

CAROLINE CHARLES

LONDON

SINCE 1963

Caroline Charles is one of London's most respected womenswear designers. She has developed her business over the past four decades and the label is sold and marketed throughout the world.

2000's

- Awarded an OBE for services to the British fashion industry during the company's 40th year in business. V&A celebration and award from British Fashion Council
- Opened own shops in Harrogate, Richmond, Wilmslow, Guildford, Tunbridge Wells, Cheltenham & Exeter
- Expanded concessions in Harrods, Harvey Nichols and Selfridges
- The Studio Collection was launched. The collection is inspired by antique textiles and is pure luxury

1990's

- Opened a store in Japan under license plus wholesale concessions. The British Embassy in Tokyo hosted Caroline Charles fashion show. Tony Blair visited the main store for a photo call
- Concessions opened in Selfridges and Harvey Nichols
- Designed the official scarf to mark the fortieth anniversary of the accession of HM The Queen
- Dressed Emma Thompson for the Oscars, where she won the award for Best Actress
- Transformed a 7 storey London house into a new store in Bond Street
- Expanded with a working woman collection 1980's
- Worked with major Japanese clothing, accessories and textile companies
- Began a licensing programme, working with Charnos and Aristoc. Undertook a special project with Burberry
- Diana, Princess of Wales, Jerry Hall and Liza Minelli became clients
- Launched a bedlinen collection under licence and added other home products
- Designed a range of men's ties, now collectors' items. The V&A hold several pieces from the Caroline Charles womens collection and have added the ties to their archives in Knightsbridge
- Moved into 56/57 Beauchamp Place, the current flagship store and corporate headquarters
- Designed collections for BBC Weekend Wardrobe TV series and book

1970's

- Marketed collection in the Middle East, Europe and the USA
- First Caroline Charles retail outlet opened in Beauchamp Place London
- Joined the committee of the British Colour and Textile Group, representing the UK at International colour trend meetings
- Designed workwear for Boots the Chemist, Habitat, Estee Lauder and Jaguar
- Opened a store in Beverly Hills, Los Angeles
- Travelled extensively as a consultant to tannery and textile companies in Italy and India
- Took on design consultancy for Marks & Spencer which continued for the next two decades

1960's

- Dressed LuLu, Marianne Faithful, Barbara Streisand, Dionne Warwick, Mick Jagger, Ringo Starr and Rudolph Nuryev, Madame Pompidou, Queen Muna of Jordan
- Weekly slot reporting fashion on BBC Radio's show Teen Scene
- Guest on Juke Box Jury and many other TV shows in the UK and the US
- Designed a new young range for Miss Selfridges
- Collection sold by the trend setting boutiques in Britain & Paris and in the major fashion store groups in the USA, Europe and Australia. Toured USA putting on Fashion and Pop shows in 36 cities
- Received awards recognising her achievements as a young designer and travelled widely in promoting her collection
- Collaborated on the Yardley London campaign dressing Jean Shrimpton

For forty years, Caroline Charles has been a pioneer of British fashion and remains one of the leading design companies in the UK today.