

Fashion



Photos by Associated Press
The Gucci cruise wear collection is modeled in New York on Thursday.

Gucci goes eclectic

New creative director pushes florals and animals in first resort collection

BY LEANNE ITALIE
Associated Press

NEW YORK — In florals that matched the comfy chairs for his guests, in cat-eye glasses and dragonflies and bees and tigers and snakes, Gucci's new creative director Alessandro Michele put on a whimsical, eclectic show Thursday for his first resort collection.

Animal-kingdom adornments, splashes of disco lame, feminine sheers that exposed nipples and both warm and bold purples, yellows and pinks highlighted Michele's 62 looks for men and woman. Ruffles trimmed ladylike suits and high heels were chunky on sparkly mules.

Michele — who replaced Frida Giannini after her departure in January — closed a Chelsea street so the models could cross to the other side and enter his industrial space just as rolling metal gates were lifted. He covered floors with inviting oriental rugs.

The shaggy-haired, big-bearded

designer in a slouchy white T-shirt, bracelets and fingers full of rings, greeted guests with warm hugs and a laugh. He said this collection, coming soon after his February debut in Milan, was focused on individual style.

"It's a kind of personal eccentricism," he said in a post-show interview. "It's a mix from the past and the present and from the soul, so you can believe in the way you dress," he said. "Everything matches together in a beautiful way in my mind."

Prepster stripes represented (on a silver bomber jacket he paired with an emerald green lace dress). So did '70s disco. Western-style touches added to his mix.

One cozy stripe coat was decorated with silver sparkle dragonflies and another was quilted in pale pink, trimmed with fur at the cuffs and worn with a Betty Draper scarf around a model's head. Some dresses flowed in tiers of ruffles while others were neatly pleated.

"It's about that feeling when a beautiful woman where's something that you do not expect," Michele said.

Has Michele, who has toiled for Gucci for 12 years, settled into his new role as creative director? He said he's getting there.

"Not quite relaxed," he laughed. "For a big company like Gucci, it's never-ending."

Dakota Johnson, Sam and Aaron Taylor-Johnson and Gucci president and CEO Marco Bizzarri attended. So did Alexander Wang and Joseph Altuzarra.

Wang considers Michele a welcome breath of fresh air.

"He's just getting started but he's really put his own stamp on who the new Gucci girl is. It's exciting," he said.

Altuzarra said Michele is "evolving the language of the house in a really interesting way, in a way that feels really fresh."

YOUR STYLE: RON HANSON

In matters of dress, he's fit to be tied

BY ANNE MURPHY
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Doing well and doing good are on Ron Hanson's calendar — perpetually.

His to-do list as senior digital media consultant for the Post-Bulletin Company includes presenting a professional persona that has come out of his 30-years-plus experience in advertising and marketing.

Also always on Hanson's mind is helping the Rochester community that he and his wife, Jody, have enjoyed for 34 years.

Hanson is known to buy a gift card at local coffee establishments and leave it for a future customer. And he is recognized for his work with many Rochester service clubs as well as Bethel Lutheran Church. In addition, Hanson and his wife provide grief counseling after having lost one of their two daughters, Ashley, to cancer at age 23, several years ago.

Of utmost importance, he adds, is spending time with daughter Angela, 26, who lives and works in the Twin Cities.

How do you describe your style?

Business with a fun flair.

Where did your style originate?

From my peers and others who I have watched and looked up to in the business world.

Originally and when I was younger, seeing professionals who dressed like a million bucks and I said, "I'm going to look that good and be successful." This was a time when men wore suits all the time and I aspired to look like them.

Are there fashion icons you have admired — then and now?

Ron Burgundy from (the movie) "Anchorman." Elvis always had a flair. Frank Sinatra. Neil Patrick Harris' Barney Stinson, from "How I Met your Mother." Always about the suits.

Has your style changed with your stages in life?

Yes, from cowboy shirts, leisure suits to a more sophisticated look. It has become more mature — at times.

Does your style reflect your professional role?

Yes. I'm always out in the community and want to always be positive.

Do you hope to communicate certain things through your style?

Looking classy can have a fun edge to it.

What is the most essential component in your wardrobe?

