



Photo 1 & 2 FITNYC (2023, July) ¡Moda Hoy! Latin American and Latinx Fashion

## Design Today

Latin American/Latinx fashion is a vivid representation of the Latinx community's rich cultural past, deriving from indigenous roots with regional variations. During the colonial era, the blending of indigenous and Spanish influences developed a rich and meaningful dress heritage. Latinx people have utilized traditional attire to boldly proclaim their identity throughout history, allowing them to retain their roots. This has resulted in a growing appreciation for Latin American/Latinx fashion, with designers embracing their past and incorporating it into modern

creations. The prominence of Latinx designs on runways throughout the world has raised awareness of the culture, challenging prejudices and encouraging equality. Beyond aesthetics, Latin American/Latinx clothing has social relevance, boosting communities and offering economic opportunity to those involved in the business. The evolution of Latin/Latinx clothing from its origins to the runway is a monumental moment in the Latinx community's perseverance and creative expression. Allowing Latin American/Latinx fashion to continue to inspire and enhance the fashion industry with its vivid and culturally meaningful designs.

This dress's creative usage of khaki and pink *color* increases its overall appearance. The harmonic combination of neutral and vivid tones gives a balanced and elegant style that is appropriate for a variety of events. The khaki provides a rich, earthy tone while the pink on the back creates a sweet, and outgoing vibe. The contrast between the front and back parts adds intrigue and movement to the garment, making it stand out. Sophisticated shade and tone methods provide dimensions to the design, increasing its impact and elegance. Overall, this well-crafted and flexible dress creates a stunning fashion statement, highlighting the designer's skilled workmanship and knowledge of *color*.

The creative use of *lines* throughout the design of the garment results in a visually appealing combination. The vertical *lines* on the dress pockets and seams not only lengthen the form of the dress but also provide a touch of refinement and grace to the outfit. Meanwhile, the horizontal *lines* on the strap attract attention to the shoulders and collarbone, enhancing the entire design with appeal and balance. The designer's knowledge of *lines* is prominently displayed on the back of the dress, where pleated vertical *lines* showcase creativity and attention to detail. These pleats not only add texture and depth but also enhance the dress's dynamic and visually engaging total appearance. The designer's grasp of composition and the art of fashion is

demonstrated by the meticulous arrangement of *lines* in this well-crafted garment. The *lines* are crucial in increasing the dress's visual appeal, transforming it into a captivating and appealing fashion statement that shows both the designer's skill and the wearer's elegance.

*Rhythm* is described as a self-contained movement from element to element, how it leads the viewer's eyes from dominant object to subordinate object as stated by Bell. (Bell,2001) The pink dress's *rhythm* is found in its symmetrical design and meticulous attention to detail. The continuous visual pattern created by the similar pockets and deliberately positioned *lines* guides the viewer's sight in a unison flow. The symmetrical shoulder straps add to the impression of symmetry, while the contrasting center strap serves as a focus point, adding to the dynamic appeal of the dress. These little touches draw the viewer's attention to the *rhythm*, resulting in an engaging and well-crafted fashion piece that highlights the designer's talent for *rhythm* within fashion design.

*Form* in fashion refers to a variety of qualities such as the shape and structure of a garment. Because of its design, this khaki/pink dress has great shape. From front to back, the dress is a perfect mirror copy of itself, demonstrating the designer's excellent mastery of *form*. The silhouette, lines, and physical curves of the clothes on the wearer's body are examples of these aspects. The shape of the garment dictates how well it fits and flatters the body, determining the visual effect and aesthetics of the outfit. The slim-fitted *form* emphasizes the shape of the dress, which corresponds to the other garments on display in Moda Hoy's Latin/Latinx Latin American and Latinx Fashion Design Today exhibit. The immaculate shape of the dress on the mannequin displays the designer's skilled craftsmanship and attention to detail, making it a remarkable illustration of *form* in fashion.

The distribution of visual weight and components inside a garment is referred to as *balance* in fashion. It can be accomplished by symmetry, in which the design is a mirror image on all sides, or through asymmetry, in which parts are purposely unequal, generating a sensation of imbalance while yet maintaining the visual aspects of *balance*. The dress has symmetrical components allowing the dress to achieve a perfect *balance*. The pockets are completely symmetrical, appearing identical on both sides of the dress. The consistency helps the garment's overall feeling of *balance*. Similarly, the shoulder straps are symmetrical, perfectly matching the pockets and the strap of the dress. These symmetrical components guarantee an appropriate amount of *balance*, resulting in a well-proportioned and appealing garment. The designer's meticulous attention to symmetry in these elements demonstrates their expert craftsmanship while also adding to the dress's attraction and appeal.

