Fashion Education and the Truth about Your Wardrobe

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THIS EDITION’S FEATURE: FOOTBALL KITS
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FEATURE: #FOOTBALL
SIDELINING WORKERS, BUT CAN BE A FORCE FOR GOOD

OP ED
WHY WE NEED TO STOP BUYING NEW CLOTHES

INDUSTRY NEWS
ANIMAL FIBRES ARE COPPING IT

TRENDING RIGHT NOW
PLASTIC IS EVERYWHERE - LITERALLY

BRAND OF THE MONTH
LOVE AND SALVAGE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FASHFACTS
FOUL PLAY IN GARMENT FACTORIES

Garment factory workers stitching up, sewing and moulding Ronaldo's football boots in place don't earn a living wage in their respective countries.

Remember the controversy Nike was embroiled in in 1992? If you were lucky enough to have been introduced to the term ‘sweatshops’, you would know that Nike had to clean up their image by publishing a detailed report of labour conditions in their factories. Unfortunately, the problem never went away. It’s still there, but it comes in different variations, according to a recent report authored by Clean Clothes Campaign (CCC) and Éthique sur l’étiquette.

Nike and Adidas have slowly moved most of their sourcing to Indonesia, Cambodia and Vietnam over the years (clothes and shoes), where wages are lower and labour abuses are rife, even though they’ve made record profits. They prefer to spend revenue on endorsements and sponsorships than sharing their wealth with the workers who make their brands recognisable all around the world. Both Nike and Adidas are kitting up 22 teams in the World Cup that kicked off on June 14.

CCC wants them to ensure fair wages, and why not? Football is loved by many around the globe, and this issue could take centre stage if they choose to do the right thing.

Read the full blog post and urge your favourite brands and sports idols to level the playing field!
OP ED: Stop Buying New Clothes

If you can. Why? 1) Clothing manufacture is the second-biggest polluting industry after oil as fast fashion plays on the business model of producing cheap, disposable apparel that are supposedly on trend. 2) Minimalism (not worrying about what your wear too much) gives you a more focused approach to your day. 3) We’re sending a message to #fastfashion that we believe in well-made clothes that last, and we should be fair to workers and the environment. Who knows, we might even change the world!

IN THE NEWS: Mohair, Cashmere, Silk

Anyone heard of greenwashing? An exposé by PETA in May 2018 of violent goat farmers in South Africa has led to H&M and Zara pledging to ban mohair by 2020. This reminds us of the Australian merino wool problem of mulesing that completely tainted the industry and has never fully recovered. Next thing you know, we have ABC News Australia report that Australian goat meat has tripled in value due to a global meat shortage. Which has led to Aussie farmers to seize an opportunity to get serious in the world trading of Angora goat fleece, or mohair. But then, ASOS comes out and pledges to remove mohair, cashmere, and silk from 2019 from their lines. Could all this mean something, or has anyone forgotten to flip the coin and see the other side of the debate? Can we wear natural fibres if the animal is treated well, since it will decompose at its end of life and the fibre is renewable, or should we keep producing synthetic garments that we don’t need made out of oil of which its footprint is just as big when you take into account the production of plastics and its persistency in the environment? I think we need to think for ourselves - there’s no wrong or right, and the choice is based on your own values.

TRENDING: Plastics

Earth Day’s theme this year was End Plastic Pollution. World Environment Day and World Oceans Day asked us to ditch single-use plastics. It’s currently Plastic-Free July. Get on board!

#BeatPlasticPollution Plastic for Fabric?
**BRAND OF THE MONTH:**

*Love and Salvage* has got to be one of my favourite brands on Planet Earth. I swoon over their designs, which are ultra cool! The brand makes one-offs and custom-made accessories (think bags and jewellery) from reclaimed leather all in Hackney, east London. If you’re near the area, make sure you give the gal behind the brand, Eli, a shout-out and some love.

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**Calendar**

25 June - 3 August  Who Made My Clothes?  
FREE Online Course by Exeter University  
https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/who-made-my-clothes

3-7 July  Berlin Fashion Week  
http://www.fashion-week-berlin.com/

25-28 July  Helsinki Fashion Week  
http://helsinkifashionweeklive.com/

28 July  Free the Slaves event New York City  
Hosted by Fashion for Freedom  
http://www.fftsfashionforfreedom.com/

7-10 August  Copenhagen Fashion Week  
http://copenhagenfashionweek.com/

3 September  MA in Fashion Enterprise Creation course commencement incorporating circular fashion  
Amsterdam Fashion Institute (AMFI)  
http://amfi.nl/MASTER

\SPECIAL SHOUTOUT//

**14 July** Rockdiva District Market Day  
Sell your old clothes and find bargains!  
Bukit Damansara, Kuala Lumpur  
https://www.instagram.com/rockdivadistrict/?hl=en

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**fashfacts**

Mohair is usually a silk-like yarn made from the hair of the Angora goat. Both durable and resilient, mohair is notable for its high luster and sheen, which has helped gain it the nickname the “Diamond Fiber”, and is often used in fiber blends to add these qualities to a textile. Mohair is one of the oldest textile fibers in use. The Angora goat is thought to originate from the mountains of Tibet, reaching Turkey in the 16th century. The farming of commercial-scale mohair commenced in 1838 in South Africa, where local goat breeds were crossed with Angora goats.