

## Karl Lagerfeld, designer who defined luxury fashion, dies at 85

Karl Lagerfeld, the most **prolific** designer of the 20th and 21st centuries and a man whose career formed the prototype of the modern luxury fashion industry, died Tuesday in Paris.

Creative director of Chanel since 1983 and Fendi since 1965, and founder of his own line, Mr. Lagerfeld was the definition of a fashion **polyglot**. In his 80s, when most of his peers were retiring to their **yachts** or country estates, he was designing an average of 14 new collections a year ranging from **couture** to the high street, and not counting collaborations and special projects.

prolific 高产的; 丰富的

polyglot 通晓多国语言者

yacht 游艇

couture 服装

His greatest **calling** was as the orchestrator of his own myth. A self-identified “**caricature**,” with his dark glasses, powdered **ponytail**, black jeans, fingerless gloves, **starched** collars, Chrome Hearts jewelry and obsessive Diet Coke consumption, he achieved such a level of global fame—and controversy—that a \$200 Karl Barbie doll, created in collaboration with the toymaker Mattel, sold out in less than an hour in 2014.

calling 事业; 职业

caricature 漫画; 讽刺法

ponytail 马尾

starched 笔挺的; 僵硬的

Those who wanted to **dismiss** Lagerfeld referred to him as a “styliste”: a designer who creates his looks by repurposing what already exists, as opposed to inventing anything new. But he rejected the idea of fashion-as-art, and the designer-as-tortured-genius. His goal was more opportunistic.

dismiss 解雇; 解散

“I would like to be a one-man multinational fashion phenomenon,” he once said.