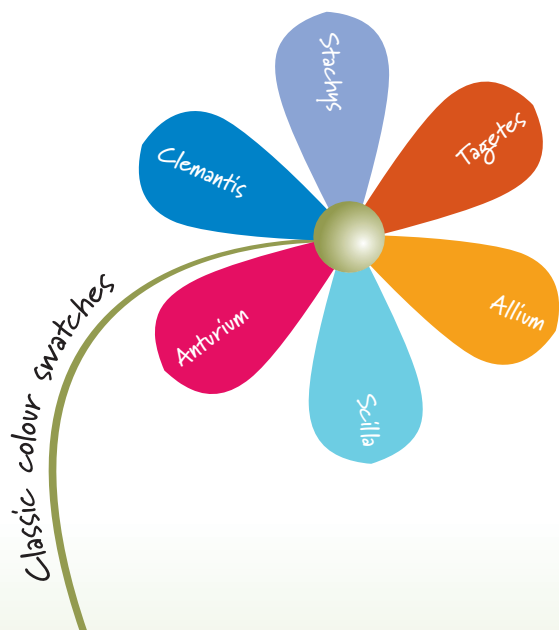
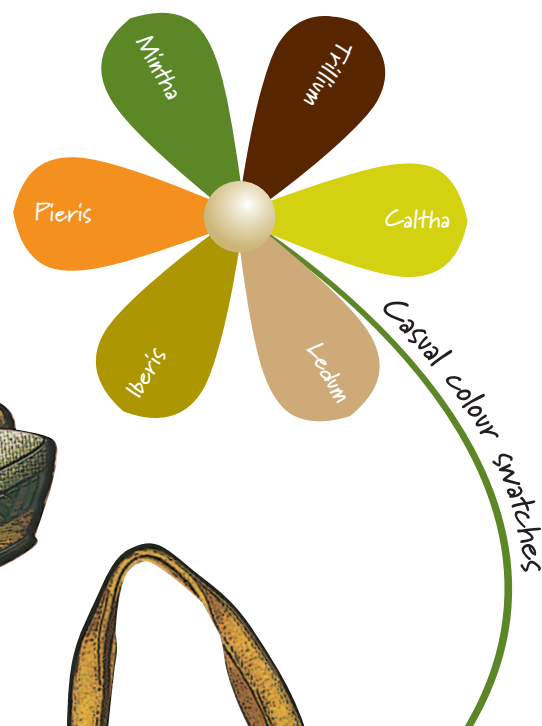


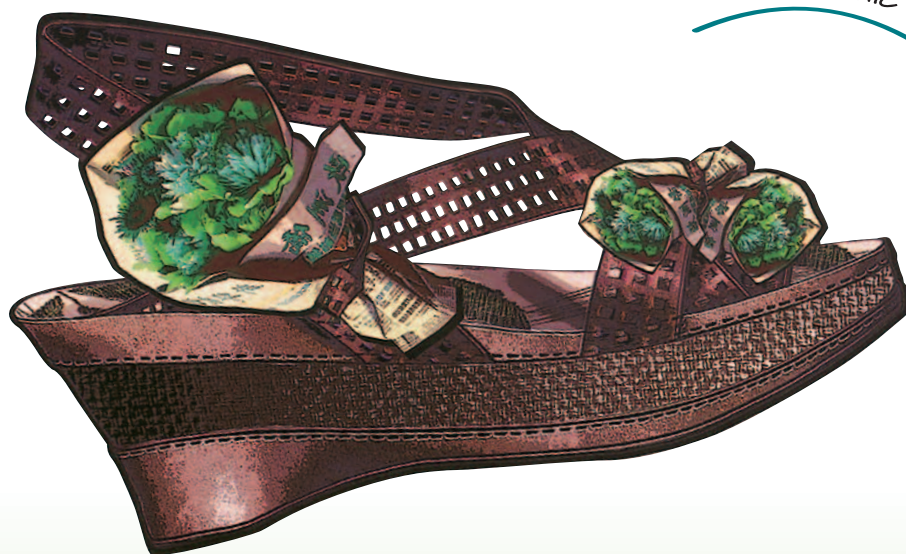
WORLD FOOTWEAR



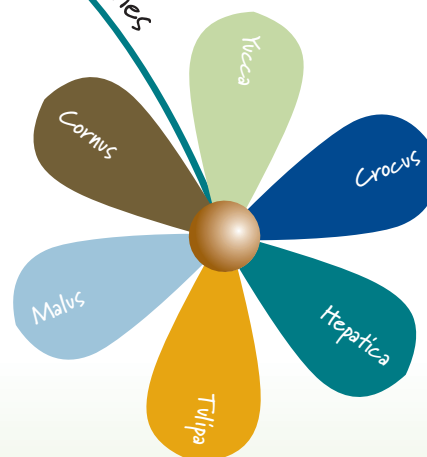
Marc inspires Sergio and Carmen

When it comes to inspiration and musing about the trends, colours and textures for spring/summer 2008, Italian design consultants Sergio Belloni and Carmen Rimoldi obviously had flowers in mind, according to the latest forecast presentation issued by leather specialist chemical company TFL. It was an inspired choice of association when they drew on the works of British artist Marc Quinn for their own development work alongside a panel of international expert colourists.

Quinn was born in London in 1964



Chic colour swatches



and is primarily known today as a sculptor. However, he is also famed for his paintings, prints and photography and has focused his skills on plants and flowers. His work has been exhibited in numerous museums and galleries around the world, including the Irish Museum of Modern Art, Centre Pompidou, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, the National Portrait Gallery in London as well as the Tate, the MCA in Chicago and the Fondazione Prada in Italy. Most controversially, he became known for his sculpture of Alison Lapper Pregnant, a statue that

was installed on the 'fourth plinth' in London's Trafalgar Square.

For TFL, however, it was his magical and slightly surreal work on flower arrangements that struck all the right chords, with its links to spring, freshness and romantic femininity.

The colour preferences in TFL's Colour Trends & Fashion Inspirations are divided into three categories—Chic, Classic and Casual, although admittedly the chic shades are characterised by ocean and transparent tones; classics cover equatorial and warm tones, flowers from

distant lands—nuances of plant life are mixed with dramatic contrasts; casual shades comprise dense earthy tones, tropical plants and roots which evoke a primitive, uncontaminated world. Natural shades of plants and leaves mixed with wood hues blend together, playing on wild combinations.

For TFL, the association with the artist's name might have its own resonance—the Quinn name is also linked to the chemical industry and is part of the corporate history of TFL, which celebrated the tenth anniversary of its formation this year. 