

Shakkei Collection #20 – Fall/Winter 2019/20 – Afternoon of a Kami

Gabriel Baradee celebrates the 10th anniversary of his sustainable fashion label Shakkei with his 20th collection. The current Fall/Winter collection quotes highlights of his oeuvre and looks optimistically towards the future.

According to the sustainable direction of Shakkei, the Japanese nature spirits of Kami serve as the collection's name patrons. Another source of inspiration is the art of calligraphy: Similar to a brush gently floating over paper the collection features smooth lines and dynamic elements.

Crochet elements applying the hyperbolic-model-technique establish a connection between precious artisanry, nature and technology, depicting mathematic curves spatially. The emerging organic-futuristic forms give the creations their uniqueness. Fully in line with Shakkei's tradition are print techniques and embroidery applications that return to the new collection in new designs.

The women's collection concentrates on skirts and dresses with print and embroidery designs, and warm jackets from sustainable fabrics according to this time of the year. For Shakkei's 10th anniversary, it is of course inevitable to present the big evening dress. Men on the other hand await a collection of premium leisurewear with special emphasis on suits and shirts made of sustainable materials.

Shakkei is a Japanese term describing the art of designing a garden in a way that it integrates harmoniously into the surrounding landscape. Aesthetics, subtle design and complexity are domination elements of this concept that Gabriel Baradee transforms into sustainable fashion for women and men. Japanese art techniques are skilfully combined with European influences to be implemented with high-qualitative, certificated materials from organic and fair production. Attention to detail, handcrafted unique pieces, and small series emphasize the distinctiveness of this approach. The largest part of the collections are made in Austria, followed by other neighboring EU countries, thus creating value for local businesses, reducing CO2 emissions from transport and allowing for easy quality control. Accurately staged fashion shows containing performative elements are essential parts of Gabriel Baradee's understanding of fashion and art.

Gabriel Baradee graduated from Japanese studies in Vienna and Berlin and received his Diploma from ESMOD Berlin (Ecole Supérieure des Art et Techniques de la Mode). He could gain international experiences in London and Tokyo. Since founding his own label Shakkei he lives and works predominantly in his home town Vienna. His dedication towards Japanese and European art techniques allows him to constantly realize fashion projects at the interface with art: The initial presentations of his first collections in 2009, named "Moving Showroom Concept", took place at art galleries and museums in Vienna and Zurich. His dress made of drilled paper yarn has been accepted to the fashion collection of Wien Museum (Vienna Metropolitan Museum). Starting from 2010 he designed several outfits of the performance artists Eva & Adele, e.g. for their appearance at Art Basel Miami Beach. Highlights of his career are the "Best Newcomer Award 2012" of the Vienna Awards for Fashion and Lifestyle, and an invitation to show his work at the lavera Showfloor during the Berlin Fashion Week in January 2013. Since 2011, he annually presents his label Shakkei at the MQ Vienna Fashion Week. In 2014, he was appointed women's wear designer at Gössl in Salzburg. Since 2015, he solely focuses on his own label and the Shakkei Design Store in Vienna's 7th district.

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