



ALEXANDER MCQUEEN

(1969-2010)

BIOGRAPHY

- Alexander McQueen was born in Mayfair, London on March 17th 1969
- In 1992 he founded his Alexander McQueen label, and later worked for Givenchy from 1996 to 2001, while working at Givenchy he won the British designer of the year award 3 times (1996, 1997, 2001) and then one in 2003. He was also the CFDA's international designer of the year in 2003.
- Died in 2010 by suicide.

TIME WITH GIVENCHY

McQueen was the head chief designer from 1996 to 2001. His time with Givenchy can be considered very controversial as on his first year he insulted the founder of Givenchy irrelevant. McQueen's creativity is what drifted the house and him apart as McQueen would push the limits and boundaries of what was considered fashion, what was fashion to him was considered odd by others. The lengths he went to during his fashion shows were also controversial, as he had an amputee model named Aimee Mullins striding down the cat walk in carved wooden legs. These fashion show ideas combined with his designs earned him the nickname "l'enfant terrible" and "The hooligan of English fashion".

GIVENCHY LINE





- These gloves were part of the fall/winter collection in 1998.
- Designed by Alexander McQueen for Givenchy
- the materials used are synthetics and silk.
- Accession number- 2014.267a.b





HIGHLAND RAPE

One of McQueen's more controversial collection was the highland rape collection. In which models would come out in plaid clothes, which were very distressed and torn apart. Also created very unorthodox with its designs. A misconception of the highland rape collection is that it isn't about rape but the English taking land from his Scottish ancestors.

HIGHLAND RAPE





VOSS

Everything Alexander McQueen does is controversial. With the Voss collection he took it to a higher length and raised the bar for himself by having models model in a glass box. Which when lit from the inside people could view them almost in a mental facility background.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UMTZD193AA8>

VOSS





PLATO'S ATLANTIS

McQueen's most colorful collection. It was streamed on the internet and McQueen had collaborated with Lady Gaga in part of the show by premiering her new song at the time. The dresses created were digitally printed and in this show McQueen created an iconic show we know now as the armadillo shoe.

PLATO'S ATLANTIS





ANGELS AND DEMONS

The culmination of everything McQueen has done. Right before his untimely death, the 16 dresses for the line had only been 80 percent done and had to be finished by Sarah Burton. At this time he took religious church designs and designs from medieval queens and Byzantine empresses. He considered this a return to the dark ages.

ANGELS AND DEMONS





OYSTER DRESS

- From the Alexander McQueen house
- Designed in 2003
- The material used is silk
- Accession number 2003.462

ENSEMBLE



From Alexander McQueen house

Designed in 2006

used wool, silk, metal, and leather

Accession number 2014.634.4a-c

BOOTS



- Designed by Sarah Burton
- Designed in 2011
- Used leather and brass materials
- Accession number 2014.634.7a, b

DEATH AND CONCLUSION

- Alexander McQueen during the creation of his last collection. Most think the loss of his mother drove him to take his life but no one knows for sure. Leaving behind one of the most controversial careers in the fashion industry and being given the nickname “l'enfant terrible”. He was well praised as well as criticized for his ideas and styles. But always seemed to raise the bar for himself when a new collection dropped. His work is still to this day notable and artists such as Lady Gaga stay loyal to his label.

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