



### Joys of Spring

One knows it's springtime when wallpaper and fabric designers start bringing out brightly coloured creations that tantalise with flowery motifs and balmy landscape prints in sensual materials. Osborne & Little's linen collection this season is inspired by the landscapes of Portugal and South American music; the richly coloured new offerings from Liberty Furnishings evoke Italian gardens; and Japanese botanic prints and velvety textures define Nina Campbell. For Osborne & Little and Liberty Furnishings, contact Kinsan Collections, Tel (852) 2526 2309; for Nina Campbell, contact Altfield Interiors, Tel (852) 2524 3318.



### Mix Masters

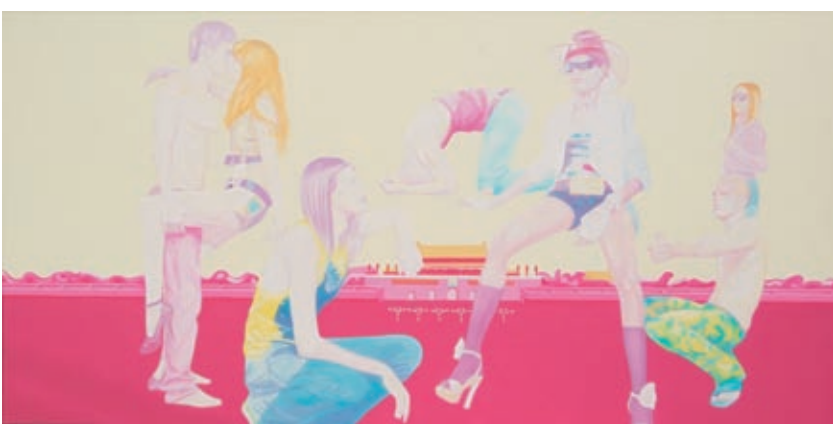
Study the pictures above. Aside from the quirky poses so characteristic of an animated sixties fashion shoot, you'll quickly notice this is no ordinary fashion statement. The garment seen on the model came about through a rigorous study of the process of form creation: how certain materials – in this case felt – and techniques transform a two-dimensional concept on paper into a complex volume. Sounds a lot like architecture? Well, that is in fact the point of the project. 'Alterable.tactile.transitions (atT) Phase01', by German architecture graduates Elvira Softic and Gabi Schillig, was born of an interest in the differences, commonalities and, most importantly, the dialogue between architecture and fashion design. The aforementioned garment, for instance, exemplifies the techniques of 'folding' and 'pleating' – terms frequently borrowed by architecture. Both Softic and Schillig are members of Atelierfrankfurt, a Frankfurt-based association for contemporary art, design and architecture that supports the exchange within these disciplines. [www.atelierfrankfurt.de](http://www.atelierfrankfurt.de)



### Motorcycle Diaries

It's not everyday one decides to embark on a 25,000km motorcycle journey through exotic lands. Just months after the 9/11 attacks, photographer and author Stefano Mangini set off on a momentous journey from his current home in Shanghai through Central Asia to his birthplace, Italy. His mission: to recast as beautiful those places oft headlined as 'hotbeds of terrorism' (through the lens of his camera).

Restless Travellers From China to Italy By Motorcycle, presented by the Consulate General of Italy in Hong Kong from 18 April to 2 May, features Mangini's photographic journey along with extracts of the book he wrote about his adventures. Other issues Mangini addresses in his exhibition include the Taliban in Pakistan and Turkey's accession to the EU. The exhibition will be held at the Hong Kong Visual Arts Centre. Tel (852) 9182 2483



### Tower of Babel

Chinese whispers, the game, can get you in trouble as an adult. Not only is miscommunication endemic in life at large, but it is also central to art appreciation and criticism. What after all does a particular work of art mean? Is there such a thing as one definitive meaning? If not, can we really call art 'meaningful' in the conventional sense? Rather than mull over these intractable conundrums, why not embrace them? Chinese Whispers, the exhibition on show at Osage Kwun Tong Gallery until 5 May, is a diverse collection of works from a group of Chinese artists that encourages the engagement of uncertainty in relation to the understanding of art. Ultimately, where would art be without uncertainty? Tel (852) 2793 4817 [www.osagegallery.com](http://www.osagegallery.com)

