

Chloe Trujillo finds universal inspiration for artistic collection

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Chloe Trujillo is more than just a fashion designer, **Chloe** is an accomplished artist and cultural phenomenon who blossoms her talents via fashion designer parents, an Opera singing grandfather, and a life filled with music, beauty, art, and design. Chloe's rich designs also come from her fascination for science studying matter structure and quantum mechanics, but being drawn back to the arts made Chloe's success as a fine artist, designer, and musician possible.

And not too long ago, **Lauren Conrad Examiner** got to interview Chloe Trujillo about where all her inspiration comes from. Inspiration comes from Chloe living out in Los Angeles, California because LCE had a phone conversation with Chloe as LCE was based outside of Washington, D.C.; just a day after LCE interviewed Sagit Perez about **PRJON** in New York, New York.

Lauren Conrad Examiner:

With all the art, math, science, and music you took in all your life, how did you come up with such a universal collection?

Chloe Trujillo:

Yeah. Well basically, I think everything is one and everything is connected. Where in the past, in the beginning, science, math, and the more mythical and philosophical world, spiritual world, we're connected. And then, we get this disconnection in the time of religion and all that. They tried to disconnect-- certain religion and thinking. Nowadays, we're connecting the dots again, I think, with quantum physics, and the new discoveries, and realizing that there's no separation between all these things, and there's actually no separation between us and it's just an illusion. So for me to have studied science and math, I was always fascinated about the whole world. So, everything is interconnected. Yeah, I think that's what I said before [chuckles]. Something to that degree, anyway.

LCE:

So this is where you draw most of your inspiration from? I mean, it's--

CT:

Yes.

LCE:

All this, it's not a separate thing, but this is where most of your inspiration comes about, right?

CT:

It's definitely from the whole-- my environment and my passion for-- my curiosity about how the world works, and it's also-- for me, even from a very young age-- I became very independent very young, and I always liked to just be on my own. I was never ever bored. I don't really understand how somebody can be bored. And I love to be by myself with my own thoughts, and I would just draw, and paint, and create things out of my own thoughts. But I think I get influenced by my environment, I get influenced by the world, I get influenced by my inner state, and this is where I drew my inspiration from. And of course, the stories and the experiences that I was having and that I am having. All that gets mixed in, and is what my inspiration is.



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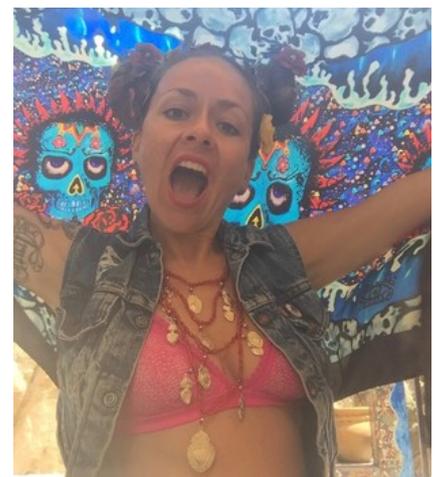


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LCE:

And I know your grandfather, he was an opera singer, from what I've read. Where did your love for art come from, pretty much?

CT:

My parents also loved art, and they were fashion designers. They had a fashion business. And when we didn't have school, and they had to work and travel, we traveled with them and they made sure-- and as much as we didn't really enjoy it when we were very young, but they made sure that we were visiting every museum wherever we were. So if we were in Italy - because they were there to pick up some nice fabrics for their clothing line and all that - we went to the museums. Like I said, when I was four, five, six, whatever, I didn't really-- I was more eager to get out of the museum and like, "Okay, enough of this." And then, I start gaining interest. And my mom was also painting at home. I remember on weekends, she would have some canvases and oil paints, and she would just paint for fun. And even in our house, there was always-- they had tons of artist friends, musicians, and painters. And still to this day, my parents have friends who are artists.

CT:

So it was kind of like a mix of-- the art was always present, I want to say. And even at the house, they would get stuff from their artist friends. The walls in the house were filled with art, and from different cultures too. So I was exposed to a bunch of art since I was born, I guess. But I think it's also something that's inside you. I mean, I always loved drawing and doodling. Also, when I was younger, I was more shy. And so, I felt that drawing would be a way of expressing myself without having to express myself loudly. It was more like a quiet way to express myself. I had some feelings inside and I was too shy, maybe, to express them, so I would just draw something. Anyway, it just came naturally to me.

LCE:

So it's no doubt, it's all these things due to the world of fashion, and then you came up with that, "Aha!" moment in the process, pretty much?

CT:

Yeah. I mean, my parents being fashion designers, I grew up in this world - from getting ideas together, and picking fabric, and seeing my mom doing that, and all that. I always loved dressing myself. I remember as a kid, even waiting for the weekend. Because I felt like in school, I didn't want to stand out too much. I was kind of shy, I guess. But that's when I was nine, ten years old, and then it changed in the teenage years where I was not shy anymore, and I kind of didn't care. But I was waiting for a weekend where I could express myself too, wearing the clothes that I'd like to wear. And there was this lady working with my mom. She was the pattern maker, and she was retouching the clothes and all that, and I would bring some t-shirts I'd find, some jeans and all that. And I'd have these ideas, and I would ask her, "Hey please, can you sew this here and that, and make this shape out of that?"

