

Hello Debie,

The 96th presentation of the Academy Awards was held last night with Jimmy Kimmel hosting again. First, I have to say I am so glad they went back to the traditional red carpet. The beige carpet they used last year was a huge mistake and someone smartened up and realized they should return to what has always worked. The adage "If it ain't broke, don't fix it" applies here.



Secondly I have to say this was the most disappointing Red Carpet night I've seen - and I've seen many. It was hard for me to pick out my Immie (Image Matters) winners. Here's the best and the worst of the evening

Christine



The first Immie goes to Brittany Snow for Best Color. Designer Monot created the yellow color especially to complement her skin tone and hair color. Yellow is always a hard color to pull off but it looked great on Brittany.

What I didn't like was her heavy gold and sapphire choker. It was too chunky and heavy for the gown. Look at the simple Tiffany pendant necklace worn by Ariana Grande and imagine that with a yellow diamond instead of the pink. How perfect that would have been with Brittany's dress.



The Immie for best Style/Fit goes to America Ferrara for her Atelier Versace gown made of chain mail. The gown took 400 hours to create and fit her body like she had been poured into it. Of course she chose pink in honor of her nomination for Best Supporting Actress in Barbie.



Once again the necklace was not the best choice. I would have preferred to let the sparkle of the gown and the fit of the bodice (great décolletage - just enough) speak for itself and gone with a more dramatic earring.





For Best Overall I have a tie. I have to give credit to Eva Longoria for her stunning inky black gown by Tamara Ralph with it's timeless hourglass silhouette and structured off the shoulder neckline. And in this case, her necklace was PERFECT. The diamond studded wrap style was by Bucherer and featured a huge center diamond. It was a fabulous addition to her gown. Her straight hair, smoky eyes and nude lips all added to the traditional movie star glam look.

However, Lupita Nyong'o's icy blue crystal embedded gown with feathers was the only one of the evening that made me sit up and go "Aah! Now here's a modern movie star." I have commented on Lupita several times in previous newsletters. I love all her looks. She knows how to make the best of her own personal style and always brings a "Wow." Her gown was by Armani Prive and was a nod to the ice blue gown she wore in 2014 when she won the Oscar for "12 Years a Slave." She wore no necklace (good choice) but was dripping with DeBeers diamonds on her ears, wrists and fingers.

Lupita's gown featured a peplum of feathers and she wasn't the only one to wear a peplum style. It was a

popular look last night as seen on Emma Stone and others.



Many have commented on how great Emma Stone's gown was. The reason I gave her no Immie was because I felt the color was too pale on her. She looks so washed out. And I also didn't like the fit. The bodice seemed too big and the peplum (and I love a peplum) was too extreme for her frame.

I hope you enjoyed my comments. Please send me your feedback as well. I'd like to know what you thought of the gowns.

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