

Fashion Designer & Entrepreneur

Esther Nash

By Chantal Gabel
Photo Ron Michaels



Fashion designer and entrepreneur Esther Nash isn't your typical coming of age stylist—she doesn't play by the rules and isn't afraid to take risks. This no holds barred fashionista has an artistic flair when it comes to her designs, using color and rockstar glam as the foundation of her fashions and accessories for both men and women. The designer's work is like a piece of art itself, carefully constructed and well made for confident women who are interested in getting attention and paving the way for trend-setters in generations to come, hence her motto, "Be Seen and Be Remembered." "I think it's important to make the impression of a lifetime the first time," she says. "You only have once chance."

In addition to over two dozen fashion shows, the latest of which was attended by Vogue's pretentious Anna Wintour, Nash's fashions have been featured and hand-picked by Patricia Field, Hollywood's most famous stylist, for "Sex and the City," which marked another rung of success up the ladder for the designer. "I always see Patricia at Fashion Week. She's really cool and I used to shop at her store when I was in high school and college. I knew I really made it when my clothes were sold at her boutique and socialites were wearing my designs," says Nash.

A self-proclaimed workaholic, Nash is signed with IKON Models, a top ten modeling and management agency in New York, as a celebrity designer, fashion host, commentator and model. She's also been featured on television as a fashion expert, the latest being VH1's "Style Warrior" which will air in 2008/2009.

Though she may be young, fashion and business isn't anything new for Nash. She graduated from FIT and was awarded talent and merit scholarships, one of which was to study at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. At the fresh age of 18 she operated three fashion boutiques and simultaneously managed to be a Fashion Editor for Talent for Motion Magazine. (She's currently a Fashion Editor for the Improper Hamptonian Magazine).

As if that's not enough, she's been invited by the strange Dave radio show to give fashion advice to their listeners, in addition to showcasing her 2008 Fashion Collection at Eli Klein Fine Art in SOHO in a fashion photography installation show, the first of its kind which was created by Nash and her sister, also the muse of Nash's fashions.

An independent at heart, she gives credit to her fashion sense and eye for art to her eclectic upbringing and ex-



perience growing up in New York. "My mother's an artist and I was exposed to the theater, ballet and opera my whole life. I studied painting and illustration and it was great to have that exposure growing up."

Nash is a regular at art galleries and a strong believer in "supporting the arts," as she strives to open an art gallery for unique artists and an art school for people with learning disabilities, something Nash can relate to being ambidextrous and dyslexic herself. "It's really hard being different than other people," she says. "They don't understand or respect you, but I've overcome it. [Being able to see things backwards] has made me very detail oriented."

It'd be an understatement to say Nash is a jack of all trades. In addition to being a fashion and art connoisseur, she's been in a handful of shows including "Blind Date," "Law & Order," and "Nights of Prosperity," not to mention a fashion advisor on Access Hollywood and the CW 11 Morning Show and an interviewee on Inside Edition.

Nash says she hopes to host her own fashion television show, but endeavors to steer away from a makeover-based program. "I want something different. There are lots of ways to tell people how to dress without hurting their feelings." Nash advises that fashion is primarily about colors and accessorizing, which can both be done at thrift stores for girls on a budget. "You don't need a lot of money to be fashionable, you just have to have a good eye," she says. "And as a designer, you have to know who your customer is."

Nash currently has "rockstar" belts being sold at NYC's Allan & Suzi, a retro-fashion store that has dressed anyone from Mariah Carey to the cast of The Sopranos, and you can check out some more of her looks on her website, www.esthernash.com.

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