FROM SPORTSWEAR TO STREETWEAR: AMERICAN INNOVATION
August 16–November 2, 2008, GOLDSTEIN MUSEUM

Shoes: 1915–1929 Gift of the Staeyart, Van Duesen Estate, Rand Family
Sweater: 1929 Gift of Pamela Canning

THE GOLDSTEIN MUSEUM OF DESIGN
FROM SPORTSWEAR TO STREETWEAR: AMERICAN INNOVATION

August 16–November 2, 2008 GOLDSTEIN MUSEUM GALLERY, MCNEAL HALL

Opening reception-August 15
MN Fashion Week Party-September 19
Symposium featuring keynote guest speaker Patricia Warner, Ph.D.-October 10

Curators: Dolores DeFore, Volunteer Curatorial Specialist in Fashion; Marilyn DeLong, Associate Dean for Research and Outreach; Kelly Gage, Graduate Student in Apparel Studies; Gloria Hogan, Consultant; Erin Jedlicka, Graduate Student in Apparel Studies

The influence of sportswear on contemporary American Fashion has been profound—but this was not always so. In the 19th century men and women adapted their public dress in minor ways to enable playing in such participative social sports as croquet and lawn tennis. With the advent of the bicycle in the late 1800s, men and women found riding a bicycle involved physical movements that required adaptation and redesign of clothing for sport.

Public sports for both men and women grew in categories that involved great physical movement and special clothing was designed for each sport, including skiing, swimming, baseball, biking, and racing. Consequently, the influence came full circle and the specification of dress for sport and sportswear began to influence street-wear. This mutual influence shifts from sportswear to streetwear and back again, leaving viewers to ask: Is it sportswear or streetwear?

American dress is marked by the influence of sportswear. Ralph Lauren states, “Americans are the leaders because we know how to do sportswear better here than anywhere else (Agins, T. /The End of Fashion/, p.85).” Contemporary styles such as fashion tennis shoes, velour sweatsuits and racing shorts are easily identifiable examples of the influence of sportswear. Though these items are instantly recognizable as based on sportswear, no one would try to play basketball or tennis, or run a marathon in such a fashion. This dichotomy between everyday, street clothing and their sports precedent is a phenomenon of the twentieth century with children’s sailor suits, stirrup ski pants, and Members Only baseball jackets. It continues into the twenty-first century with the popularity of bowling shoes and rugby shirts.

Sportswear to Streetwear: American Innovation will feature garments from the Goldstein’s own collection. The exhibition will also show the migration of specialty fabrics such as quik-dri and stretch, and styles such as golf shirts, ski pants, equestrian-wear, and athletic shoes into non-sport casual dress.
Warm weather is finally here after a long winter! At the Goldstein Museum of Design, the past winter was very productive and filled with activity. If you visit this summer, you will see the very exciting Techno Textiles: From Inner Space to Outer Space. This exhibition was co-curated by two faculty members of the College of Design – Dr. Karen LaBat and Bruce Wright. The exhibition has been at least two years in the making and is a comprehensive exploration of innovative textiles that enable us to live longer, safer and more enjoyable lives as well as explore extreme environments on earth and space. The exhibition also includes a stretched fabric room with images of the rippling water on the outside and the Grand Canyon on the inside plus a large stretched fabric sculpture hanging above the atrium of McNeal Hall. This is extending the exhibition beyond the gallery walls!

We also were proud to host Roots of the Future, the annual senior exhibition in Rapson Hall. This year was the first that participation was open to all graduating seniors throughout the college and it will continue to develop as a presentation of these new designers to the college and the community. In addition, the Masters of Architecture graduates and Masters of Landscape Architecture capstone winners presented their work in a strong display of the quality of the college’s professional degree programs in these areas.

This spring we also introduced a new event that we hope will become an annual tradition – a reunion of the members of the board of the Friends. Honoring this group for their contributions and dedication to advancing the Goldstein Museum of Design is the least we can do to acknowledge how important the Friends’ board is in the life of the museum.

