

Gerard Allison

Rick Owens Final presentation notes

NYCCT

20th Century Dress & Culture

Rick Owens, real name Richard Saturnin Owens was born on November 18th 1962, today he is 57 years old. Owens was raised in Porterville, California. Both his parents were of mexican descent, they were also catholic so it is believed he was raised with religious morals and values, it was believed that he was raised in a conservative catholic household. Owens attended a highschool which specialized in design, after he graduated from this school he moved to Los Angeles, California where he would attend CHS College of Arts & Design. Owens attended this college for two years, this is where he would learn most of his design concepts and skills. Owens attended this school for 2 years, after the 2 years at CHS college of Arts & Design he would attend LA trade technical college, this is where he learned his patternmaking and dressmaking skills which is seen mostly in his womenswear pieces, this was his final stage of learning how to design garments. After he completed his schooling Owens would then go and create his own private label, jis label was created in 1994 under his own name operating out of a store on Hollywood Blvd. Owens would operate in California for about 9 years, after this he moved to Paris in order to fully conquer his design career which involved his partner Micelle Larny, they married in 2006.

When moving to Paris Owens was immediately introduced to french history since his office was in a prestigious area of france and his actual office was once owned by a former french president, Owens designs have been on display here for about 16 years. Rick Owens released about 5 different collections while he was in his prime designing time, these labels were Rick Owens, DRKSHDW, Rick Owens Lilies, Slab (Defunct),

and Rick Owens Hun. These collections all expressed him differently but gave him his name “the prince of dark design”. Owens was given this name because most of his work consisted of dark designers which were different shades of dark colors such as greys, blacks, browns and other colors within that color family. Owens first museum exhibition was located in Triennale di Milano in 2017, this exhibition showed about 20 years of Owens work; this exhibition was titled “Subhuman Inhuman Superhuman” which displayed his work through darkness.

Owens was very known for the sneakers and boots that he released throughout the seasons of fashion. One of the most famous shoes that Owens released was the Geobasket sneakers. This sneaker was one of his personal designs but it was also a shoe that was seen to be copying the classic Nike high top dunks. Since Owens was known for designing this shoe he was offered a designing deal by Nike to design his own version of the Nike dunks, Owens version did have to be very specific and was restricted to a lot of design options, the dunks by Owens can be seen as a high top sneaker that can also be styled as a boot. These sneakers retailed from \$800-\$2500.

Owens is still designing today but he does keep his aesthetic consistent as it was before. Owens collections do change from season to season but I believe he loves the simplicity of dark colors along with well fitted garments which can be seen in all his designs. Owens is a big fan of leather and it shows through all his infamous jackets, even though almost everyone makes jackets Owens are very particular to the details which is why this is what he is most known for..

## References

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