

Emma Ortiz

February 24, 2016

Int Seminar 2: Fashion

Harvest Henderson

Profile

Interview Subject: Molly Goldberg

Interview Questions:

1. Where are you from? Long Island
2. What is your favorite color? Yellow
3. What is your favorite show? Girls on HBO
4. Favorite movie? Moonrise Kingdom, The Labyrinth, Rocky Horror Picture Show
5. If you had to give your soul a color, which would it be? Yellow
6. How would you describe your style? Sometimes I'm feeling grungy but it is always gonna be colorful no matter what mood I'm in. I like to think it is a mixture of Audrey Hepburn and grunge. A lot of denim and plaid, and music related things. I love when music and fashion come together
7. Favorite musician? Jukebox the Ghost, Secure Weapons, and Mainlands. I love alternative rock and pop. I also love Broadway, so anything from a musical
8. Who is your favorite designer? Betsey Johnson, Alexander McQueen, Rodart, Vetements,
9. Who is your favorite artist? Andy Warhol, Jackson Pollock, Salvador Dali
10. You're a fashion design major right? Yes

11. What is your stance on the fashion industry? I feel like its gotten too serious. There's still art to it but there's a lot of money in it too. It's becoming basic, neutral colors, boxy silloutes,.
Not much fun in it anymore
12. What comes to your mind when you hear the word individuality? Someone who's different.
Even if they take things from other people they're still making it they're own and going by the beat of their own drum
13. Who do you consider your style icon? Betsey Johnson
14. What made you know that you wanted to go into the fashion industry? I've always been smaller than everyone else and I want to make something fun and smaller. Petite fashion, kids wear, I want to have an empire one day
15. Do you have any fears going into the fashion industry? Yes, I'm always afraid that I'm gonna go bankrupt, or that no one is going to have the same vision and not want to look, but if you make something loud enough then they'll look

Profile:

It's not often that you see Mona Lisa Dr. Martens paired with a pink furry jacket and a light blue hair clip that looks like something out of a Disney movie. I would venture to say that Molly doesn't fit the typical and expected quote that is deemed "fashion sense", which is exactly why I chose her as my interview subject. Right off the bat I assumed that Molly was an Illustration major, because at least for me those are the students I see oozing with endless creativity and carrying themselves in the most interesting of outfits. I was surprised and not so surprised when she told me that was indeed, a *fashion major*. This made Molly twice more interesting, and literally the perfect interview subject.

I quite honestly find it boring to see a fashion major who dresses in all greyscale and only sports high-end designer wear. There's something more enticing to me to see someone who wears stuff out of the norm, something almost childlike. Molly reminds me almost perfectly of a cartoon character, or something out of a dollhouse. There is a vibe about her that makes her different. In the best way. She is one of those people who fully embodies herself, her fashion sense being a perfect reflection of who she is.

Ever since I chose Molly as my interview subject I decided to take a closer note of her in the class we have together, Space & Materiality. We sit on opposite sides of the room, and never shared a conversation until I approached her with enough courage to ask if she would so kindly be my interview subject. Her eyes lit up and she nervously and very excitedly said she would definitely do it. It is funny because right away I started to pick up on things about Molly that had completely gone unnoticed before. For example, in class, we are working on a mechanical hand project - where I, and the rest of the class, have been using wood to construct this hand. Molly, on the other hand, brought in a zombie hand which she completely manipulated in order for it to be a working hand for our project. Funny right? Who would've thought the girl in Mona Lisa Dr. Martens would do that? It doesn't end there though, instead of using rubber bands as the elastic mechanism that her hand project needed, Molly went a different spectrum. She used the furry covered wire that most kids use during arts and crafts instead.

These are just examples of how Molly's fashion sense is something much more than just fashion sense, but carries throughout her whole being. These are things unique to Molly, and these are things I noticed so distinct before I even really sat down with her to really talk and get to know her a bit better.

Molly and I met at the University Center on the 4th floor, she arrived there before I did. Coming out of the elevator, I spotted Molly almost instantly. For she, of course, was wearing the brightest of colors. Something so refreshing on such a gloomy day, and to my expectation, Molly said her favorite color was “yellow, its a very bright color”, which matches perfectly with her very bright persona. As Molly and I continued our conversation, more things about her unraveled which were both surprise and an expectation. I say expectation because Molly is the type of person I expected her to be - someone oozing with vibrance, ready to delve into the world of fashion with almost a “box of magic markers in hand”.

When asked about what she thinks of the fashion industry, she stated, “I feel like it has gotten too serious, I mean there’s still art to it but there’s a lot more focus on money, which makes it a bit more basic.” This stroke my nerve of curiosity, what did Molly want to do in order to fix this? For starters, she’d love to work under Betsy Johnson, seeing as that is her favorite fashion designer. But more than that, she wants to build an empire, one with a lot of color and something that embodies her being. Molly is very petite, which has made her sway towards wanting to make clothes for the petite person, as she has always had a tough time finding clothes that fit her. Learning all these things about Molly was like connecting the pieces of a puzzle. Everything made sense - this Gemini from Long Island, with an ear shaped phone case, and flowered tights.



Image: Emma Ortiz, *Molly Goldberg*, 2016, The New School University Center, New York, New York