

alice + olivia

BY STACEY BENDET

alice + olivia SS21

Come dance with us, NYC!

Stacey Bendet's Spring collection for alice + olivia is a dancing celebration of New York City's vibrancy and creative pulse in the midst of extreme change. The bohemian sporty collection is presented as a live socially distanced performance for New Yorkers and an invitation to experience the city and the resident artists who make it an inspiring place now and always.

The dancers in this show, choreographed by Ebony Williams, a principal dancer for Beyoncé and the choreographer for the forthcoming film adaptation of *In The Heights*, bring a burst of uplifting color to the cityscape. Each move highlights the city's reemergence, accompanied with music by violinist rocker Margot (@callmemargot of The Dolls). The clothes move with the performers, who wear danceable sweatpants and sneakers.

The looks for Spring 2021 embrace new casualness in fashion, elevating everyday cozy pieces with smart tailoring and glamorous design details. Fresh printed sweatshirts are styled with sweeping skirts, hoodies feel pretty under chic tailored coats, a voile blouse works perfectly in true "at home" fashion with track pants, delicate embroidery looks fresh with baggy denim, and a sparkling sequin mesh top has a sense of ease with cargo pocket sweatpants. Buttery vegan leather is an effortless material we love for this moment for blazers, skirts, and trim track pants with toggle bottoms. Vegan leather looks sharp but feels soft and wipes clean, so it's easy, sustainable, and city cool.

The palette for this season is a retro rainbow, harkening to the colors of 70s fashion, an era of "anything goes" artistic vibrance, grit and expression in New York. Graphic pink tie dye and bohemian florals flow with burgundy and ruby red, jade green and goldenrod yellow. Color, color, color! Our world needs it.

Outerwear pieces make a statement with color and details that elevate looks for outdoor dining on cool nights. Maxi wool coats in eye-catching prints and vegan leather puffers in an array of colors look amazing with sweatpants, and a vegan leather trench feels luxe with a dramatic blouson sleeve. A reversible canvas-and-denim coat brings structure to softer looks.

All of the pieces in the collection are styled back to sneakers and boots, and pants are tailored to wear with casual shoes. Even if we're not wearing heels, the style right now is uplifting. Spring finds its stride in New York City, alice + olivia's home and a source of forever inspiration. #aolovesnewyork #comedancewithus