In the President’s Message, Bill has thanked everyone for their contributions to the Garden Party. I hope you attended this festive event and enjoyed the opportunity to socialize, bid on silent auction items, purchase the new note cards and enjoy the spectacular panel discussion on design.

All best for a summer of good design,

Lin Nelson-Mayson
Director


goldstein staff

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lin nelson-mayson

assistant curator
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mark schultz (costume),
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(decorative arts)

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dr. rodney schwartz

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†past president
The fashion world loves handbags. But before today’s structured handbag, which owes its design origins to 19th century hand luggage and travel cases, there was the purse with far more ancient origins.

On May 30, forty members of the Antique Purse Society visited the Goldstein to see purses from the collection and learn about storage and handling procedures that can help them preserve their own purses.

The term purse comes from the Greek word byrsa, a small leather bag the ancient Greeks used as a coin purse. In the 1300s, both European men and women used a small pouch that held coins and small items, suspended from a low-hanging belt.

By the late 1700s, men used pockets in their clothing and wallets instead, while women carried personal items in purses, needle-work bags and separate pockets worn underneath their clothing.

Beaded purses were popular for over two centuries, but the Goldstein’s are mostly from the mid-1800s through the 1920s. Motifs include scenes of romantic couples and Venetian canals, Oriental rug patterns and florals.

Metal mesh bags, popular from the 1880s through the 1920s, have a mesh construction similar to Medieval chain mail and, when held, flow over the hand like water. Small Arts & Crafts purses of hand-tooled leather, jacquard-woven cloth purses and macramé, crocheted, embroidered and needlepoint purses complete the Goldstein’s collection.

Jean McElvain and Kathleen Campbell have put this presentation into a repeatable format. If your group would enjoy a presentation on purses, please call Jean at 612.625.2737.

A Ralph Rapson Rapid Rocker for the Collection

Minneapolis resident Mary McGee recently donated a beautiful bent-wood and leather Rapson Rapid Rocker, designed by the late architect Ralph Rapson and built specifically for the Goldstein’s collection. Jonathan Leck, one of the rocker’s builders, represented McGee who was unable to attend the April 7, 2008 presentation ceremony.

When Leck discovered that the Goldstein did not have a Rapid Rocker in its collection, he suggested McGee donate one after she expressed interest in doing something in return for his work on her 1951 Frank Lloyd Wright house. He worked with Rapson and with retired shop teacher William Lender on its fabrication. Rapson selected the leather for the seating and ensured that proportions were correct.

The Rapid Rocker was first built for the Museum of Modern Art in 1939 and sold by Knoll as part of the “Rapson Line.” In 1945, Knoll sold the design to Bloomingdale’s whose full-page New York Times ad proclaimed the rocker an “innovative and attractive modern take on a traditional piece.” The College of Design’s library in Rapson Hall displays a smaller example of the Bloomingdale’s version.

Leck began working with Rapson in 1999 to produce examples of Rapson’s furniture for exhibitions at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts and the Weisman Museum of Art. The design of the Goldstein’s Rapid Rocker, developed in 2003, is similar to the 1939 model and was a successful collaboration of Rapson, his son Toby, Leck and Lender.
TECHNO TEXTILES: Inner Space to Outer Space
Through July 27, 2008
GOLDSTEIN MUSEUM GALLERY, MCNEAL

Curators: Bruce N. Wright, AIA, Editor of Fabric Architecture, Design Minor Fellow
Karen LaBat, Professor of Apparel, Director of the Human Dimensioning® Lab.

The world of specialty textiles has been changing at a rapid pace with new materials, technologies and innovations in production daily. The exhibition Techno Textiles: Inner Space to Outer Space, examines many of these innovative materials and how they are being used by leading designers around the globe.

