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The Fashion Issue

Edward Wilkerson Presents: 2013 Spring Collection



Go from Day to N

with a switch of an accessory.

Design Director, Edward Wilkerson shows you how.

April 6, 2013. The Saks Fifth Avenue Tyson's Galleria location was the showcase for Lafayette 148 New York's Design Director Edward Wilkerson's 2013 spring line. Mr. Wilkerson, along with Saks Fifth Avenue's Marketing Director, Heather Shaw Menis, and WSJ's "Ask Teri" and author of "The End of Fashion," Teri Agins were on hand to lead us through this line with an informal play-by-play discussion of each

piece.

We were promised inventive clothing that women with ease, style, and great looks. We were promised materials that flattered the female form and oozed of spring and summer.

And Wilkerson delivered.

On the whole, the designs in Wilkerson's showcase presentation were light, refreshing, and really did hold true to the concept of the pieces being interchangeable, easily transforming between day and night wear with just a few small accessory changes. Wilkerson's claim to understand the women's body and form affording him the ability to translate this talent into fashion, is a bold statement, and yet, didn't seem off base by any means.

There was a certain "Jackie O'esque" feel to many of Wilkerson's creations, particularly with the way they were presented with thick white sunglasses worn by the models, along with brightly-colored, full-on heels.





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WEAR NOW If you're bold and you can pull it off, this black zip front lambskin leather topper with perforated square accents amd bracelet sleeves might be the item for you. (Retails for shy of \$1,000.)





Many of the block colored fabrics, while safe in approach, certainly invoked feelings from the colorful and wonderous coral reef world beneath. Don't think, however, that Wilkerson plays it safe, because he certainly isn't fearful of prints. We encountered many bold tropical floras and animal prints (see, Cheetah) and Wilkerson has almost no qualms mixing the two types of print. (See, Rainforest linen print). Many items, were aptly named with the continued feeling of a voyage and vacation. We have "Expedition," and "Shangri La," both leaving us ready to be whisked off on an exotic vacation. And, the genius of it all means that these same vacation items wouldn't look out of place during our beautiful D.C. metro area spring and summer months.

Basically many of the pieces can be glammed

up or kept virgin depending on your personality. It only takes subtle changes with belts, bright shoes, and necklaces to transform from a vacation to everyday events or from daytime work to nighttime fun. For the budget-conscious shoppers who desire high quality pieces from the Lafayette 148 collection, this interchangeability is a key selling point.

It's also interesting to note that Wilkerson's designs really did a great job of spanning the age range of women. While conservative linens and cottons befit a more mature lady, Wilkerson infuses youthfulness and a cheekiness appeal for the more adventurous. Why else would there be a delightful older lady sat up front in one of Wilkerson's animal print dresses, all set with a small hat accessory fit for the queen. This particularly patron took a

youthful chance, splashed it with elegance and age, and looked darling for her efforts. Certainly she didn't go unnoticed by Wilkerson. It was nice to see varying pant lengths offered: Capri, Cropped (ankle) and Bermuda.

Some edgier pieces were displayed with the zip front leather topper jacket. It had an interesting perforated lacing action bordering the cuffs and hemline. The jacket's wet look was a slight jolt in amongst the entire line presented.

The *piece de resistance* of Wilkerson's line was the sequined Pillar Top, and while unfortunately, it wasn't available at the Tyson's Galleria store, it can be special ordered along with a few of the other pieces directly at lafayette148nyc. com.

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3





Under \$500

Shangri La Galia Print Top. (\$498)

Abstract Water Brushed Stripe Scarf. (\$198)

Kuna Print Jersey Cap Sleeve Dress. (\$498)

Kendra Exotic-Print Blouse. (\$498)

Senegal Cheetah Printo Misti Dress. (\$478)

Senegal Cheetah Print Odelya Blouse. (\$298)

Esoteric Stroke Print Ashanti Skirt. (\$448)

Italian Stretch Cotton Pamela Topper. (\$468)

Tunisian Print Jeresey Draped Dress. (\$468)

Stretch Georgette Fringe Slim Skirt. (\$398)

Sandwashed Silk/Crepe Ludlow Pant. (\$398)

Noel Colorblock Split-Neck Striped Dress. (\$498)

Matte Crepe Shell Top (\$198)

Matte Crepe Oversized Vest (\$498)

\$500-\$1000

Tissue Weight Zip-Front Leather Jacket Topper. (\$998)

Micro-Dot Lambskin Jacket with Linen Shell. (\$848)

Stargazer Pring Uma Dress. (\$598)

Tissue Weight Lamskin Moto Jacket. (\$998)

Italian Stretch Cotton Justina Topper. (\$598)

Printed Pencil Skirt. (\$598)

Rainforest Linen Print Macie Jacket. (\$598)

Pristine Pinwheel Print Laverna Jacket. (\$798)



Elle Embellished Cutout Dress. (\$598)

Supreme Ebellishment Beaded Brook Dress. (\$798)

Sequined Shanaya Top, Black (\$598)

Special Orders

(available through lafayette148nyc.com)

Sequined Pillar Top, Black. (\$648)

Evening Skirt, Cloud. (\$698)

Rona top with Embellishment, Robin's Egg Multi. (\$998)

Viscose Crepe Ludlow Pant, Cloud. (\$398)

Beaded Ilsa Jacket, Black. (\$698) Slim Skirt, Cloud. (\$288)

Brooke Dress with embellishment, Robins Egg, Multi. (\$1,298)







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216