

Please see below for Tibi's Spring 2020 review featured on Vogue.com.

<https://www.vogue.com/fashion-shows/spring-2020-ready-to-wear/tibi>

VOGUE

SPRING 2020 READY-TO-WEAR

Tibi



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by EMILY FARRA

Amy Smilovic opened her Tibi show with The Chromatics' "Tick of the Clock" (you'll remember it from the film *Drive*) layered with dialogue from *Walk the Line*, the 2005 Johnny Cash biopic starring Joaquin Phoenix. The lines she pulled came from a scene where producer Sam Phillips is telling Cash he needs to "sing something different, something real... something that saves people." Don't just play the same song everyone's used to hearing. It mirrors Smilovic's approach to clothes: She tends to reject by-the-book retail rules in favor of instinctual design, often citing the women in her office as inspiration. Lately, they've been searching for ways to balance bold, risk-taking fashion with serious ease and wearability—the ultimate sweet spot. "We're always talking about how to make stuff that

isn't average, but isn't so crazy that we don't feel like ourselves anymore," Smilovic explained. So much of fashion is either painfully contrived or painfully basic, but what's drawing women (and now men) to Tibi is that tricky balance. "If there isn't something a little strange, our customer doesn't want it," said Smilovic.

Spring 2020 was partly about kind-of-strange styling: curved-shoulder blazers with slick nylon cargo pants; pinstriped suits with acid-wash T-shirts; satin trench coats with safari shorts. Broken apart, the individual pieces were still strong, but the question Smilovic is asked most on Instagram is "How should I wear this?" Even if you aren't investing in the full runway look, she's hoping it's a template for how to style, say, a vinyl trouser or sack skirt with the rest of your wardrobe. (The opening blazer, for instance, is a no-brainer with jeans.)

The bigger news here was in Smilovic's silhouettes. Many of the hard, boxy lines of past collections were softened, like the round shoulders of those blazers and the curved legs of many trousers. They weren't quite joggers, but they weren't harem pants, either; these had more structure and volume. The deep indigo tie-dyed pair will be hard to keep in stock. They're a welcome departure from the high-rise stovepipes and extreme flares of the past few years, and we've already seen similar versions on other New York runways. It's too soon to call it the pant shape of the season, but check back in a few weeks.

