

# IN THE MOOD

Rhapsody's monthly look at what's currently inspiring a top designer  
 This issue: Fleur du Mal founder Jennifer Zuccarini

**I**N HER SoHo loft studio, among Playboy Club memorabilia and stacks of coffee table books, Jennifer Zuccarini, founder of the luxury lingerie line Fleur du Mal, keeps three massive mood boards—one for each of the seasons she is simultaneously working on. “Three seasons are always overlapping,” says Zuccarini, who previously co-founded Kiki de Montparnasse and served as design director for Victoria’s Secret. Spring ’14’s board is a

blend of vintage Versace, Japanese geishas and the photographs of Nobuyoshi Araki. “It’s usually about a six-month cycle,” the designer says of the leap from mood board pin to wearable piece. While primarily focusing on lingerie, her two-year-old line’s latest offerings also include jumpsuits, fitted skirts and high-waisted shorts in a mix of sweet florals and edgy leather that lives up to the brand’s name: “bad flower.” —ERIN BRADY

PHOTO BY SAM PLOCCER

**1 ON THE KIMONO:** We work with our silk mill in New York and print a trial in Korea. Then we make corrections on it. It's like a painting. You're always tweaking and reworking it.

**2 ON JOHN GALLIANO IMAGE:** This was from a Galliano show in the '90s. It's the image that started it all for me.

**3 ON THE FABRIC:** For spring, it's all pretty light. Some of this is for color and some is for fabric.

**4 ON THE VINTAGE VERSACE:** The strappiness is definitely something that we did in a lot of our pieces. Our tops have a crisscross detail in back and our skirts echo that.

**5 ON TATTOOS:** When we were developing the flowers and embroidery, we had the artist look at this. I believe those are chrysanthemums. They are really popular in China and Japan.

**6 ON THE GEISHA:** This one I pulled for makeup inspiration and the floral element in her hair.

**7 ON THE EMBROIDERY:** We were all drawn to this image and are actually working on an embroidery for a T-shirt. We're going to have our name and an eagle.

**8 ON ARAKI IMAGE:** I just thought it was nice the way [the Versace] worked well with this Araki photo.

**9 ON MAKEUP:** We liked the way they paint the back of their necks. We were attracted to the ceremony of it.

**10 ON LACE:** Fleur du Mal means “bad flower,” so we always gravitate toward floral things, but with our own twist on it. Our laces usually have a flower element to them.

