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ROS REINES *The columnist they can't silence*



Moore style required

Oh **Clover Moore**, here you are at the very coal face of Sydney, giving **Lady Gaga** the keys to this glittering metropolis one moment and conducting a fact-finding mission about New York's bicycle lanes the next.

But let's be frank, your dressing is a drag — especially for such an energetic 65-year-old woman with so much to work with.

It's time you started to do this fashion and business capital that you represent proud.

That red and black colour palette of yours, your jet-black hair and that collection of dog collars you insist on trotting out might have been fine for that heady time back in the '90s when you really were a gay icon but what's doing with them now?

I mean Clover, many of us "well seasoned" dames have the beginnings of a turkey neck going on, but that's really why the Nehru collar was invented — and of course, the polo neck sweater.

We're not talking surgery, just good quality tailoring and fabrics.

But don't take my word for it. Even stellar Australian designer **Alex Perry** thinks you could do a lot better. For a start, Perry is not a fan of the "chokers".

"That's a real Mardi Gras look," he complains. "They have a fetish connotation to them.

"I understand Clover is quirky but she could achieve the same style by wearing a sharp designer suit with some interesting tailoring. Clover has to understand that fashion is

a tool, especially for a politician. Use it correctly and you have a very powerful first impression."

Perry adds Moore should also consider toning down that hair.

"I could even see Clover going blonde," he adds. "In fact, she should be much more **Annie Lennox** than **Elvira**."

Simona's **Gerry Recek** agrees that Moore should go a little lighter in her hair shade.

"And maybe a little longer in length, which would be more versatile and flattering for her," she says.

As for the dressing, Recek believes Simona's spring/summer 2011 collection would be ideal for the busy Lord Mayor.

"The jackets are very relaxed and fluid and the pants are slouchy and soft without being too baggy. I think it would look modern and chic for her," she says.

So there you have it, Clover, the situation is not critical — far from it — and although you have a lot on your plate, all you need to do is a little tweaking.

Perhaps you could take as your inspiration former prime minister **Paul Keating**, who was at least a sartorial saint when he was in office in all those Zegna suits. Even he has not been that complimentary of you saying you stand for "sandal-wearing, muesli-chewing, bike-riding pedestrians".

He would probably never have come on so strongly if you had faced him in a sleek Alex Perry trouser suit or a perfectly draped dress and

coat by **Carla Zampatti**.

And do let me know if you need a good colourist for your hair. During the past year I have had a great deal to do with this town's hairdressers and would be happy to make a recommendation.

PS: Alex Perry also wants to know if we can have real trees covered with lights in the Pitt St mall this year at Xmas instead of the tragic tin ones. Just thought I'd throw that in.

Fearless females

'TIS the season of magazine gongs with the Cleo Bachelor Of The Year Award and InStyle Women Of Style Awards already done and dusted.

Next on the radar this week is Cosmopolitan Magazine's Fun Fearless Female Awards, which celebrate women from all walks of life including **Asher Keddie**, **Jessica Marais**, property developer **Carly Crutchfield**, **Jessica Mauboy** and food blogger **Katie Quinn Davies** as some of the finalists.

It's the fifth year of the awards, for a magazine that was born in a time when women didn't have many opportunities and becoming an accomplished man-eater was seen as a great way to get ahead.

But the question is, isn't the concept of fun, fearless females a little outdated? Aren't all women fun?

And most women nowadays have to be fearless — even getting through Sydney's traffic sometimes can make you feel that way.

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