

## Transcript

### Stella Jean for Marina Rinaldi

The story of this collection for Marina Rinaldi tells the journey of woman, who could be nobody in particular, or each and every one of us, if you prefer. It's a story about everyone, about women who struggle in their lives and implement strategies about what art or fashion can be. It's all about communication and expression, sometimes extreme, but profound and sincere. So this is what it's about: transparency and about the personal journey that is an intrinsic part of a collection, like an artistic journey.

My own story crosses different cultures, not to mention opposing ones. My work connects easily with the worlds of art and literature. Like art, fashion can be a means of expression and communication. If you think about it, it's often also true for each of us. We don't choose what to wear just for aesthetic pleasure. There are many other senses that we apply, consciously or not. All these worlds then apply to fashion, even though we often consider fashion something superficial, pure entertainment, when actually there is more to the collections than the fashion shows. When fashion becomes communication, when it manages to have a meaning beyond aesthetics, as we've tried to do here, it becomes and is something more.

For me, Marina Rinaldi is a fashion label that has been able to achieve a depth that, as I said earlier, goes beyond aesthetics and has a real meaning. It is a label that has many facets, just like women, and manages to interpret and convey who women are in their entirety, not just a single aspect of them.

Working with Marina Rinaldi, I enjoyed the fact that the starting point was the content and not the exterior. There is a lot of meaning to this content, much more than you usually see, and it refuses to surrender to a single rule of aesthetics that is almost imperialistic at the moment. It is capable of being independent, of underlining the unique value of every woman regardless of her shape. So again, in this project, we did not start out with an exterior shape, one, two, three or four shapes, but instead, we first looked at the meaning and the content.

[Music: "Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho"]

The choice of color is a very complicated issue for me because the universe is extremely varied and chromatic. There isn't a single color missing from my collection. It's often a combination between a color and perhaps its origins, its memory. There are colors that pack a punch. There are no shades, they are high impact colors. I wanted the collection, through the fabrics, the materials, to reflect this idea of authenticity. So, they're fabrics like cotton and silk. Above all, there is a focus on the accessories made by the artisan women of Haiti, who have contributed their know-how and their centuries-old techniques to give the collection the sensation of a link with the past, of a memory, of the lives of women.

In the capsule that I designed for Marina Rinaldi, it was essential for me that the looks were imbued with my vision of a work ethic and the ethics of the collection. In this case, by working with the various Haitian craftswomen and various workshops there that joined forces to be part of this project, we were able to give the depth I was looking for to these products, giving them meaning that stretched beyond the impact that a color or appearance can achieve.

They are containers of human value and I think this is part of what my work wants to achieve, a goal that Marina Rinaldi also shares. This is why I enjoyed working with their team, their company, and their approach.