



YSL's influential Designs

By Jesenia Bravo



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YSL's Designs beautifies Me

Henri Donat Mathieu-Saint Laurent also known as Yves Saint Laurent referred to as YSL was born August 1, 1936 in Oran, French Algeria to French middle class parents. He was the oldest and only son and even at an early age he always had a "passion for fashion". He would create intricate paper dolls as a young child and grew his personal aesthetics by cutting out designs straight from vogue magazines as he would tap pictures of himself on each of these doll faces. His personal interest were mainly in the Arts, dance, sculptures, literature and a love for his four french bulldogs. I am inspired by YSL's designer aesthetics that pioneered "cross- design" in fashion, taking inspiration from street trends to modernize haute couture. Using traditional menswear fabrics and designs for women, Saint Laurent also literally cross-dressed. Giving men and women alike chic pant suits, elegant tuxedo jacket. While making blurry gender specific designs he empowered many women as well as creating many designs that will forever be considered timeless silhouettes. They say Coco Chanel freed women and YSL "gave them power" and for this very reason YSL is one of my favorite designers of all time. He is amongst the fourth most influential fashion designers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century after working an amazing career under the likes of Christian Dior he founded his fashion label after being forced to abandon the Dior brand. He later than decided to sue Dior and after winning the lawsuit in 1962 he then used the money to start his own brand.

I am personally infatuated with the signature blazer suit that YSL created. If money weren't an issue, I would purchase an 80's vintage hot pink YSL trouser suit that Actress Zendaya wore to an award carpet event. Being that I am graduating from college this year I will have to start looking for work and what better way to present myself at a business meeting than in a timeless YSL business suit. I would wear various look from the YSL collections as often as possible as the designer catered to both haute couture and elegance leisure wear. This pink suit is worth about 30,000 so knowing me I would get more than one wear in which I would dress it up and/or down whether that be with the just the oversized blazer top alone paired with some short biker shorts and some sneakers or dressed up with some heels to a more sophisticated outing. Saint Laurent breaks the traditional barriers and drives new innovations beyond imageability. His looks are known for being captivating and empowering to females. I would feel my best of course while I am in YSL garments looking very luxurious and ready to take on anything an empowering woman is capable of. I wouldn't make any adjustments or alterations to the creations of YSL because I personally believe that his taste and genius vision for fashion was iconic and way ahead of his time. However, if I somehow, I ever got the chance to become the creative director for YSL, I would add a streetwear approach and add items such as sneakers that are fashionable yet can be worn very casually and comfortably. The fashion industry's problem with race remains, but Saint Laurent was amongst the first designers to put women of color on a runway. When I think of YSL and all his beautiful works of art designs I feel inspired, empowered to be my best self-feeling like I can take on any challenges the world can bring me.