Historicize It: Making fashion part of Grove Art Online

ARLIS/NA 2008 Denver
Monday, May 5, 2008

Amber Fischer
Senior Editor
Grove Dictionaries of Art & Oxford Art Online
Why fashion?

Dress is an indelible part of history – and art history
Dress. §VIII: 19th century

1. Developments in mainstream fashion.

The 19th-century excavations at Pompeii generated an interest in Classical antiquity that, from the 1790s, was reflected in fashionable dress. The natural body became the ideal; stays and petticoats were discarded, while men adopted a more fashionable dressing. Gowns were short, reaching only to the corsets. The English dash of a natural waist, new became urban and the hip, between the sporting look and a dress. The 18th century was simpler than the continental equivalent.

French fashion before the Revolution applied some classical restraint to the 1780s–1800s. He demanded excellence, a sharp line, and a youthful look. The crumpled details and colors became simpler. He asked the country new garments but without what were appropriate for everyday reception. Frock simplicity and triumph over the French emperor.

Trouser:

There was not always their corresponding. Revolutions in the 1920s
1910 dress
1925 a
dress.

There are:

windowed
doors, open
collar and

corsets, however, and most men
to wear it.
Fashion as art
Art as fashion
Phase I:

- Adding 19th and 20th Century fashion articles to Grove Art Online (covering approx. 133 new designers and topics in >79,000 words)

- Giving a home to many images from the Metropolitan Museum of Art’s costume archive and other sources
99 Important Houses and Designers

- chosen by specialist editors -

Historical & cutting-edge themes and concepts

Tailoring

Fashion & film

Classicism to post-modernism

Understructures

Fashion illustration

Accessories

Centers of fashion

Fashion & politics

Environment & sustainability

Exhibitions
Phase II

• Aim to add more fashion articles and images in future updates (increasing historical coverage, adding breadth to themes).

• OUP is the US publisher of Berg’s *Encyclopedia of World Dress and Fashion* (a 10-volume scholarly work to publish in 2010)