

celebrity life

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Fashion Makes the World Go Round

Some people think that fashion is frivolous and not for the serious-minded. I beg to differ. Fashion is much more than clothes—it is an attitude.

Miuccia Prada said it best: “Buying a \$5,000 handbag just because it’s a status symbol is a sign of weakness. Daring to wear something different takes effort. And being elegant isn’t easy. You have to study it, like cuisine, music and art.”

The marvelous medium that is fashion has multiple facets. It draws inspiration from every aspect of existence to provide us with the opportunity to compose our own wearable, individual statement.

The ever-evolving world of fashion enthralls both fans and critics. But why are we obsessed with fashion? Perhaps because the foundation of all fashion is the human form, upon which designers impose their visions, dreams and attitudes. Fashion is an outward expression of who we are and how the world sees us at any given moment, and with each clothing change we are in flux. The evolution of fashion

and of ourselves is, essentially, parallel.

So how does fashion come to be? Despite skills, resources, talents and so forth, the true key to fashion design depends on one thing above all others—inspiration.

Fashion design goes beyond utility, extending into the realms of art, culture and science. Joy and sorrow; hope, grace and sophistication; or mood and tone—whatever the message, fashion designers can draw from any and all avenues to make it happen.

Among my favorite designers is Hervé Léger, whose designs are sensual and body-hugging without being vulgar. I also love Emily Factor, who is on the cutting edge of up-and-coming, high-fashion, eco-conscious couture. Her prints are unique, and that translates to my love of one-of-a-kind pieces for my

own style sense; we are so glad to have her as a contributor to *Celeb Life*. Her Eco Luxe selection is on page 28. And don’t for a minute think that green is drab. As our Green Life writer Michelle Harris would tell you (page 48), “Whether you are walking the red carpet or just want to look like you are, it’s easy to be green and glamorous.”

Each successful designer leaves a different mark on the fashion world. Designer Dries van Noten, featured on page 27, won the International Award of the Council of Fashion Designers of America in 2008, even though some consider his style to be eccentric.

Our cover girl Khloe Kardashian (page 82) flaunts her own distinct style, punctuated by clothing that accentuates her robust curves. We find her beautiful and sexy. We have equal admiration for her self-confidence and her desire to leverage her celebrity influence to be a role model for young women. She is a trendsetter in her own right.

Finally, it is important to find out what works for us and carve our own identity—while we may admire all the evolving fashions, we must discern what would be most flattering for us. Have fun with this issue; it may help you find that perfect piece to complete your fall wardrobe. ☺

—Elizabeth TenHouten
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF