

BIBHU
मोहापात्रा



Biography

Growing up with his family in Odisha, on the East Coast of India, Bibhu Mohapatra's appreciation for sumptuous Indian fabrics and vibrant colors began at an early age. This initial exposure to textiles and garment construction still inspires Bibhu's designs and permeates throughout the collections of his namesake label.

Bibhu moved to America in 1996, and after graduating from Utah State University with a Masters degree in Economics, moved to New York City in 1999 where he then enrolled at the Fashion Institute of Technology. While working on his design degree, Bibhu honed his skills as an assistant designer at the iconic American fashion label, Halston.

In his senior year at FIT, Bibhu was commended for his design skill and aesthetic and awarded the prestigious Critic's Award for Best Evening Wear Designer. This recognition helped launch his career. After graduating, Bibhu was hired by Gilles Mendel, CEO of the iconic French furrier J. Mendel.

Bibhu held the position of Design Director at the label for nine years, where his innate talent and sense of style were revealed in the cutting edge designs of glamorous gowns and magnificently opulent furs. Responding to the rapidly increasing demand for his work however, Bibhu moved out on his own and began designing custom couture evening gowns, cocktail dresses and furs for a select group of private clients in New York, Europe and India.

The Collection

Bibhu's eponymous label, Bibhu Mohapatra, launched its first collection during New York Fashion week in 2009. Since then, the fashion house is currently being sold at Bergdorf Goodman, Neiman Marcus, Lane Crawford and select specialty boutiques across North America, Europe, Russia and the Middle East. To date, celebrities such as Hilary Swank, Gwyneth Paltrow, Glenn Close, Jennifer Lopez, Ciara, Rita Ora and Lupita Nyong'o have all worn Bibhu's designs and recently he has had the honor of dressing the US First Lady, Michelle Obama upon her arrival to India. This will be the third time the First Lady has worn a Bibhu original.

In January 2010, Bibhu was a finalist in the Women's Apparel 2010 Rising Star Award presented by the Fashion Group International. In May 2010 he received the Young Innovator Award from the National Arts Club, and in June 2010 he became a member of the Council of Fashion Designers of America. In January 2011, Bibhu received the Ecco Domani Fashion Foundation Award.

In 2011 Bibhu was invited by the hon. CM, to join the Odisha Design Reference project, an initiative managed by Rta Kapur. Bibhu designed 35 saris, to be produced in cotton, silk and cotton silk blend options in the weavers communities of Bargarh, Nuapatna, and Barpali. These designs became extremely popular and 9 years later those designs are still in demand and being produced. Bibhu Mohapatra signed his first licensing deal in 2014 for namesake fur collection with BC International. The collection is currently sold at Saks Fifth Avenue. In 2016 Bibhu launched his first ever fine jewelry collection, ARTEMIS, in collaboration with De Beers.





Bibhu Mohapatra x BC International

In 2014, Bibhu Mohapatra signed his first licensing deal with BC International, one of the most respectable and recognized fur manufacturers in North America. Since the launch of the collection it has been featured in many of today's top national and international long lead magazine and is currently being sold at 30 different Saks Fifth Avenue stores through out the United States.





Bibhu Mohapatra x De Beers

For Bibhu Mohapatra's first ever fine jewelry line, he was inspired by the timeless brilliance of the Universe and the force of the Sun, Moon and Stars in creating balance in our lives. With that The Artemis Collection was born.

The Artemis Collection, in partnership with De Beers and Forevermark India, made its debut during NYFW in September 2016.

Sashi by Bibhu

Sashi by Bibhu debuted in February 2018 at NYFW as a sister brand to Bibhu's namesake label.

He introduces Sashi as a collection that offers transitional dresses, outerwear, along with sporty separates at introductory price points. The collection presents signature separates that the Bibhu woman needs through out the day but at a price point that welcomes a new generation of customers to the collection.

"My mother played an integral part in my path to fashion, art and design. She has always been inspiration to me, from a young age she would always express to me the importance of expressing ones true self. She would always tell me "Your individuality is the key to you success. Make sure you express yourself in your own way." Till this day I walk my path with that quote heavy in my heart, as I know it is a constant reminder to be true not only to myself but to the women that I design for. When it came time to name my diffusion line, it was with pride I wanted to name it after my mother, Sashi."



Sashi by Bibhu

Elle India sits down with Bibhu Mohapatra to discuss his secondary line, *Sashi by Bibhu* in the June 2018 Issue.



