

## TOM FORD

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Tom Ford served as creative director for Gucci and Yves Saint Laurent before establishing an eponymous brand. Born in Austin, Texas in 1962 and raised in Santa Fe, New Mexico, Ford has cited the flashiness of southwestern style as an early design influence. He left the region in 1979 to study art history at New York University, but moved to Los Angeles the following year, where he acted in television commercials. Ford returned to New York City and enrolled in an architecture program at the Parsons School of Design. He shifted his focus to fashion at Parsons and held a design assistantship with Cathy Hardwick before designing jeans for Perry Ellis.

In 1990, Ford relocated to Milan and took on the role of womenswear designer for Gucci. The company was struggling with its finances, leadership team, and market relevance but Ford guided the brand through a dramatic turnaround over the next five years. He was appointed design director in 1992 and creative director in 1994, and by 2003 had brought sales up to nearly \$3 billion. Through savvy marketing, Ford promoted not an entire ensemble but an essential seasonal accessory. Many of Gucci's advertising spreads photographed by Mario Testino depicted sex-starved models juxtaposed next to close-up shots of accessories. In 2003, an infamous campaign depicted a model whose pubic hair was shaved in the shape of the brand's "G" logo.

Under Ford's leadership, the Gucci Group acquired Yves Saint Laurent and Sergio Rossi in 1999 and continued with acquisitions of Boucheron, Bottega Veneta, and Balenciaga plus partnerships with Alexander McQueen and Stella McCartney over the next two years. Tom Ford oversaw design and communications initiatives at Yves Saint Laurent while continuing to design for Gucci. He ultimately resigned from the Gucci Group following its acquisition in 2004 by Pinault-Printemps-Redoute.

Ford's new direction became evident the following spring, when he announced the creation of the Tom Ford Beauty brand with Estée Lauder and an eyewear line with the Marcolin Group in addition to a fashion line under his own name. Tom Ford's collections of suits, shoes, and accessories for men were expanded with the introduction of womenswear in 2010. The first Tom Ford boutique opened on Madison Avenue in 2007. Ford initially presented his designs in intimate gatherings with celebrity attendees like Lauren Hutton and Beyoncé, and the brand joined the official London Fashion Week schedule in 2013.

The designer's role as a menswear icon was solidified when he dressed Justin Timberlake in the music video and promotional imagery for the 2013 hit single "Suit and Tie." He was also immortalized in Jay-Z's song "Tom Ford" the same year. Beyond earning recognition in music and popular culture, Ford's impact has been acknowledged within the fashion industry. He has been granted five awards by the Council of Fashion Designers of America in addition to the 2014 Geoffrey Beene Lifetime Achievement Award. The multitalented designer founded the film production company Fade to Black in 2005, producing and co-writing the critically acclaimed 2009 film *A Single Man*.



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Gucci, fall/winter 1996. Niall McInerney, Photographer © Bloomsbury Publishing Plc.

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#### Street Style: A Brief History

Article

**Brent Luvaas**

**Source:** Fashion Photography Archive, 2015, Fashion Photography Archive

Over the last couple of decades, the meaning of the term "street style," both within and outside of the fashion industry, has shifted profoundly from a description of the urban subcultural styles that emerged out of "the street" to those ordinary—but still stylish—forms of dress worn by "real people" in their everyday lives, to, finally, just another genre of fashion photography that captures the looks of fashion insiders outside runway shows. This article provides a brief history of the concept

#### Kate Moss

Article

**Karen de Perthuis**

**Source:** Fashion Photography Archive, 2015, Fashion Photography Archive

Kate Moss is one of the world's most photographed women, a blank slate for contemporary dreams and desires. With a career spanning three decades, she is a rare enduring phenomenon in an industry defined by ephemerality and a brutal quest for novelty. In the summer of 1988, she was fourteen when spotted by model agent Sarah Doukas at JFK airport—a bored teenager from the London suburb of Croydon with almond eyes, cupid-bow lips, and "God-given bone structure." She would soon become a fashion model

#### Swimwear on the Catwalk, 1980–2000

Article

**Ciara Phipps**

**Source:** Fashion Photography Archive, 2015, Fashion Photography Archive

This article will discuss the key styles, trends, and designers of women's swimwear on the catwalk through the 1980s, 1990s, and early 2000s. It will discuss the impact of body image and the associated attitudes toward the body on the development and design of swimwear. The influence of Brazilian swimwear infiltrated Europe and America in the 1970s. The appearance of the tanga on the beaches of Rio de Janeiro, alongside the design of the thong by Gernreich in 1974, set in motion the body-baring s

#### Jade Parfitt

Article

**Stephanie Talbot**

**Source:** Fashion Photography Archive, 2015, Fashion Photography Archive

British-born supermodel Jade Parfitt's career took off when she was at a young age, and she had reached the very top level by the mid to late 1990s. She was part of a post-supermodel generation of models that included Stella Tennant, Erin O'Connor, and Karen Elson. Statuesque and lithe, she has walked the runways for elite designers and fashion houses, been the face of many ad campaigns, been photographed by the best-known photographers, and has graced countless magazine covers.

#### Karen Elson

Article

**Stephanie Talbot**

**Source:** Fashion Photography Archive, 2015, Fashion Photography Archive

British-born supermodel Karen Elson has remained at the top of her game since the early 1990s. Elson has worked with most major photographers, walked countless catwalks, and has appeared in international campaigns for dozens of designers. Still highly in demand as a model, Elson's focus in the early twenty-first century is on her music career, which has accrued critical acclaim.

#### Erin O'Connor

Article

**Stephanie Talbot**

**Source:** Fashion Photography Archive, 2015, Fashion Photography Archive

Supermodel Erin O'Connor is one of the most recognizable models in Britain. She has fronted a series of ad campaigns for British institution Marks & Spencer and has posed for a series of Royal Mail stamps. She is also a favorite among top designers and couture houses in Paris, Milan, and New York, and has worked for superlative editors, stylists, photographers, and brands. O'Connor was honored with an MBE (Member of the Order of the British Empire) in 2017 for services to fashion and charity.

#### Carolyn Murphy

Article

**Stephanie Talbot**

**Source:** Fashion Photography Archive, 2015, Fashion Photography Archive

American-born supermodel Carolyn Murphy was discovered at the age of fifteen in New York by a scout, but didn't begin her career fully "until eighteen or nineteen." With close to three decades of work under her belt, Murphy has proved a mainstay in the fashion industry, having worked with renowned photographers and landed covers, editorials, and runway work for the industry's upper echelons. Murphy has been the face of a myriad of luxury and commercial brands, but is best known as the face and am

#### Jazz Style on the Catwalk, 1970s–2000s

Article

**Alphonso D. McClendon**

**Source:** Fashion Photography Archive, 2015, Fashion Photography Archive

From 1970 to 2000, the influence of jazz culture on the women's catwalk is pinpointed by the confluence of masculine and feminine details. Designers, during the three decades, interpreted the tuxedo and double-breasted suit that were standardized uniforms of early jazz musicians. Particularly for African American performers, these formal garments bolstered access to mainstream culture, social and economic equality, celebrity, and musical distinction. These utilities are paramount to its exhibitio

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