

From Rock to Fashion; The Chic Up-and-Coming Mae McKagan

Style profile

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Majoring in culture and media and minoring in fashion communications at The New School in New York City, 20-year-old Mae McKagan is not shy when it comes to her style. This past Sunday afternoon, January 24th of 2021 to be exact, I spoke with the confident, friendly, and modelesque McKagan over FaceTime about her fashion choices.

Life in between two fashion-forward cities, Los Angeles and New York, has influenced her style. So have musicians and standout designers like Johnny Rotten from the Sex Pistols, her father (Duff McKagan, bassist for Guns and Roses), Prince, Vivienne Westwood, Marc Jacobs, and Chrome Hearts. Pinterest is another source of fashion inspiration for her.

“I would define my style as like a mix of many different references. So, like, a little bit of punk-rock, a little bit of like hip-hop... and then also just like times and history.”

Mae describes her style as also being “feminine meets a little bit androgynous and a little bit of streetwear as well.” That is seen in her edgy designer schoolgirl-like outfits on Instagram varying from black-and-white to primary colors. “I love kind of having two main colors in an outfit.”

Typical of her individualistic style, her go-to pieces are striped quality sweaters. Her favorites are from designers Marc Jacobs and Miu Miu. “Those are designer pieces that I love to collect because they last forever to me because I never get sick of them.”

McKagan’s approach to aesthetics is fun. She doesn’t care for social media branding and dresses how she wants every single day. She recommends that attitude to anyone who struggles to identify their personal style.

“What I would change about fashion today is like how kind of snotty it is. I think it shouldn’t just be for wealthy people or people that are um, you know, have been surrounded by fashion their whole lives. I think it should be more inclusive instead of just being like ‘Anna Wintour,’ you know what I mean?”

Aspiring to become a women’s fashion designer, McKagan already debuted a small capsule collection in 2018 which notably Vogue magazine wrote a piece about, **“Mae McKagan Just Launched a Punky Fashion Line,” (June 6, 2019)**

The influential Mae McKagan’s perspective on how she’d like to see the industry evolve gives us insight into how her future fashion career may be distinct from others!