

L'Wren Scott

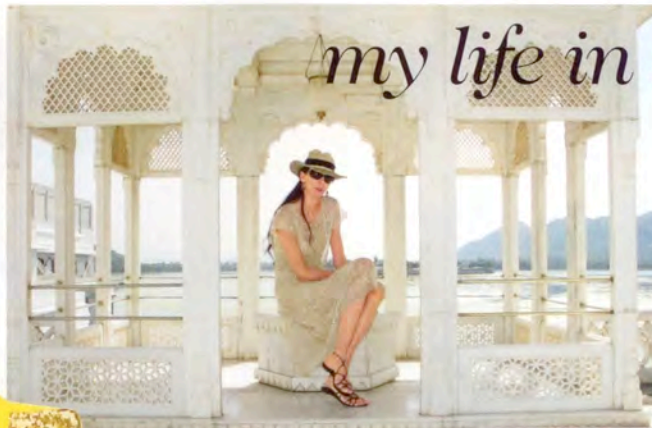
Fashion designer

L'Wren Scott is a study in elongated, eloquent elegance, not just physically – she is more than 6ft tall, and the length and wonder of her legs are well documented – but also in her long, slow drawl (she lived in Utah until she was 17). She has just returned from three weeks in Mustique with her “English boyfriend”, Mick Jagger, and despite the jet-lag, she is straight to her design studio. Daphne Guinness has already popped in to borrow some clothes. After an illustrious career as a model, then stylist – alongside Herb Ritts for eight years (“We were pretty joined at the hip”), and for a vast rosta of red-carpet stars – she launched her own label six years ago. “Travel and art have been my biggest inspirations,” she says. “I was desperate to get back here, to see Beaton, Picasso, Freud, the Hockney show...” Her mother, she says proudly, imbued her lifelong love of glamour, and her influence is still evident in L'Wren's capsule collections of slender figure-hugging dresses, pencil skirts and sequined cashmere cardigans, which many of her famous clients order by the dozen. “My mom was definitely a style icon,” she smiles, delicate diamond earrings glinting, a Beaton portrait of Jagger hanging behind her. “She was the local bank president, beautifully turned out – matching shoes and bag, brooches – petite, tiny and chic.” Arriving in Paris aged 17, L'Wren, 45, says that Thierry Mugler, with whom she also worked, formed her notions of silhouette, and credits Ritts for her obsession with detail and the architecture of an image. Above all, however, she says her interest in people is her biggest drive: “I'm really a person who sits in a café and studies people. I love a character. I like to see what people create. I see one crazy thing and go, ‘Wow!’” *ES*



L'Wren Scott in her London office, wearing clothes from her own collection. The dress is s/s '12, and the shoes, a/w '12. Hair: Elliot Bssila. Make-up: Rozelle Parry

my life in style



Many of the embroideries I've had made for my collections were inspired by my trips in Asia. I love the lattice lace effect here.

There is a beautiful shade of red named after Madame du Barry (above right), it was the inspiration for both my spring 2010 collection and my peony garden in France. I am also a great admirer of Turner's works (above), they are great for colour research for my textiles.



I adore having a stack of sparkle in my closet. My sequined mini cardigans are practical – you can just throw them in your bag, and add some colour and shine at any time of the day.



This is an excellent example of my obsession with peacock-blue velvet jackets.

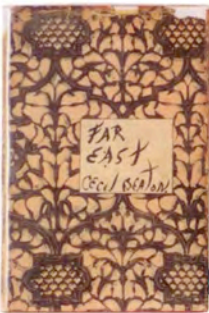


Monsieur Lesage made this embroidery for me (left) based on a peony from my garden. I am amazed by nature and love flowers.



Taken on a trip down the Nile.

I collect Cecil Beaton-designed covers. But I enjoy reading his books, too – they are very amusing and fun. He was such a brilliant illustrator; so colourful and kooky.



I collect vintage magazines, particularly old issues of American Vogue.



These are my Victorian Wonder Woman cuffs, which I wear every day like armour, and were a very special gift to me.

This photograph was taken in a remote area in the Serengeti – the inspiration for my spring 2011 collection.



I collect old Chinese robes, jackets and bed covers for the beauty of the embroideries. Genuine pieces are becoming increasingly rare.

This is part of a shoot I styled with Herb Ritts for the Pirelli Calendar. Ritts influenced me hugely. I climbed a massive tree in Mexico to pick the thorns seen here on Alek Wek.

