulle and lace sheath with cap sleeves has a quiet elegance, $875, by Cosmobella.

Royal Highness An ornately embellished empire waist commands attention on this black and white hand-beaded silk georgette gown; the deep V neckline and vertical detailing enhance the illusion of length, $11,400, by Atelier Aimée. Embroidered earrings with onyx cabochons and jet pearls, $225; matching necklace, $1,115, by Dori Csengeri. Leather opera-length gloves, $375, by Carolina Amato. Beauty note: Have a matte makeup moment with Shu Uemura Glow On blush in Pink 30 and Rouge Unlimited Creme Matte lipstick in BG 940M.
Combining like textures—crocheted and floral lace; silk satin and formal faille—lends an antique feel.

Bed of Roses
An ivory English net trumpet gown with Alençon lace bodice and ruffled collar, $5,900, by Christos, and vintage accents make a luxuriously ladylike ensemble. Flower crown, $965, by Ellen Christine. Watch chain choker, $400; cameo pendant, $1,500, both from Doyle & Doyle. Long chain with glasses, $7,500, from Samuel Saidian & Sons at Manhattan Art & Antiques Center, NYC. Wrist-length crocheted gloves, $75, by Shaneen Huxham.
Black Beauty  

Opposite: Go against the grain with a lavish, lingerie-inspired look, like this black taffeta bustier and ruffled-trim skirt, $4,500, by Jenny Lee, paired with lace over-the-knee boots, $2,190, by Sergio Rossi. Resin bangles, $130 each, by Jessica Cushman. Gucci evening bag, $425, from Treasures & Pleasures at Manhattan Art & Antiques Center, NYC. Suede gloves, $165, by Carolina Amato. This page: A black tulle veil and ribbon add drama. Victorian tortoise drop earrings, $1,500, from Leah Gordon Antiques at Manhattan Art & Antiques Center, NYC.
**Imperial Lace**

This diamond white and black beaded lace gown with detachable satin train makes a powerful statement, $1,438, by Sophia Tolli. A Battenburg lace parasol, $75, from Greatlookz.com, plays off the dress pattern. Embroidered earrings with onyx cabochons and jet pearls, $440; matching choker, $520; matching four-strand necklace, $580, by Dori Csenegi. Crocheted gloves, $35, by Carolina Amato. For more info, see page 348.

Hair by Cecilia Romero for Profound Beauty at art housemanagement.com. Makeup by William Murphy at de facto for MAC Pro.

A feminine flower design softens the impact of bold black embroidery.