ISSUE No. 1 THE TIMELESS WARDROBE FLORENCE · ITALY

Sonja Marratte

by Arca

THE JOURNAL



THE ELEGANCE OF BEING YOURSELF

Twenty years of encounters, a collection to grow with.

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AUTUMN–WINTER / A FIRST LOOK AT SPRING–SUMMER

A story of women, fabrics and confidence.

After twenty years of dressing women, Sonja Maraite creates a wardrobe inspired by the pleasure of feeling good.



Through the designer’s eyes

An interior designer and founder of Les Amandiers Home, Sonja Maraite pays particular attention to textures, volumes and colours. In clothing as in an interior, she seeks a balance that makes us feel at home.

For twenty years, selling ready-to-wear has also kept her close to women: their wishes, their hesitations, what they enjoy wearing and what helps them feel like themselves.

“I wanted to create the pieces I longed to offer them.”

Through fittings, I came to understand how much a garment could change the way a woman carries and sees herself. A beautiful fabric, a comfortable cut, a silhouette that feels like her: these simple things inspired my collection.

A personal desire

My love of textiles, spinning and design made me want to bring these passions together in a project bearing my name. Women’s well-being was the starting point. I wanted to imagine clothes we choose with pleasure and feel good in, all day long.

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Keep. Combine. Complete.

The collection grows over time: its foundations remain, its possibilities expand.



A collection that grows

The founding cuts remain from one year to the next. New pieces join them, opening up fresh combinations. This continuity gives meaning to the word timeless: the wardrobe grows from what is already there.

A piece chosen today finds its place alongside those we will discover tomorrow.

The colours of the earth

Sand, beige, tobacco, brown: the photographs reveal a warm palette that runs through both seasons. These shades form a shared language, bringing pieces together and allowing new combinations within the same harmony.

Familiar cuts

Continuity of line is part of Sonja Maraite’s intention. Returning to a cut that feels good, then wearing it with a new piece: the wardrobe grows around these familiar points of reference.

Everyday comfort

Elegance is also felt in movement. Sitting, walking, working, travelling: clothing must fit into the wearer’s life. Its feel against the skin and ease of movement matter as much as the silhouette.

Florence, at the heart of the project.

From yarn and weaving to garment making: the choice of an entirely Italian production.





A CLOSER LOOK AT THE DETAILS · PHOTOGRAPHY ELIA KUHN

Why fabric matters

Before the silhouette comes the fabric. Its touch, weight, suppleness and the way it catches the light give a garment much of its character. A love of textiles is one of the reasons Sonja Maraite created her collection.

The search begins with a feeling: wanting to wear a piece, then to return to it. Comfort also grows from this intimate relationship between fabric and skin.

Made in Italy

Sonja Maraite chose Florence to give her wardrobe its form. From yarn and weaving to manufacture, the collection is entirely Italian. This choice is central to its identity.

Future features will follow the story more closely: discovering yarns, observing the weaving and showing how the pieces are made.

COMING UP IN THE JOURNAL

Yarns, weaving and the hands of the Florentine workshop.

Style, freely expressed.





A season in earth tones

Autumn–Winter establishes the first lines of the wardrobe. Warm tones echo one another; silhouettes come together naturally. The images express a search for elegance that belongs in everyday life.

For Sonja Maraite, a collection takes on its full meaning when a woman makes it her own: choosing her combinations, finding her bearings and wearing the pieces her way.

Looking elegant, feeling good

The intention is to bring together the pleasure of dressing and the freedom to move. Cuts and fabrics are considered together: a silhouette is seen, but a garment is lived in.

This first Autumn–Winter collection lays the foundations for a wardrobe that will continue to grow over the years.

What gives a garment its presence.







Looking more closely

A pocket, a button, a lapel, the way a fabric folds: details give a silhouette its rhythm. They invite us to look beyond a garment’s first impression.

The journal makes room for these close-up views, telling another side of what the larger photographs reveal: textures, proportions and shades.

The pleasure of combining

A personal wardrobe takes shape through combinations. A jacket changes character according to what accompanies it; neighbouring tones create continuity.

This is the freedom the collection seeks to offer. The colour foundations remain, while new creations open up other ways of wearing them.

A different light, the same spirit.





Continuity across the seasons

Spring–Summer extends Sonja Maraite’s world. The light changes and combinations evolve, but earth tones and a search for ease remain the collection’s points of reference.

These first images open a new chapter: a wardrobe to discover gradually, continuing the founding lines.