CT:

So, it kind of grew naturally too. I always loved just creating my own style, in a way. And that's when I actually would feel more comfortable in my own skin, just to wear what I was creating and what I felt like wearing. Even to this day, I want to say that just-- I mean, I'm totally free. I feel completely free of being able to wear what I'd like - to a certain degree, of course - every day. And actually, my husband makes fun of me because it's hard for me to pack, even though I travel that much. Because I wear-- every day I get dressed, I get dressed the way that I feel. I don't know how to explain it. I can't predict like, "Okay, I'm going to wear this dress tomorrow," because I don't know how tomorrow I'm going to feel. Maybe I'm going to feel that I want to wear a yellow color, or-- I'm very attached to colors and feelings, and all that's the way I work. So, anyway--

CT:

I never thought I would become like, doing all these designs. I just started with silk scarves, just because I was painting and selling prints out of my painting, and I thought, "Oh, it'd be so cool--" because I wear tons of scarves all the time, "Oh, it'd be so cool maybe to create some nice scarves out of it." And I wanted to have high-end top quality scarves, and so that's when I got connected with Italian silks. It started with scarves, and then all of a sudden, it became bags, and then dresses. And now, I'm doing-- I'm working on the resort wear. It was just crazy. When I did my first prints on scarves and-- the scarves I can-- with knots, I can make kimono out of them, I make dresses out of them, I made tops out them. And it gave me ideas, "Oh man, it would be so cool if I could do some dresses with all these prints," and I just got excited. There was not a moment where I can say this is when it happened, that clicked, and that it was going to be in this fashion design world, but it just kind of naturally evolved into this.

LCE:

So, self-expression is very important. All your life up to like, from your teen years, up even to this day. Even just in the last few

years, I began to understand what it really meant and started to appreciate it more. Having that feeling of what you're going to wear today, you can't predict what you're going to wear tomorrow because you don't know how you're going to feel, and I totally understand that. I appreciate that.

CT:
Good [laughter]. Thanks. Yeah, I think it's great, and everybody is unique. We're all unique. And I think when you know who you are, and you know how you feel, and you can really freely express yourself and being true to yourself - which is not always easy - then you can really-- the way you dress and the way you are, that's all self-expression. I think it's all-- when you're free to express yourself, that's when you can-- you're happy and content, and-- I don't know.

LCE:
It's no doubt that the pieces you have - with the stars, moon, certain planets - show your deep love for math and science, which is why these pieces are so real, especially the surfboards. In the first place, I was blown away by all that.

CT:
Thank you. You know, it's fascinating if you think about the universe, or how wide and how we were so tiny around this little planet, but yet, there's such a big world around us. I was always fascinated. And I still read books on those topics of math and science, and new discoveries, and all that. Once in a while, I get to airports and have to fly out. I'll go and get some magazines about just what's going on in the scientific world. It was always fascinating to me. Always a passion of mine as well.

LCE:
I know we can use a lot more science and physical influence in our economy. I think it would help a lot. It would improve our infrastructure, and water, and transportation. That, especially.

CT:
Sure. Yeah, absolutely.

LCE:
I guess, I have one more question. Where do you imagine yourself following this collection? In the whole fashion world following this collection as a whole, what do you see for the future?

CT:
It's been such a roller coaster. Like I said earlier, I started with the scarves, and then it turned into handbags, and it turned into this, and that, and that. It's exponentially growing, and I really didn't expect it to be that way. I mean, I get excited in ideas, but then to try to bring them to life is even more exciting. So, I hope I get to grow and do more things. Everything in my fashion designs is based out of my artwork, which is great because I don't want to give up painting. So it's part of the whole, but I have-- I'm hoping to do more, to grow a bigger collection. When I saw my parents, they had humongous collections every season. And I don't think I would be doing that exact same thing, but I'm just excited about the possibilities and seeing where it takes me. I don't have a specific plan. I know I have some shows coming up. For fashion, I have-- London Fashion Week, I'm probably going to be-- we're planning a big show over there in London. I'll probably be doing something in New York, I hope, and maybe in Milan, and who knows where that's going to take me. I just want to keep doing the best quality products that I can, and being inspired, and hopefully, inspiring others. I just follow my path. It's very intuitive and with feeling. So I'm just excited to share what the future will bring with all of my creations. We'll see.

LCE:
Yeah, I'm excited all around to see where everything goes from here.

CT:
I paint, so I have also art shows coming up, I have the fashion thing. And I'm also a singer, and I have actually a new album that's coming out, so I'm excited. It's a whole-- we talked about it in the beginning. Everything is connected, I think. And when you're able to share your works like that, it's pretty cool.

LCE:
It's an awesome thing, I'll tell you [chuckles]. It's an awesome thing.

CT:
Yeah, I'm sure you know all... [laughter].

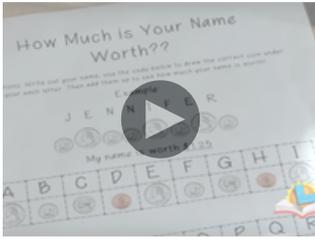
Lauren Conrad Examiner:

Yeah. Chloe, thank you so much for spending time with me today. I appreciate it.

Chloe Trujillo:

Thank you so much.

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Daniel Quintanilla

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