

Barbie™ POWER & STYLE



★
**SuperStar
Christie**

BORN TO
SHINE

—
**SATIN, FEATHERS
& SEQUINS**

—
**DISCO
SPIRIT**

▲ COLLECTOR'S EDITION

80
MATTEL



Contents

4

Story of an Icon

Meet the *SuperStar Christie* doll, a celebration of 1970s glamour and dazzling fashion.

8

Fashion Breakdown

Fashion expert and designer @sereinne_ analyzes the doll's disco-inspired look.

10

Inspiring Women

With her unforgettable voice and magnetic presence, Donna Summer came to define the spirit of disco music.

14

Fashion Focus

The sparkle and extravagance of late-'70s disco fashion.

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BARBIE BIO



SUPERSTAR CHRISTIE

• 1977 •

★ **FULL NAME:** *SuperStar Christie*.

★ **THE INSPIRATION:** Disco fashion of the 1970s.

★ **HER STYLE:** Glamorous and dazzling.

★ **CLOTHING DESIGN:** Created by the team led by Charlotte Johnson, one of Mattel's key designers and a pivotal figure in the development of Barbie fashion.

★ **DEBUT:** In 1977, with a dress, stole, heels, ring, necklace, earrings, and a stand.



STORY OF AN ICON

DISCO QUEEN

IN HER RADIANT YELLOW DRESS, THE SUPERSTAR CHRISTIE DOLL SYMBOLIZED A DECADE MARKED BY SPARKLE, DISCO MUSIC AND THE CELEBRATION OF INDIVIDUALITY



John Travolta rose to fame in 1977 with *Saturday Night Fever*, a film that captured one side of disco's cultural explosion with its costumes and the unforgettable music of the Bee Gees.

In 1977, as glamour and disco fever dominated pop culture – with films like *Saturday Night Fever* setting the tone – the SuperStar Christie doll, with her spectacular outfit and voluminous hairdo, captivated a generation dreaming of stardom.

To reflect the glamour of the disco era, Mattel commissioned sculptor Joyce Clark to help define the new SuperStar look – one that evolved across the doll line, allowing each character to bring her own personality and style to life.

Enter SuperStar Christie, with her copper-toned highlights, bright smile, and radiant gaze. Her yellow evening gown, paired with an extravagant metallic lamé boa, channeled the spirit of iconic nightclubs like Studio 54, while her diamond-style jewelry and matching heels completed a stage-worthy look.

"Our design team was tasked with conceptualizing a new Barbie, completely opposite to the hippie-chic style we had



The SuperStar Christie doll exuded style and charisma.



embraced in previous years,” recalls lead Barbie fashion designer Carol Spencer in her book *Dressing Barbie*. “The directive was simple: in both the doll and the fashion, we had to aim for maximum sophistication.”

With a twistable waist, posable arms, and articulated legs, the SuperStar Christie doll was made to move, express herself, and shine — whether on the runway or the dance floor.★

“For Ken, I designed a navy-blue jumpsuit with accessories popular among boys in the late '70s: a stylish belt with a silver star buckle, oversized sunglasses, and even a removable ring,” recalls Spencer. SuperStar Ken is shown here with SuperStar Christie and SuperStar Barbie.



A Look Back at....



Featured on the *Saturday Night Fever* soundtrack, *More Than a Woman* captured the romantic spirit of disco and defined a generation



Toni Morrison publishes *Song of Solomon*, the novel that cements her status as one of the greatest voices in literature



Farrah Fawcett wins the People's Choice Award for Favorite Female Performer in a New TV Program for *Charlie's Angels*



Stevie Wonder wins the Grammy Award for Album of the Year with *Songs in the Key of Life*



The first *Star Wars* film, directed by George Lucas, premieres

FASHION BREAKDOWN

SuperStar Christie | 1977

80

POWER & STYLE

Barbie



Fashion expert and
designer
@sereinne_

Daring Highlights

Her long wavy hair, in a chestnut tone with coppery highlights, features a half-updo with a soft side-swept bang. Christie's two-toned hair gives her immediate unforgettable star status.



Star Shine

The diamond-inspired pieces add a sparkly effect to the look, topped off with a ring, choker, and earrings, all in translucent plastic with subtle silver-tone rhinestone detailing.

Disco Elegance

Her radiant yellow evening gown, a color that became hugely popular in 1970s fashion (as seen in the Halston design below), coincided with the rise of disco culture. Ready to hit the dance floor, the doll wears a form-fitting dress that hugs the body down to the ankles, with a silhouette that flatters the waist through strategically placed darts that continue down to the hem. The deep V-neckline, shaped by two triangular cups, is finished with wide straps that extend the neckline



Halston



Glowing Beauty

A luminous golden eyeshadow and soft pink blush highlight Christie's radiant features, echoing the shimmering and metallic finishes that defined '70s disco glam. Her honey-toned eyes and bright smile channel the bold, joyful beauty that lit up the dance floor, trends that continue to inspire looks today.



Donna Summer

Feathered Fantasy

The yellow tulle boa made of delicate golden Lurex threads mimics feathers—a must-have accessory for any superstar. It can be draped over the shoulders or wrapped around the arms for a dramatic finish. This piece may have been inspired by Donna Summer, the undisputed queen of disco, who frequently incorporated similar textures and the color yellow into her live performances.



● ● ●

The superstar became the soul of the disco era, a movement that transformed music, fashion, and the very energy of nightlife.

MUJERES QUE INSPIRAN

Donna Summer

SINGER

W

With her powerful voice behind the songs that defined a generation, singer Donna Summer revolutionized the sound of the 1970s and earned her title as the undisputed queen of disco. More than just a star of the moment, Summer was an innovative artist who transformed the dance floor into a space of liberation, desire, and rhythm, with melodies that remain timeless through today.

