



Christopher Raeburn



Neil Barrett

Back in the 1950s, the California-based Meistrell brothers launched the first shop to sell wetsuits crafted from foamed synthetic rubber. Fast forward to 2017, and the athleisure trend has revealed the tremendous aesthetic potential of fabrics traditionally used for surf gear. Neoprene, it seems, is fully embraced by catwalk and street fashion alike. This versatile waterproof cloth can be really skintight and 'fit like a glove', while also offering a structured architectural shape with a strong masculine vibe to it.

At **Juun.J**, the scuba look this season is sleek and minimal: not a wrinkle can be found on his futuristic, black long sleeve top. Conversely, at **Katie Eary**, the texture is softer and spongier, while large green insect prints give the neoprene

garments a street-meets-surrealism twist. **Christopher Raeburn** proposed a patchwork neoprene bomber and shorts that mix up different tonalities of gray, drawing on his usual sources of inspiration, i.e., military and athletic clothing. The recent 1970s and 1980s trend ties into scuba seamlessly: **Neil Barrett** brought a vintage touch to his designs by adding big double stripes and incorporating retro colors such as orange, yellow, brown and beige into neoprene sweaters and vests. As this fabric is undergoing constant technical improvements and innovations, we can only guess where the scuba wave will take us next.