The dress creates *contrast* and *juxtaposition* by combining khaki canvas with pink silk, resulting in an eye-catching combination of texture and color. The larger pockets *contrast* with the tight simple shoulder straps, emphasizing the uniqueness of each component. This *juxtaposition* combination defies normality by blending informal and formal features, resulting in an aesthetically appealing and thought-provoking design. The garment exemplifies the designer's innovative talent and mastery of fashion contrast, resulting in a harmonious yet stunning composition that stands out for its distinctive style.

This dress's *dominance* stems from its distinct design and contrasting features. The uncommon combination of canvas and silk, as well as the contrasting colors of pink and khaki, distinguishes it and makes a strong *dominant* statement. The unconventional fabric combination and opposing hues challenge established rules, making the dress a striking and attention-grabbing garment. The addition of four large pockets adds to the dress's *dominance*. In

contrast to the typical pockets seen in most clothes, the enormous pockets offer a feeling of practicality and utility. This one-of-a-kind detail emphasizes the dress's strong and distinctive style, underlining its dominating role within the ensemble.

The well-designed *proportions* of the dress provide an attractive and balanced form. The slim-fitted body draws attention to the wearer's physique, while the shoulder straps broaden the shoulder area, adding to the overall *proportion* of the dress. The creative application of silk on the backside allows for extra space and mobility, assuring comfort without sacrificing elegance. The dress's above-the-knee length adds to its appeal, elongating the legs and emphasizing its slim silhouette. The careful consideration of dimensions improves the visual impact of the garment and generates an integrated and proportionate look on the wearer. Overall, the *proportions* of the dress are excellent because there's a balance shown throughout the garment.

The dress's design effectively uses *repetition*, resulting in a cohesive and consistent appearance. The symmetrical aspect of the garment accentuates *repetition* through the wide pockets on the bottom half, which match the pockets on the top half. Similarly, the similar shoulder straps demonstrate repetition, contributing to the overall balanced and symmetrical structure. The pleated silk pattern on the back illustrates repetition with its straight and smooth lines. This repeating pattern of pleats lends a feeling of rhythm and consistency to the garment, accentuating the recurring pattern. Furthermore, the use of lengthy lines to illustrate detail accentuates *repetition*, resulting in a visually interesting and well-crafted composition. The garment achieves a feeling of unity and consistency by expertly using *repetition* throughout the design.

The *texture* of the dress adds a unique aspect that enhances its overall appeal. The use of khaki canvas creates a distinct smooth sheen when light hits it, adding a touch of sophistication and elegance to the garment. The canvas fabric not only contributes to the dress's visual interest but also provides a unique tactile experience. The combination of canvas and silk in the dress adds further depth to its texture. Both fabrics offer a smooth and lightweight feel when touched, providing comfort and ease of movement for the wearer. The canvas brings a sense of structure and durability, while the soft silk introduces a certain femininity and delicacy to the garment.

Latin/Latinx fashion affects and is impacted by life in an advantageous way. It honors cultural history while allowing people to express themselves. The mix of classic and modern components demonstrates versatility and resilience. Latin/Latinx fashion evolves into a vibrant statement of identity, creativeness, and cultural pride as designers and consumers shape it.