Motto: Don't be afraid to express yourself. Add some color, and live life to its fullest!

The tie. It is my staple. It has been for over 12 years. I probably have close to 200 ties for almost every occasion. I have a hand painted tie. And I have ties from our daughters.

What should every well-dressed man have in his wardrobe?

Sportcoats. Suede and also navy for dress and to wear with jeans. French cuff shirts or crisp white shirts. I have to say, my closet lately has a builder's defect in which it shrinks clothes.

From your mention of French cuff shirts, I suspect cuff links are among your accessories collection?

Yes. I have vintage cufflinks that I love. And pocket squares that match my ties.

How does your professional style differ from your casual look?

I have a hard time not wearing a tie, but I will go for the casual tropical (Charlie Sheen) shirt.

Is there something in your wardrobe people would find surprising?

A wood tie — yes made of wood — by my uncle. I also have an Elvis jump suit — from younger years.

Favorite colors to wear?

Teal blue, sometimes pink — for both tie and shirt.

Any you do not like?

Brown.

Do you believe Rochester has a style?

Rochester is full of diversity and style. I am seeing traditional mixed with a modern "metro look." You should embrace who you are and own your style.

Final thoughts?

Dress for your success and your work style. Don't be afraid to express yourself. And add some color and live life to its fullest!

Anne Murphy is a Rochester freelance writer who has been a professional journalist for more than 30 years. Do you know somebody who's got special style? Send nominations to life@postbulletin.com or call Life section editor Jeff Pieters at 507-285-7748.



Gwyneth's latest gig: Developing organic makeup

BY WENDY DONAHUE
Tribune News Service

From sweetheart of the big screen, Gwyneth Paltrow has grown into a force on the retail scene.

Goop, the weekly email newsletter she started in 2008 to share her points of view on fashion, food, travel and health, has evolved into a website where shoppers can buy a Stella McCartney shift dress (\$1,960), Pierre Hardy skate sneakers (\$475) and more. Paltrow has experimented with pop-up stores in Los Angeles, Dallas and Chicago and collaborates with designers on Goop exclusives.

Paltrow's most recent pairing goes a step further: She has signed on as creative director of makeup for California-based Juice Beauty, which prides itself on clinically validated organic products, centering thus far on skin care. Priced from about \$15-\$65, Juice is sold at Ulta stores, as well as juicebeauty.com.



Associated Press
Gwyneth Paltrow has signed on as creative director of makeup for Juice Beauty.

Paltrow wasn't familiar with Juice until one of Goop's advisory board members introduced her to it.

"I was sent the skin care products, and I was in heaven," Paltrow said. "The Stem Cellular Moisturizer (\$65) is a product that I use every day. It feels very luxurious, and the fact that it's organic, if you see my website, you know that I think that non-toxic products

are a very important part of where we're going in the culture and for a sustainable planet."

Next, Paltrow met Juice founder Karen Behnke. Their acquaintance led to a partnership in which Paltrow is more than the face of an ad campaign. The two invested in each other's businesses, and Paltrow is presiding over Juice's first major foray into color cosmetics, expanding from about 8 SKUs to about 80, expected to launch before the December holidays. Paltrow is designing the packaging and testing the products.

"I'm in a profession where a lot of makeup is put onto my skin," she said from her hotel suite in Chicago. "The reason that I have never used organic makeup, or infrequently, is I haven't found anything that's high performance enough to withstand the red carpet or a movie set or a cover shoot."

Creating organic color cosmetics is even more challenging than creating organic

skin care products, Behnke said. Formulating mascara that stays put without coal tar or lipstick without lead isn't cheap or easy.

Paltrow applauds Behnke's determination to do so, with the help of two in-house chemists.

"I've never seen color achieved like this in an organic line — it's such concentrated fruit pigments. And if I gave you this bright red lipstick to try, you honestly could not tell the difference between it and the most high-end luxury brand," Paltrow said.

Years in development, Juice's mascara is another triumph for Behnke.

"Having tried every single natural and organic mascara in the world, this works so well," Paltrow said. "Because it doesn't have a bunch of engine oil or God knows what, you have to be sort of precise with it, and you get such a great outcome. It doesn't drop; it stays all day."



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