



Maison Margiela

02.26.2022—

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Art History 1204

Overview

Maison Margiela is a French fashion house founded by Martin Margiela. The well-known Fashion house was founded in 1988 by Martin. Margiela was all about radical experimentation and style-defying garments. The way he tore a garment down to the end and then built it back up to create a new life and designs gave a new perspective on what luxury fashion meant in the process. His influence in fashion was immediate, he was one of the rare contemporary designers to fully question the fashion system, from its conception- using all that fashion has always hidden, linings, manufacturing processes- to its presentation, through its uses. Margiela Fashion house is known for being one of the most secretive brands to this day. One of Margiela's many legacies is his well-known secrecy and privacy of his identity all while being one of the most known fashion houses to this day.

Facts about Margiela:

1. Margiela was born on April 9th, 1957 in Genk, Eastern Belgium. (Fashion Archives, 2021.)
2. He attended Antwerp's Royal Academy of Fine Arts in 1979 and graduated as one of the several Belgian prodigies of the time. (Fashion Archives, 2021.)

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- How did Martin get into the idea of wanting to pursue fashion? Martin got into this because Margiela became assistant to Paris designer Jean Paul Gaultier in the 1980s, so his inspiration was him.

Goals

- What did Maison Margiela work for? Between 1985-1987 he worked for Jean Paul Gaultier and he showed his first collection with his business partner Jenny Meirens in 1989.
- What famous garments is the fashion house Maison Margiela known for? His garments were creative and androgynous designs.
- How did the fashion house achieve its rise to fame?

Besides being insanely talented Margiela rose to fame partially due to his want to remain anonymous in a way. While the purpose of doing so was to bring more attention to his work it had a reverse effect and only made people more eager to find out who the master behind the work was. Hence how Margiela got his name of "The invisible Man" by the New York times in 2008.

Specifications

- Here is going more in-depth on the previous questions and explaining each in detail.

Most memorable pieces of clothing

- **Oversized silhouettes** - Two of Margiela's most famous collections were the spring/ summer and fall/winter 2000 collections, both of which consisted of traditional garments scaled to unconventionally large sizes. The idea of wearing something large does not fit seems illogical by standard conventions, but Margiela challenged that idea and its results remain one of his most celebrated and influential design concepts. Oversized silhouettes have been thriving in fashion for decades. The influence of Margiela's work was almost immediate, with early adopters like Raf Simons utilizing oversized silhouettes for his legendary fall/ winter 2001 riot riot riot collection. In womenswear, key adopters of the relaxed silhouette like Celine under Phoebe Philo and the Row have Margiela's tenure as creative director at Hermes from 1997-to 2003 to credit for introducing the idea that oversized silhouettes in luxurious fabrics can be elegant and beautiful.
- **Porcelain Waistcoat**: The porcelain waistcoat is one of Margiela's earliest pieces that demonstrate what would be a career-long fascination with reincarnating disparate objects into unexpected new forms.

- **Tagged Tabi Boots:** When slender high heels were the definition of a feminine shoe, his footwear took inspiration from the traditional Japanese split-toed tabi. The Tabi boots have been present in Margiela's shows since the first one in 1989, they have since been redesigned and customized in some incredible ways.
- **The wig jacket** - First appeared in the designer's 2009 show to celebrate his 20-year tenure at his eponymous house

The oversized collections -For the first season of the new millennium, Margiela designed the xxxl collection- a concept he developed over six consecutive seasons.

I. Most admired accomplishments

Reference page

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