



NEIL BARRETT
Menswear collection AW10
ICONIC HYBRID

Sculptural installations designed by Aquilialberg
Milan, Triennale di Milano, January, 17th, 2010

Neil Barrett, presenting his Autumn-Winter 2010 collection on Sunday, January 17th, chose to collaborate for the first time with Aquilialberg, a Milan-based architectural and design studio. The designer chose two of Aquilialberg's sculptural installations as a background for his latest fashion show.

The Neil Barrett AW10 collection highlights the designer's specific style by cutting garments up and splicing them together in new ways, horizontally, vertically and from back to front to create HYBRIDS. Set against the sculptural backdrop designed by Aquilialberg, the collection is also a nod to the myriad ways that architecture influences dress.

Aquilialberg's installation – an innovative interpretation of space – is a variation on the design studio's work for "The Fragile City" exhibition at Triennale di Milano.

Aquilialberg studio's designs are open to different interpretations. A series of sliced surfaces generate a complex, yet controlled volume, obtained through three-dimensional digitalisation.

The configuration gives the sculpture character, and wraparound lines create multi-faceted volume. Individual perception of the space, which has a kaleidoscope feel, differs according to physical position.

This search for spatial complexity has its roots in Optical Art.

Neil Barrett has always been fascinated and inspired by architecture, interiors and the crossover between these areas and fashion. In 2008 he opened his Concept Flagship Store in Tokyo, Japan, using architectural curves and layers.

NEIL BARRETT

Neil Barrett has been designing fashion apparel for over twenty years. Both his grandfather and great-grandfather were master tailors, and Neil's passion for tailoring began at an early age.

Following graduation from the Central Saint Martin's School of Art and Design, Neil earned his Master's degree in men's fashion design at the Royal College of Art in London. His designs attracted Gucci, where Neil began his professional career. Working in Florence for Gucci in the early 1990s, Neil gained extensive commercial and industrial experience. He was quickly promoted to senior menswear designer. After five successful years, Neil presented a project to Prada, proposing the launch of the company's first designer menswear collection. Under Neil's direction, Prada became renowned among fashion insiders as the forerunner of minimalist menswear.

In 1999, Neil launched the Neil Barrett brand with his men's collection, made in the finest Italian factories, and in January 2002 he joined the Milan men's fashion calendar. In February 2006, the Neil Barrett women's collection made its debut during New York Fashion Week. Over the last five years, Neil's designs have attracted many loyal customers in Hollywood and the music industry.

website: www.neilbarrett.com

AQUILIALBERG

AQUILIALBERG is a visionary and innovative international architectural and design practice based in Milan, founded by Laura Aquili & Ergian Alberg in 2006, with extensive experience in the fields of architecture, urbanism, infrastructure and design on different scale levels.

From 1999 Laura Aquili & Ergian Alberg have been responsible of various projects in Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Milan, Rome, London and Beijing, gaining experience in the fields of design and architecture @ Zaha Hadid, OMA (Rem Koolhaas), UNStudio (Ben Van Berkel & Caroline Bos), ONL (Kas Oosterhuis & Ilona Lenard) and Massimiliano Fuksas.

AQUILIALBERG collaborations include: Moroso, Corian by Dupont, Serralunga, Fiam, Ritzenhoff, La Triennale di Milano and Christie's auction house for whom they designed the new Italian headquarter in Milan.

website: www.aquilialberg.com

press information: press@aquilialberg.com