

LACMA announces designers for the Wear LACMA Fall 2016 Collection

Oliver Peoples, Pam & Gela, and Lisa Eisner to create new fashion items inspired by LACMA's permanent collection

(Los Angeles, CA—September 20, 2016) The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) announces its Fall 2016 Wear LACMA Collection featuring one-of-a-kind fashion items by Oliver Peoples, Pam & Gela, and Lisa Eisner. Wear LACMA is an art and fashion collaboration between the museum and Los Angeles's top designers that celebrates the museum's permanent collection. With each Wear LACMA collection, designers explore the museum's holdings and select an artwork—in any medium or period in art history—and create a new fashion item inspired by this work of art. The Fall 2016 collection—launching this November—includes an original pair of Oliver Peoples sunglasses inspired by Chris Burden's iconic sculpture *Urban Light* (2008); fashion items by Pam & Gela incorporating crane and blossom motifs from 19th and 20th century Japanese ceramics; and fine jewelry by Lisa Eisner inspired by Jay DeFeo's painting *The Jewel* (1959). Wear LACMA is an initiative of the museum's Director's Circle, a fundraising group that supports the museum's programs and exhibitions.

“Los Angeles is a city that inspires creativity and collaboration. With Wear LACMA we are honoring the dynamic conversation between art and fashion by partnering with three innovative designers working in the city,” said Katherine Ross, founder of Wear LACMA. “Oliver Peoples, Pam & Gela, and Lisa Eisner have created stunning fashion items that reflect the spirit of Los Angeles and LACMA's collection—diverse, iconic, and memorable.”

All Wear LACMA items are available for purchase at the LACMA Store and online (lacmastore.org) beginning on November 7, 2016, with all proceeds benefiting the museum and its programming.

Wear LACMA Fall 2016 Collection



Oliver Peoples selected Los Angeles artist Chris Burden's *Urban Light* (2008), an iconic outdoor sculpture composed of 202 cast iron street lamps that permanently resides in front of the museum. For Wear LACMA, Oliver Peoples produced unisex sunglasses with amber goldtone photocromic mineral lenses with clear frames and a special case featuring the artwork.

"We feel very lucky to work with LACMA on this project. The museum inspires us constantly and is such a great gift to the city. There are so many reasons we chose Chris Burden's *Urban Light* as inspiration, but the main ones are probably its iconic L.A. status as well as its reference to light. You are fairly limited to what you can do with a pair of sunglasses, so playing with the lens and packaging with a reference to this work allowed us to connect in some humble way," said David Schulte, CEO of Oliver Peoples.



Designers **Pam & Gela** have created a mini-collection comprising women's T-shirts and a jacket, using motifs of cranes and blossoms found on 19th and 20th century ceramics from the museum's collection of Japanese art. As a symbol of good fortune and longevity, the crane has played an integral role in Japanese art and literature.

"We're beyond thrilled to be a part of Wear LACMA! Our obsession with Los Angeles and pop culture has been at the core of our inspiration since the beginning of Juicy

Couture in 1996, and still rings true with our new brand Pam & Gela,” said Pamela Skaist-Levy. Gela Nash-Taylor adds, “The Japanese souvenir jacket is something we’ve really been into lately. The crane is the symbol of happiness and eternal youth, which is what life is really all about, right?”



Lisa Eisner has designed jewelry inspired by Jay DeFeo’s *The Jewel* (1959). DeFeo was a pivotal figure in California art of the 1950s and ’60s. This particular painting evokes celestial and geological readings through the artist’s use of thick paint and radiating lines. *The Jewel* is considered to be one of the artist’s most iconic and monumental paintings. Eisner has created a suite of jewelry, including necklaces, a bracelet, and a pair of earrings (*singular bracelet and earrings*) inspired by the motifs in DeFeo’s painting.

Eisner comments, “Every time I visit LACMA I pay homage to Jay DeFeo’s *The Jewel*. This painting resonates with me in a spiritual way like when one goes into a beautiful church in Italy. The sculptural element of the work—the layers and layers of building up and breaking down, the sunburst middle and the rays beaming out to the edges—it completely moves me with its energy and beauty.”

About Wear LACMA

Since October 2012, Wear LACMA has collaborated with an array of established designers who have produced unique art-inspired products from T-shirts, tote bags, and girls’ dresses to fragrances, jewelry, and leather pouches. Previous Wear LACMA designers include George Esquivel, Johnson Hartig of Libertine, Anita Ko, Gregory Parkinson, Haley Van Oosten of L’Oeil du Vert, Marjan and Maryam Malakpour of NewbarK, Juan Carlos Obando, Claire Vivier, Jennifer Meyer, and Greg Chait of The Elder Statesman. In tandem with the museum’s 50th anniversary, Wear LACMA released a special anniversary collection featuring the work of 19 Los Angeles-based designers in November 2015: <http://www.thelacmastore.org/collections/fashion-wear-lacma>.

