

RALPH RUCCI

WORK Since 1981, Ralph Rucci has been designing and producing both luxurious ready-to-wear and made-to-order clothing for women. In 1994, he established the “Chado Ralph Rucci” label.

EDUCATION Temple University; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Bachelor of Arts Degree, Humanities, 1978

Fashion Institute of Technology; New York, New York, Associates Degree, Fashion Design, 1980

**AWARDS &
CAREER
HIGHLIGHTS**

1981: Presentation of First Made-to-Order Collection, Westbury Hotel, New York

1984: Establishment of the “Ralph Rucci New York” Ready-to-Wear Label

1994: Establishment of the “Chado Ralph Rucci” label, New York

2002: Included in the official calendar by the Chambre Syndicale de la Haute Couture; and first showing of Ralph Rucci Chado Haute Couture, Paris

2004: “Womenswear Designer of the Year” Award Nominee, Council of Fashion Designers of America (“CFDA”), New York

2005: Inductee: Hall of Fame, School of Fashion, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio

2005: “Crystal Star” Award; College of Media & Arts, Drexel University, Philadelphia

2005: “Womenswear Designer of the Year” Award Nominee, Council of Fashion Designers of America (“CFDA”), New York

2005: “Star Award”; “Night of Stars”, Fashion Group International, Inc., New York

2006: “Award of Excellence”; The Costume Council, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles

2006: “Artistry of Fashion” Award; The Couture Council of The Museum at FIT, Fashion Institute of Technology, New York

2008: “International Designer of the Year” Award; The Academy of Art University, San Francisco, CA

2008: “National Design Award-Fashion”; Cooper-Hewitt Museum National Design Awards Program, New York

2009: “Fashion Icon Award”, Pratt Institute, New York

2010: Vice Chair, National Design Awards, Cooper-Hewitt Museum, New York

2011: “Soaring Spirit Award”, LIVE OUT LOUD, New York

2011: “Fashion Walk of Fame” Plaque on Seventh Avenue, New York

2011: “Award for Design Excellence”, Costume Council, The Chicago History Museum

2012: “Andre Leon Talley Lifetime Achievement Award”, Savannah College of Art and Design

2013: “Icon Award”, Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Center

2015: Honorary Doctoral Degree, The Drexel University’s Westphal College of Media Arts & Design.

2019: “Lifetime Living Legend Award”, Fashion Group International of New York

**PROFESSIONAL
COLLABORATIONS**

2012: Ralph Rucci for Holly Hunt – unique pieces of furniture made of wood and bronze of some of the same luxurious fabrics used in the clothing collections

**MUSEUM
EXHIBITIONS**

1985: Participant: “The Little Black Dress of the 21st Century” Exhibit; Victoria & Albert Museum, London

2003: Participant: “Goddess” Exhibit; The Costume Institute at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; and, in 2005: Participant: “Goddess” Exhibit; The Costume Institute at The MOMU Museum, Antwerp, Belgium

2005-2006: “Chado Ralph Rucci” Exhibit; The Costume Institute, Kent State University Museum, Kent, OH

2005: Participant: “Cut and Construction: The Foundations of Fashion”; The Gallery, The Pratt Institute, New York

2005: Participant: “Glamour: Fashion, Film, Fantasy” Exhibit; The Museum at FIT, Fashion Institute of Technology, New York

2006: Participant: "She's a Rainbow" Exhibit; The Museum at FIT, Fashion Institute of Technology, New York

2006: Participant: "Skin + Bones: Parallel Practices In Fashion and Architecture"; The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles

2006: Participant: "Love & War" Exhibit; The Museum at FIT, Fashion Institute of Technology, New York

2006: Participant: "Design Life Now: National Design Triennial 2006"; The Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, New York

2007: Subject: "The Art of Weightlessness" Exhibit; The Museum at FIT, Fashion Institute of Technology, New York

2008: Subject: "Chado Ralph Rucci" Exhibit, The Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix, AZ

2009: Participant: "Medievalism: Fashion's Romance with the Middle Ages" Exhibit, The Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix, AZ

2009: Participant: "American Beauty" exhibit, The Museum at FIT, Fashion Institute of Technology, New York

2009: Participant: "Design USA: Contemporary Innovation" exhibit, The Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, New York

2012: Participant: "IMPACT: 50 Years of the CFDA" Exhibit, The Museum at FIT, New York

2012: Subject: "Ralph Rucci Evolved" Exhibit, The Museum at The Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah, Georgia

2012: Participant: "Fashion A to Z" Exhibit, The Museum at FIT, New York

2012: Participant: "The Little Black Dress" Exhibit, The Museum at The Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah, Georgia

2013: Participant: "Retrospective" Exhibit, The Museum at FIT, New York

2015: Participant: "Immortal Beauty" Exhibit, The Westphal College of Media Arts & Design, Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2017: Participant: "Shaping Fashion – Balenciaga" Exhibit, The Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK

FILMS Ralph Rucci: A Designer and His House", directed by David Boatman; 2006

"The Quiet American: Ralph Rucci & Paris", directed by Christian Leigh; 2012

BOOKS “Ralph Rucci: The Art of Weightlessness”, by Valerie Steele, Patricia Mears and Claire Sauro; Yale University Press, 2007

“Autobiography of a Fashion Designer: Ralph Rucci”, photographs by Baldomero Fernandez and text by Matthew Egan; Bauer and Dean Publishers, 2011

ART EXHIBITIONS 2005: Serge Sorokko Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2006: Chinese Porcelain Gallery, New York, NY

2007: Serge Sorokko Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2010: Onishi Gallery, New York, NY

2012: Serge Sorokko Gallery, San Francisco, CA