A wardrobe in motion

Timelessness leaves room for creation. Future pieces will complete the collection and suggest new silhouettes while preserving this kinship of colours and cuts.

This first glimpse will grow richer as the next prototypes take shape.

The journal of a living collection.



New prototypes to come

The Spring–Summer collection will grow. New prototypes are planned in about a month to complement the first pieces. The journal will follow their arrival and show how they extend the existing wardrobe.

This progression reflects the original intention: building year after year, keeping the foundations women can return to.

Soon, behind the scenes in Florence

The next chapter will give more space to manufacture. Workshop photographs will tell the story of yarn and weaving, then the passage from fabric to garment.

These images will be accompanied by information about the fabrics and pieces, connecting each silhouette with what makes it.

“Clothes we love to wear, return to, and make part of our lives.”

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The collection, in everyday life.





A familiar light

At home, beside the pool, clothing finds a different rhythm. Light brings out earth tones, lines and fabrics. The setting naturally extends the world of the collection.

Individual presence

Worn together, the pieces reveal different ways of inhabiting the same wardrobe. Each woman keeps her own presence, her way of moving, her style. Through this freedom, the collection becomes personal.

“One collection, individual ways of bringing it to life.”

Feeling at home in your clothes.







The intimacy of a place

A room, a terrace, a shared moment: these photographs place clothing within a living setting. Warm colours and the presence of materials connect the interior with the silhouette.

Clothing for everyday life

I love the idea of elegance that accompanies simple moments. A garment should move from one moment to the next, leaving its wearer free to be herself.

“Inhabiting a place, inhabiting a garment: finding your balance.”

Touch, light and movement.







Fabric catches the light

A fold, a lapel, a sleeve: these close-up views invite us to look at the fabric’s surface and the way it catches the light. Shades reveal themselves through each gesture.

A sensory presence

Choosing a garment also involves touch. Before composing a silhouette comes our relationship with fabric: the wish to wear it, and to feel it against our skin again.

“Fabric is the first connection between a garment and ourselves.”

One line, many readings.





The whole silhouette

A full view reveals the proportions and balance of an outfit. The garment finds its place around the body, without overshadowing the person wearing it.

Looking at the detail

Closer up, the eye discovers other qualities: a line, a texture, the way the fabric follows the arm. The detail and the whole express the same intention.

“Style emerges from the balance of simple things.”

Leather, an extension of the wardrobe.

Bags, a matching belt and a trotteur shoulder bag: the collection extends into leather goods handcrafted in France.



A story already begun

Leather goods are already part of Sonja Maraite’s world. Earlier collections have been established for some time and now find a new expression alongside ready-to-wear.

The launch of this wardrobe opens up new combinations: bags, the matching belt and the trotteur shoulder bag developed for this occasion accompany the silhouettes.

The choice of cowhide leather

Sonja Maraite bags are made from cowhide leather. This material extends the collection’s attention to touch, texture and the presence of materials.

Together with the matching belt and trotteur shoulder bag, they create a look that connects clothing and accessories.

An EPV-labelled workshop

The leather goods are handcrafted in France in a workshop awarded the Entreprise du Patrimoine Vivant (EPV) label. This French craftsmanship supports the development of the collection.

Two places of manufacture shape Sonja Maraite’s world: Florence for ready-to-wear and France for leather goods.

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A shelter,
a way of being yourself.

“Clothing touches our skin. It also touches the way we feel in the world.”

In the beginning, protection

For thousands of years, human beings have covered themselves to protect against cold, sun and wind. Clothing first stands between the body and the world. Over time and across cultures, it also becomes a language. It speaks of belonging, craftsmanship and ways of life. It carries the trace of the hands that shaped it and those that passed it on.

A shelter we carry with us

In clothing, I find something of what I seek in a home: the warmth of a material, the rightness of a volume, the feeling of being in one’s place. An interior welcomes us. A garment accompanies us. Both can offer that intimate space where we breathe more easily, feel good and regain confidence.

Recognising ourselves

Getting dressed also means choosing what we wish to show of ourselves. A colour, a cut, a fabric can express a mood, a strength, a softness. Clothing contributes to our identity, allowing its nuances to appear. I love the moment a woman recognises herself in a piece, stands a little taller, smiles and makes it her own. That is when creation finds its full meaning.

Pieces to live in

I want to create clothes we wear for a long time and combine freely, accompanying seasons and moments of life. Pieces whose presence becomes familiar, which we return to with pleasure. From home to wardrobe, my desire remains the same: to bring together beauty, comfort and emotion, so that every woman can feel fully herself.

To feel good. To recognise yourself. To be yourself.

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