



Maison Margiela



Alexandre Vauthier



Prada

Clear and tinted plastic, high-tech and reflective materials were already visible on the runways back in S/S 18, inspired by **Raf Simons**'s experimental universe. For A/W 18, the trend has been updated with shiny vinyl surfaces reminiscent of fetish clothing, invoking a strong eighties aesthetic.

The combination of pastel PVC with exquisite crystal beads and lightweight chiffon silks elevates this trend in the dramatic haute couture collection by **Givenchy**, providing an updated sense of romance. At **Maison Margiela**, holographic overcoats and translucent sculptural corsets translated the futuristic vision through cyberculture-inspired silhouettes. **Alexandre Vauthier**'s couture collection celebrated a glamorous disco revival, featuring high-shine patent dresses and alligator pants that created a femme fatale vibe. Head-to-toe vinyl vamp looks also loomed at the A/W 18 **Balmain** show, and **Louis Vuitton**'s runway was resplendent with reflective monogrammed trench coats.

**Prada** incorporated glossy trimming details that gradually blend into matte fabrics, crocodile sheen gloves and plastic sporty shoes with an ombré effect. Vinyl brilliance also illuminates the Pre-Fall 18 **Giamba** and **Koché** collections where streetwear meets couture accents and patent surfaces are juxtaposed with prints. Plastics' color palette is infused with opulent hues of wine, fierce red, emerald green and purple, inspired by precious stones shades. Nevertheless, black vinyl still dominates.

Closely connected to the seductive 80s, futuristic and sport luxe themes, plastic and vinyl trends are key throughout 2018, and will be carrying over into 2019: stay tuned.