Celebrity / VIP



Former First Lady Michelle Obama

Celebrity / VIP



Tonya Lewis Lee



Janet Mock



Sara Ali Khan

Celebrity / VIP



Allison Janney



Lupita Nyong'o



Celine Dion



Ilana Glazer



Letitia Wright



Mary J Blige

Celebrity / VIP



Frieda Pinto



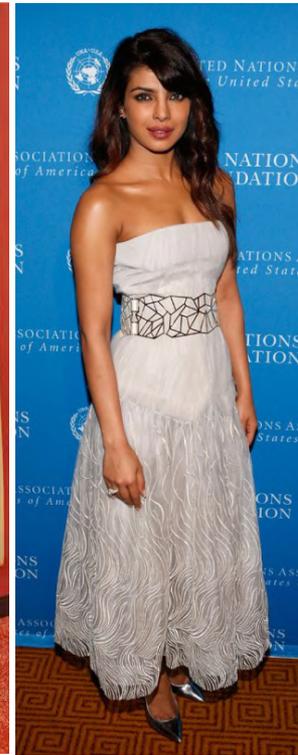
Kaley Cuoco



Kareena Kapoor



Jennifer Lopez



Priyanka Chopra



Jane Krakowski

Celebrity / VIP



Deepika Padukone



Yara Shahidi



Cobie Smulders



Sonam Kapoor



Lea Michele



Viola Davis

Editorial - Covers



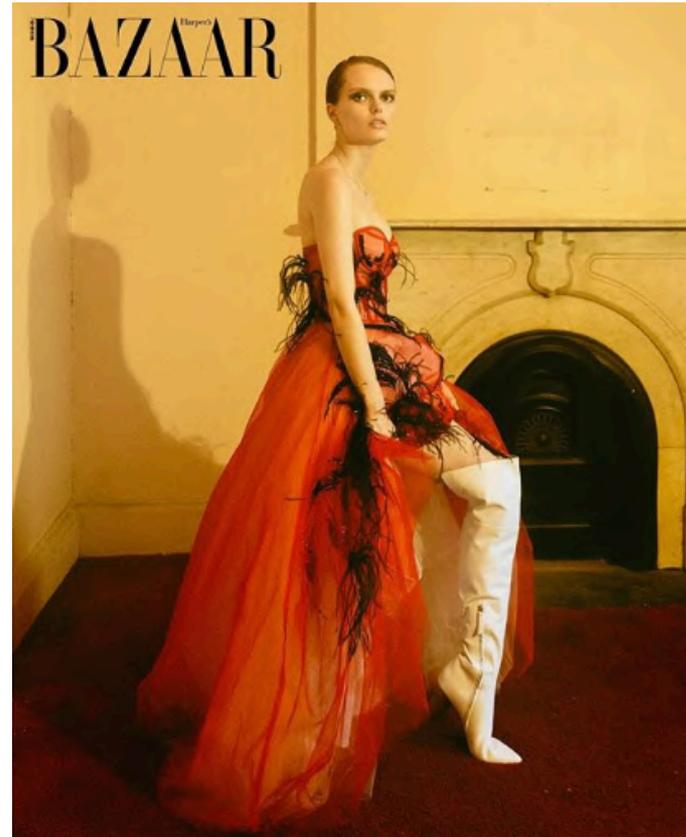
Editorial - Covers



Editorial



Vogue India



Harper's Bazaar Hong Kong

Editorial



L'Officiel India



O Magazine



Martha Stewart Weddings



Grazia



L'Officiel India



LaPalme Magazine

Editorial



Washington Bride + Groom



Elle Indonesia



Essence Magazine



La Palme Magazine



Vogue India

Editorial

VOGUE INDIA



So the way it's conceived, designed and constructed is different.

How will Bibhu Bridal be similar to, or different from, your main line?

The DNA of my work will be the same—modern, cool, sumptuous, beautifully crafted. Old-world techniques cast in modern silhouettes. I love that juxtaposition. For a bridal ensemble, you have to remember that the focus is going to be on the bride from all angles—so you have to consider the 360-degree view while designing. And of course, it has to be beautiful, unique and true to her style.

Brides are notoriously fussy, and rightly so. How have you accounted for the different tastes and styles of the modern bride?

The bridal line is an extension of the Bibhu brand. I know who the Bibhu woman is but at the same time I have to make sure I cater to different tastes, price points and body types to be inclusive. I've worked with a range of silhouettes—from column to asymmetrical to tailored to flowing. There are short versions, there are even wedding separates. Imagine getting married in a beautiful ivory pantsuit with feather details. I think it's very cool and modern.

What was on your mood board through the design process?

I love looking at different wedding rituals and cultures for inspiration. They're all different and unique but you can find commonalities in all—at the end of the day, it's about love, affection and commitment, regardless of where in the world you're getting married or what culture you belong to.



Bibhu Mohapatra

▶ BIBHU MOHAPATRA

What prompted the decision to launch a bridal line?

Bibhu Mohapatra: It was always a part of my long-term goals but I was just taking my time with it. I've designed bridal gowns for friends and family over the years but as an official line I wanted to do it in a measured way. I wanted to figure out the longevity of a bridal dress... what allows it to live beyond a time and season? It's not supposed to be "trendy."

Who is the Bibhu bride?

A young bride who comes to us is just at the start of becoming a Bibhu client; this is the first chapter in her story. She's well travelled, has seen the world, she enjoys well-crafted clothing for something that will last a lifetime. ■ Bibhu.com

Vogue India sits down with Bibhu Mohapatra to discuss his new bridal couture line in the November 2016 issue.





BIBHU MOHAPATRA ODISHA HANDLOOM
AT THE 2018 MAKE IN ODISHA CONCLAVE



MINIATURE PASAPALLI DRESS BY BIBHU MOHAPATRA SPRING 17 COLLECTION

RESUME

BIBHU
MOHAPATRA

Bibhu Mohapatra
CEO/Creative Director
Fall 2008 to Present

J. Mendel Ltd.
Design Director
Fall 1998 to Fall 2007

- Develops concept and theme for the collections
- Designs the couture and ready to wear collections
- Designs the accessory and hand bag line.
- Leads the design team-Designs development
- Product identity
- Introduced a hip young look to the well established fur line

HALSTON Signature Inc., NYC
Assistant Designer
Winter 1996

- Sketched collections
- Designed details
- Designed and illustrated embroidery layouts
- Fabric sourcing and trim development

Jill Stuart, NYC,
Design Intern
Summer 1996

- Prepared presentation boards
- Illustrated designs
- Spec'd flats and maintained inventories

Department of Theater Arts,
Utah State University, Utah
Costume Designer
Winter 1995

- Designed and constructed costumes & for various plays and musicals

Education

Fall 1998
Fashion Institute of Technology, State University of New York
Bachelor's Degree, Fashion Design
Evening wear Specialization
Critic's Award, F.I.T.

Winter 1995
Utah State University, Logan Utah
Master of Science, Economics

Winter 1994
Rourkela Institute of Management, Rourkela, India
Master of Science, Human Resources Management