

Sarah Burton

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**ALEXANDER MCQUEEN'S BEAUTIFUL SCOTTISH WARRIORS OF SPRING 2017**

Sarah Burton and her team of designers brought out the spirit of the Scottish warrior woman in the spring 2017 fashion show on October 3<sup>rd</sup> after observing life in the Shetland Isles over the Summer. Burton, having an affinity for relating the past to the present, chose the North Isles to pay homage not only to Scotland, but also to Lee Alexander McQueen, the brands founder and previous designer whose proud ancestry displayed throughout his designs. Inspired by the flora, history, traditions, and Scottish women's strength and femininity, she created a collection of forty-six garments knit together by their modest, unpretentious culture.

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The women of the Shetlands have created wool lace shawls that can “fit through wedding rings” for centuries, so it was no surprise to see models casually walking along the curved terrain like runway in similar fabrics. Each fierce faced model came out adorned in silver studded chokers, tribal hoop earrings and studded leather black boots adding a natural warrior queen vibe to the outfits. As the models moved along the bends of the “island” made of united rugs, a symbol of two families coming together in marriage, the sound of light music and waves crashing along with the whistling wind played in the background. For each new wave, a “warrior” walked out with it. Donned in delicate lace like dresses with studded leather bras, Celtic check and plaid suits, colorful patchwork knits, and flower embroidered leather and jeans, these queens were ready to be released into the world.

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The last two models to wash up onto the runway were not queens, but warrior goddesses. Both models similar gowns made of tulle and embroidered with silver curved lines creating the shape of a big wave on top of the gown. The first garment featured a shipwreck on black tulle, making the silver wave look powerful, dangerous yet elegant with the sea spray beading along the lightly puffed shoulders and down the long sleeves. Voluminous black tulle with silver detailing at the base of the gown forms the dark and chaotic rocking motion of a storm at sea. The last garment looked feminine looked more feminine with a tinted green tulle similar to sea foam, open shouldered sleeves and V-neck showing off her shoulders and chest. The texture of the waves were smoother and more lustrous alongside the light sea foam like train creating a calm, serene scene. As the shipwreck dress came off the runway, the sea foam dressed model slowly trailed to the end, reminding onlookers the waves were beautiful and elegant, but were capable of being strong and fearsome just like a warrior.

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