Some of the concepts featured in the exhibition are protective clothing, intelligent buildings that dynamically respond to the environment, and luminous wall interiors, as well as fabric balloons used to ensure interplanetary probe vehicles land safely on the surface of Mars.

New materials inspire design innovations, and the past several years have seen a more far-reaching revolution in materials science and development than at any time in the past. Although many of these innovations involve the highest level of material science and manufacturing finesse, a recent surge in interest has favored so-called “naturals” or organic and sustainable sources, such as fabrics made from recycled plastics, corn-based cellulose, organic polymers and other sustainable chemistry.
EVENTS

OPENING RECEPTION:
From Sportswear to Streetwear:
American Innovation
August 16, 2008, 7–9pm
Goldstein Museum, McNeal Hall

PARTY FOR
MN FASHION WEEK
From Sportswear to Streetwear:
American Innovation
September 19, 2008
Goldstein Museum, McNeal Hall

SYMPOSIUM
From Sportswear to Streetwear:
American Innovation
McNeal Auditorium
October 10, 2008, 4–6pm

Keynote address from Dr. Patricia Campbell Warner, Professor emerita, history of dress, Department of Theater, University of Massachusetts Amherst. Warner is the author of *When the Girls Came Out to Play: The Birth of American Sportswear*. She will explore this American innovation in dress in support of the exhibition Sportswear to Streetwear.

Other speakers will include Apparel Studies graduate students Kelly Gage, Joyce Heckman, Erin Jedlicka, and Monica Sklar.
MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

IT'S TIME TO RENEW!
Your membership dollars support exhibitions, research, collections and educational outreach at the Goldstein Museum of Design.

Basic member benefits include invitations to openings and special events. Members also receive News From the Goldstein four times a year, keeping you informed about museum events and activities.

NEW THIS YEAR: Monthly renewal cycle!
Starting this year, the Goldstein will be changing from fiscal year renewal to a rolling monthly cycle. This means that you will have a June renewal for joining in June, a September renewal for joining in September, and so on. This system assures all Friends of the Goldstein will be guaranteed a full year of membership no matter what month they join.

Goldstein Friends can expect up to three renewal notices after which member benefits will stop.

Even if your membership lapses, you can rejoin at any time and restart your member benefits as a Friend of the Goldstein.

NEW NOTE CARDS!
Check this out! At the household level or higher, Friends will receive a sample set of our new Goldstein note cards which feature stunning photos of selected Goldstein collection pieces, fresh off the press.

Be sure to check out the wide range of benefits available at different levels of support. Be a part of this exciting resource for design - renew your membership or join the Friends of the Goldstein today!

BECOME A MEMBER

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<th>Behind-the-scenes Tour for Two</th>
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<th>Inclusion on Recognition Panel in Gallery</th>
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For Myself | As a Gift *
---|---
Student (10)
Senior (20)
Individual (35)
Household (50)
Sponsor (150)
Patron (250)
Benefactor (500)
Director’s Circle (1,000)
Total

To become a member of the Friends of the Goldstein, call 612.624.7434, or mail this form, along with your check to: Goldstein Museum of Design
364 McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55108

Please make checks payable to: The University of Minnesota.

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* Membership at the shaded levels entitles you to give one individual membership for free!
WPA Textiles on Loan to the Weisman for Exhibition

Twenty-six objects from the Goldstein Museum of Design’s collections are on loan to the Frederick R. Weisman Museum of Art for display in their exhibit By the People, For the People: New Deal Art at the Weisman, May 8–July 27. All objects are rare examples of surface textile design that came out of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s Works Progress Administration from the 1930s. The WPA initiative sought to provide unemployed people with rewarding work and life long skills. The objects on loan are a testament to the success of this endeavor, illustrating a graphic quality individual to the WPA effort.

In addition to the items on loan from the Goldstein Museum of Design, this exhibition features select items from the Weisman’s extensive collection of WPA objects. Prints, photographs, paintings, and murals are all part of this unique collection which is used to illustrate an important piece of United States history.