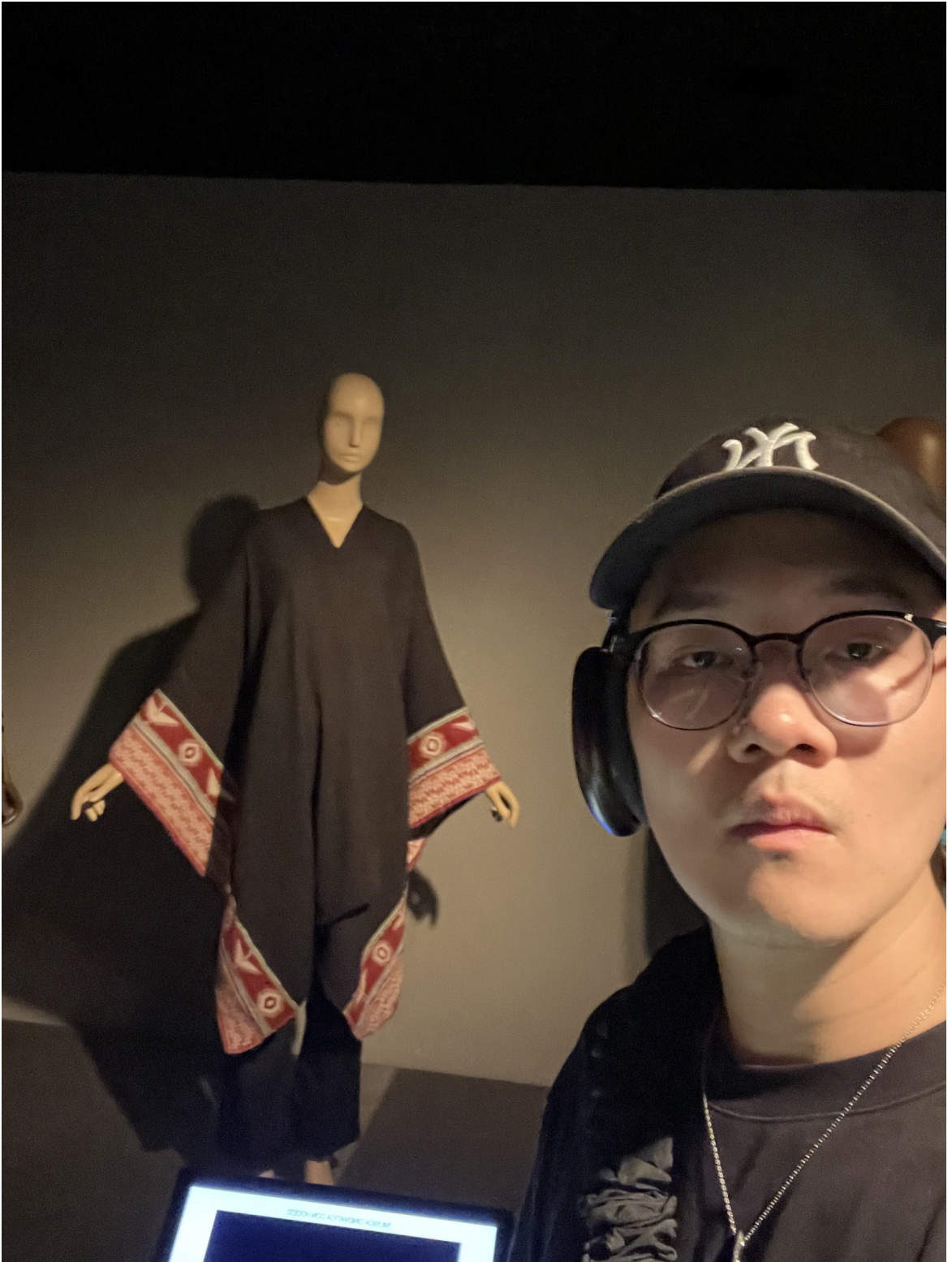
Latinx artists should be recognized for their essential contributions to the arts, which enhance the cultural landscape with their different ideas and expressions. Recognizing their creativity, talent, and commitment acknowledges their enormous contribution to the world of art. Celebrating Latinx artists promotes diversity and representation, while also recognizing and honoring their cultural history and stories. By elevating their work, society recognizes the value of many perspectives in forming our common cultural identity. Furthermore, recognizing Latinx artists encourages aspiring artists both within and outside of the community, serving as role models and encouraging togetherness via art's universal language. It promotes cultural interchange, breaks down boundaries, and helps to make society more lively, inclusive, and culturally rich.

Oscar de la Renta was a Dominican couturier and ready-to-wear designer whose impact on American fashion was unparalleled. He built an internationally recognized brand through

charm and grace, becoming one of the great gentlemen of fashion. As stated by biography.com De la Renta's designs were immensely popular with American presidential ladies, including Nancy Reagan, Hillary Clinton, and Laura Bush. (Biography,2021) De la Renta's career in fashion began with an apprenticeship with Cristóbal Balenciaga in Spain, where he was trained by fashion legends. Later, he relocated to New York and worked for Elizabeth Arden, where he started his own unique ready-to-wear label in 1965. His use of color, colorful designs, and romantic renditions of Spanish and Caribbean forms fascinated the fashion industry, propelling his label to popularity and the release of a perfume in 1977. In addition to his contributions to fashion, De la Renta served as president of the Council of Fashion Designers of America, demonstrating his influence and respect among his contemporaries. His legacy extended beyond his designs, as he mentored emerging talent and collaborated with designers like John Galliano, making him a pivotal figure in shaping the fashion industry.

Another impactful Latinx artist would be Guillermo del Toro, his impact in the movie industry has set up significant moments that will further the careers of upcoming Latinx artists. As stated by Longi, Guillermo del Toro has had a significant effect on Mexican society and culture. (Longi,2023) He has been recognized by organizations such as the National Autonomous University of Mexico, which awarded him an Honoris Causa Doctorate for his services to film. Del Toro regularly promotes and advocates for Mexican filmmakers, utilizing his influence to encourage lesser-known directors and the arts. His efforts, such as the Jenkins-Del Toro fellowship, allow aspiring artists to follow their ambitions of becoming filmmakers. Through his achievements and advocacy, Guillermo del Toro has become a champion of Mexican cinema, inspiring a new generation of filmmakers and leaving a lasting impact on the arts and cultural landscape in Mexico.







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