

Question time

L'Wren Scott

Mick's chick, the dashing designer, on what rocks her world

Your highest moment?

Arriving in Paris, off the plane from Utah, at 17 years of age – all alone, armed with nothing but a passport and a small amount of money and seeing Europe for the first time. I was totally fearless.

Your lowest moment?

The first time I didn't get perfect marks at school. I was worried about being a total failure.

Your defining moment?

My first job with Herb Ritts in 1995, as stylist on a *Rolling Stone* cover shoot with Jim Carrey.

Your best quality?

My height.

Your worst quality?

My height.

Your favourite restaurant and why?

I love Petersham Nurseries, near Richmond Park. You arrive at a beautiful garden centre with the most delicious and simply prepared food – very fresh and Italian.

Favourite character in a novel and why?

Mame Dennis in *Auntie Mame* by Patrick Dennis. She was so stylish, funny and interested in all things travel, fashion and fun. They just republished the book – grab one if you can find it.

Favourite escape?

India. I love to arrive off the plane and smell the air and experience all the beauty.

What's on your iPod?

'Can't You Hear Me Calling' by The Flying Burrito Brothers.

Who is your style hero?

Michelle Obama. She always looks so amazing and effortlessly chic.

Where do you go to be alone?

My study. I love to be surrounded by my books. I really enjoy pulling out a



'Opportunity is not going to come knocking on your front door in Utah'



Clockwise from top, L'Wren Scott, shot by Bryan Adams; her design for Sharon Stone's costume in the film *Diabolique*; at the Taj Lake Palace in Udaipur, India; with Mick Jagger in New York, celebrating her spring collection, 2010. Centre, with photographer Herb Ritts on the set of an ad he directed, Los Angeles, 1998



beautiful first-edition art or photo book and being reminded of its beauty. I find it very relaxing.

What is your addiction? My computer.

First crush? Donny Osmond.

Do you think you are successful?

Success is a state of mind, and happiness is success to me, so yes.

Best night out?

A date at the theatre.

Worst nightmare?

Being late. I always like being prompt.

Best piece of advice you have been given?

Opportunity is not going to come knocking on your front door in Utah. You're going to have to go out there and work for it yourself in order to achieve your goals in life.

What scares you? Cockroaches.

Bête noire? People who have no table manners.

How do you relax?

By taking my shoes off, putting my feet up and turning off all electronic devices for absolute peace.

What's on your bedside table?

My Kindle, loaded with all my favourite and new books, a bottle of water and my Rodin lipbalm.

Last time you cried and why?

When I saw the Chilean miners being rescued. It was just very emotional as an act of human kindness with a happy ending. The other was watching *It's A Wonderful Life* on TV.

What is your biggest fashion mistake?

Not starting my own brand sooner.

Who is your rival?

Myself. I am my own worst rival because I always think I can do better.

What do you think people say about you?

That I am tall.

What are your style tips?

When in doubt, wear a little black dress.

What do you do for high culture?

Wear higher heels.

What do you do for low culture?

Slip into a flat shoe.

Sum up your life in three words?

Live, chic, love.

What's next?

My make-up collection launching for Lancôme and, of course, a trip to India. □