About the Designers

Oliver Peoples was founded in 1987 with the opening of its first boutique in the heart of West Hollywood, California, and subsequent launch of the original designs. The frames were inspired by an estate collection of vintage American-made eyewear purchased by the founders of the brand in the late 1980s. This vintage aesthetic, along with the unique culture of Los Angeles—elements of fashion, film, art, music, and the Southern California lifestyle—remain at the core of the brand’s DNA and serves as inspiration for designs with global appeal. Oliver Peoples eyewear is handcrafted of the finest quality materials, with a focus on exclusive product details and superior lens technology. Exclusively available at the finest optical retailers, department stores, and specialty boutiques around the world, Oliver Peoples has built a loyal following of culturally distinctive, progressive, and influential tastemakers.

Pamela Skaist-Levy and Gela Nash-Taylor, the duo behind global phenomenon Juicy Couture, have returned to their signature California-cool style with their new line **Pam & Gela**, an evolution of their love for luxe casual clothing to live in. With a TV show based on their book *The Glitter Plan* in the works by the creators of Gossip Girl and a larger-than-life digital campaign in Times Square, the best friends are back this year with an unapologetic return to creating clothes with a rock 'n' roll, boho feel that appeals to both their diehard fans and a new generation of followers. Pitch-perfect basics, fun party dresses, and attention-grabbing outerwear that make you feel happy and free—a familiar place these L.A. girls could never leave.

Raised in Cheyenne, Wyoming, **Lisa Eisner** moved to New York City in 1979 to work for Condé Nast magazines, *Mademoiselle* and *Vogue*. In the mid-80’s she married and relocated to Los Angeles where she was the west-coast editor of *Vogue* for a handful of years. She currently resides in Los Angeles with her husband.

In 2014, Eisner launched her own handcrafted line of jewelry inspired by California in the 1970’s. In 2015, Lisa collaborated with Tom Ford with the creation of LE for TF, a line of fine jewelry for his 2015 collections. With the success of this venture, her personal line expanded into some of the world’s top luxury retailers: Maxfield (L.A.), Net-a-Porter, Karry Berreby (Paris), and Forty Five Ten (Dallas). An installation of her jewelry was held in the exclusive Jean Prouvé Nomade Structure at fashion retailer Maxfield (Nomad 1957, 2015), with her first NY exhibit opening November 2016 at Salon 94.

About Director’s Circle

Founded in 2009, Director’s Circle is LACMA’s highest-level philanthropic patron group. These patrons help realize the vision of CEO and Wallis Annenberg Director Michael

Govan, with a particular focus on the areas of architecture, education, fashion, and showcasing women in the arts. The Director's Circle has raised \$3.1 million to support the museum and its mission, including selected projects such as Simon Rodia's *Watts Towers*, Chris Burden's *Urban Light*, and educational outreach including the Charles White Elementary School Gallery. Quinn Ezralow and Cece Feiler serve as the Director's Circle co-chairs.

Credit:

Wear LACMA is sponsored by LACMA's Director's Circle and the project's committee members: Willow Bay (LACMA trustee and Director's Circle founder) and Katherine Ross

Image Captions:

Chris Burden, *Urban Light*, 2008, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, The Gordon Family Foundation's gift to "Transformation: The LACMA Campaign," © Chris Burden

Namikawa Yasuyuki, *Incense Burner (kōro) with Design of Cranes and Pine*, c. 1905–15, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, gift from the Japanese Cloisonné Enamels Collection of Donald K. Gerber and Sueann E. Sherry

Small Bag-Shaped Cup with Cranes and Waves Décor, 19th century, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, gift of Allan and Maxine Kurtzman

Jay DeFeo, *The Jewel*, 1959, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, gift of the 1998 Collectors Committee, © 2016 The Jay DeFeo Foundation / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York

About LACMA

Since its inception in 1965, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) has been devoted to collecting works of art that span both history and geography, in addition to representing Los Angeles's uniquely diverse population. Today LACMA is the largest art museum in the western United States, with a collection that includes more than 130,000 objects dating from antiquity to the present, encompassing the geographic world and nearly the entire history of art. Among the museum's strengths are its holdings of Asian art; Latin American art, ranging from masterpieces from the Ancient Americas to works by leading modern and contemporary artists; and Islamic art, of which LACMA hosts one of the most significant collections in the world. A museum of international stature as well as a vital part of Southern California, LACMA shares its vast collections through exhibitions, public programs, and research facilities that attract over one million visitors annually, in addition to serving millions through digital initiatives such as online collections, scholarly catalogues, and interactive engagement. LACMA is located in Hancock Park, 30 acres situated at the center of Los Angeles, which also contains the La Brea Tar Pits and Museum and the forthcoming Academy Museum of Motion Pictures. Situated halfway between the ocean and downtown, LACMA is at the heart of Los Angeles.

Location: 5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA, 90036. lacma.org

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