Originally from Boston, Summer showed exceptional vocal talent from an early age, debuting at 10 in her local church. In the late 1960s, she moved to New York and later to Munich, Germany, where she performed in musicals like *Hair*. There, she met producer Giorgio Moroder, with whom she helped shape a sound that redefined the disco era and catapulted her to international stardom. Her single *Love to Love You Baby* (1975) marked a turning point in the music scene of the time.

That same year, after building her career in Europe, Summer returned to the United States and signed with Casablanca Records, the label through which she would solidify her global fame. Hits like *I Feel Love* (1977), which introduced the use of synthesizers and anticipated the birth of modern electronic music, were followed by anthems such as *Last Dance* (1978), which earned Summer her first



Summer broke barriers as a Black woman in pop and dance music, fusing vocal power with deep emotion. Above: The singer at the inaugural gala of the Washington D.C. Convention Center in 1985.



Left: The singer with Canadian producer David Foster, a friend and collaborator, during the *Foster and Friends* concert in Las Vegas in 2010.

Grammy; *Hot Stuff* and *Bad Girls* (both from 1979), which fused disco with rock and funk; and *On the Radio* (1979), a disco ballad that also climbed to the top of the charts. Later, *She Works Hard for the Money* (1983) became a symbol of female empowerment, resonating with a new generation in the 1980s.

In 1989, the performer returned to the Billboard Hot 100 Top 10 with *This Time I Know It's for Real*, her last major chart hit. A decade later, she briefly returned to the charts with *I Will Go with You (Con te partirò)*. Throughout her career, Summer won five Grammy Awards and sold over 100 million records worldwide. In 2013, a year after her death, she was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in recognition of her remarkable career.

Years later, her legacy continued to grow through new tributes celebrating both her artistry and personal story. In 2018, the Broadway musical *Summer: The Donna Summer Musical* premiered, and in 2023, the much-anticipated documentary *Love to Love You, Donna Summer* debuted, co-directed by Roger Ross Williams and Brooklyn Sudano,



Above: Summer with her daughter Mimi, born from her first marriage to German actor Helmuth Sommer. Later, the artist had two more daughters with her second husband, musician Bruce Sudano. Below: Album covers of *Love to Love You Baby* and *She Works Hard for the Money*, two of her most iconic records.

the artist's youngest daughter, offering an intimate look at her life and career. That same year, Christie's launched *The Collection of Donna Summer*, an exhibition and auction featuring more than 90 personal items from the singer. A portion of the proceeds was donated to organizations that Summer deeply supported, such as St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Save the Music Foundation, and the Elton John AIDS Foundation.

An undisputed icon of the disco universe, and one of the most influential artists in contemporary music, Summer left behind an inspiring legacy that transcended her time. Her impact still lives on, lighting up dance floors around the world.★



“God had to create disco music so I could be born and be successful.”

Donna Summer



Summer in all her glory, wearing a spectacular golden gown.

FASHION FOCUS

DISCO

CHIC

THE
SEVENTIES
STYLE
THAT TURNED
NIGHTLIFE INTO
A FASHION
SPECTACLE

The model Beverly Johnson, one of the most iconic faces of the 1970s, wears a flowing dress by legendary American designer Halston, a defining figure of the era. In 1974, Johnson made history as the first Black woman to appear on the cover of *Vogue*.



Left: Farrah Fawcett and Cher wearing extravagant Bob Mackie designs during *The Sonny and Cher Show* in 1976. Right: An ensemble by Norma Kamali from 1979. Below: The first fur collection by Stephen Burrows for Michael Forrest in 1974, and Bianca Jagger, an undisputed icon of the era, in a sequin suit, that same year.



stars came together at Studio 54, the legendary New York nightclub where fashion, music, and self-expression shone without limits. Divas like Donna Summer brought this style to the stage, becoming symbols of a generation. For many, especially within Black and queer communities, disco wasn't just a fashion moment – it was a bold expression of identity and freedom.

Today, the disco spirit lives on in contemporary fashion. Brands and designers continue to embrace the desire to shine bright, to express oneself boldly and unapologetically. From runways to red carpets, nods to the '70s reemerge as a reminder of a time when fashion celebrated the body, movement, and the desire of being free.★

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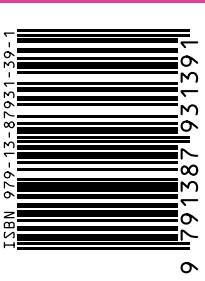
By the late 1970s, sequins, satin, metallic fabrics, and fluid silhouettes dominated the nightlife scene and became symbols of freedom, sensuality, and celebration. Silhouettes grew longer, necklines deeper, and everything was designed to shine on the dance floor. Fashion became as powerful a form of expression as the music that accompanied it, thanks in part to the rise of great female designers such as Diane von Fürstenberg, with her iconic wrap dress that combined elevated style, confidence, and comfort; and Norma Kamali, a pioneer in the use of spandex and silhouettes that seamlessly fused sport and glamour. Both marked a turning point in how the modern woman dressed.

Designers such as Halston, Stephen Burrows, and Bob Mackie were several of the architects behind the brilliant and liberating "disco chic" aesthetic. Halston, with his clean lines and flowing fabrics, dressed icons like Bianca Jagger and Liza Minnelli. Burrows celebrated movement and diversity in every garment, using bold color blocks and a dynamic energy. Mackie, for his part, transformed clothing into pure spectacle, adorning the bodies of Cher and Diana Ross with sequins, feathers, and high drama. Many of these



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