



Stockings

SHEER PLEASURES

Fogal stockings—like perfumes in colors instead of scents. Shimmering silk fabrics, opaques in more than a hundred colors: violets and mosses, peaches, dove grays and steels, samba blues. And that's just the beginning. Ever wanted indigo butterflies flitting up your skirt? Or rhinestone seams? Then Fogal (at 510 and 680 Madison Avenue) is the place. Here whimsy and elegance can't leave each other alone.

When the folks who run Fogal say with quiet confidence that they have the finishing touch for any outfit, they're talking texture as much as color. You'll find several degrees of sheer to choose from, in both pantyhose and stockings (around \$25), as well as pure-silk stockings in classic tones: gray, black and taupe (\$54).

Fogal has a range of laces (\$57–\$90). Even the wicked ones are delicate. There's a red pair so fluid it looks like ribbon. There are armfuls of patterns: gray pinstripe, black velvet fronds on blue, red-and-black houndstooth, deep-pink smooches on grays. Wool tights come in eighty-five colors (\$76 apiece), as do knee socks (\$9 for nylon, \$32 for wool).

Fogal has sales, which is a very good thing because the stockings you're not going to be able to live without—those ultrasheer black ones with the ninety Austrian-crystal rhinestones on each seam—cost a cool \$140.

BY ELIZABETH HANLY