## 'Humillisima Civitas'

CHARLES AND RON'S SPRING/SUMMER 2015 COLLECTION

The mellow yellow stone colours of Fort St.Elmo as the soft May sun sets, blending with the pale blue sea in the background sets the perfect tone for 'Humillissima Civitas' – Charles and Ron's Spring Summer 2015 collection.

Admittedly this article is biased in many ways. My love for the city and all that it embraces is inexplicable. Sitting right in the piazza of one of our magnificent forts waiting for the much anticipated Charles and Ron Spring Summer collection 2015 heightened my feeling of awe. And then the chapel doors open and out they come, one model after another with almost no time to take it all in.

As images of architectural features of the city were projected onto the Baroque façade of the desecrated chapel of St. Anne, models complemented the projected architectural features by their garments. A delicate mixture of colours and elegantly flamboyant styles all blending impeccably within the piazza of the Fort which had never imagined it would witness such works of art.

Baroque elements could be seen in most of the designs displayed. Through the innovative concept

of creating their own printed material, C&R have woven some of the most special architectural features of the city right onto their works creating an amazing amalgam of wearable architecture! The classical wooden balconies, the baroque stone features of city's buildings, the triton fountain and the cladding of the new parliament building, all formed part of the outstandingly elegant garments displayed. Pastel colours and a combination of black and glimmery silver dominated this season's colour scheme for C&R. Delicate filigree like patterns also featured on the backs of a couple of styles – the



design evoking the intricate iron works of some of the balconies adorning the notorious baroque façades of the city's palazzos.



What struck me most was the practicality of the classic designs shown. The variety of exclusive styles was impressive. Styles ranged from chic shift dresses displaying print features, intriguing long glimmery evening wear, high-wasted pants, cropped printed tops, classic beach wear, to more playful outfits in pastel shades attracting indeed various characters and various shapes. Most of the outfits, some of which were almost reminiscent of the 60's, were complemented with a new range of classy jewellery and handbags which I found thoroughly exquisite and which to my utter satisfaction is already available at the Charles and Ron shop at the Corinthia Palace Hotel & Spa in Attard.

The C & R label which has been established since 2003 is currently one of the best labels on the islands. C&R will also be displaying 'Humillisima Civitas' in Romania as well as New York in the coming months.

'Humillissima Civitas' has been indeed a true show of colour, design and practicality, setting the stakes high for the local fashion scenario.

