

Pants to Musica Festival

Soraiya Fuda | The Daily Telegraph | April 29, 2011 12:00AM

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THE 2011 Musica Viva Festival is on in Sydney this weekend so why not grab your high-waisted camel-coloured pants and head out for a night of toe-tapping fun.

Forget about which dancing shoes to wear, our experts have already decided that for you, now all the work is done - all you have to do now is enjoy your night!

Every Friday, three fashion experts and a woman who simply loves clothes are put to the test with a "mystery item" of clothing or an accessory - the "to What" - as well as social event the mystery will be worn - the "to Where?" The "mystery" will often be in your own wardrobe or at least affordable and easily found in most shops and the event will be one which most of us get invited to from time to time. Our three experts are Sydney stylist Annalisa Armitage, designer Sally Smith, Daily Telegraph Online Entertainment and Sydney Confidential Editor Paul Ewart and fashion lover / newsreader Michelle Taverniti.

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Get those pants on and prepare to boogie using our expert tips:

Michelle Taverniti is a Newsreader and a fashion lover.

"A sheer white/cream top with sleeves and strappy, wooden heels, topped off with a long cardy in olive green or aubergine.

"The heels will dress up your outfit so you look ready for a musical night out - but will also be comfortable. Similarly, you could slip on some ballet flats or brogues with a white tee.

"Try to dress up the camel to make it modern-looking. Current fashion spreads in mags are harking back to the 70s but I'd steer clear of combining the pants with red or a print top. Rather, go for neutrals and warm, lush colours.

"Also, make sure you've got on some invisible-line panties - camel-coloured pants are a granny panty's worst enemy!

"Some gold statement rings, a brown cocoon bag on the shoulder and some lippy - I'm obsessed with it at the moment."

Annalisa Armitage is the Owner and Principal Stylist for My Image Consultant. Visit www.myimageconsultant.com.au for more expert advice.

"The camel trousers must be flared to balance the high waist and as such the top must be fitted.

"The overall look to the music festival must be in keeping with the event so a classic, elegant look would be fabulous. Light coloured trousers can be a challenge to wear for those with large hips or thighs. If this is you balance out the width with heels and look for a similar depth of colour for your top. Saba has a beautiful patterned silk top for sale at the moment.

"The colours in the soft, muted pattern include, camel, teal, khaki, white and copper. This would be fabulous tucked into the trousers with a camel belt to accentuate your waist. Over the top throw on fitted, short jacket in a muted khaki and a scarf in copper, or teal, to pull it all together.

"Shoes should have some heel and be close to camel in colour. Could be a boot leg or ankle boot but not too chunky as this is a classic not a rugged look we are creating.

"In terms of jewellery pick up on any other colours in the top for earrings. As you are wearing a scarf any necklace will get lost so just go for earrings and a statement ring.

"Above all make sure the jewellery is not noisy. No jingling and jangling as it's a complete faux pas to compete with what's being played on stage."

Sally Smith is the Director and Designer of her own business called Sally Smith. To find out more about Sally visit sallysmith.com.au.

"What a great starting point for a look, high waist camel trousers. I'd put back with a blouse, made from cotton with a vibrant print, roses perhaps. This, to me suggests the festive occasion of Musica Viva.

"There's not too many ways you could go wrong with these trousers. Too much camel can look washed out, so colour is a good contrast.

"Depends on the top of choice, but accessories should also be a strong statement and not too many pieces, for instance, cuff or earrings or necklace.

"Cute fitted T's would look good as well, plain black or narrow stripes, and don't forget how great red is back with camel, so try a red and cream stripe rather than the obvious safe choice of black."

Daily Telegraph Online Entertainment and Sydney Confidential Editor Paul Ewart.

"Opt for tailored pants paired with some festival-friendly ballerina flats and a vest in ivory or black or chiffon for sure-fire sartorial success.

"Don't go OTT - music festivals call for cool and understated chic. High-waisted trousers are statement making so there's little need for any other outlandish accessories or separates.

"Camel and gold go hand-in-hand - a chunky gold cuff on the wrist or a sizeable gold torque necklace will work nicely.

"Given the current chill, you'll likely need to wear a jacket. However, you don't want to mask the effect of the high waist. Enter the bolero jacket."

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