OMG FASHUN

DESIREE SCARBOROUGH

25
Brooklyn, NY
HT: Brooklyn, NY
Handbag Designer / Artist
Single / No Kids
She/Her

@desireescarborough *(2.2K followers)*

About

Desiree Scarborough is a Brooklyn-born designer and FIT/Parsons-trained "renaissance woman." Her "wearable art" creations include cardboard and paper headpieces, gowns, and ready-to-wear pieces crafted from recycled denim, plastic, and vinyl. She specializes in sourcing materials specifically from the streets of her hometown.

Story

- Desiree's Brooklyn roots run deep – in fact, she still lives with her family in the same Brownstone that her grandparents purchased and renovated back in the 1960s. Prior to diving into the world of fashion, Desiree studied ballet and modern dance, then moved on to keyboard and violin, as well as painting and drawing. As an only child, she always made the time for creative self-exploration. She was first introduced to Alexander McQueen back in middle school and was immediately inspired by his use of unique materials (and the stories he told with his pieces).
- She began taking classes at FIT and Parsons during summer breaks, just so she could learn the basics of sewing and pattern-making. She then practiced on her own for many years, creating pieces that would become part of her college portfolio to apply to the Apparel Design program at RISD.
- In 2020, Desiree launched her brand, aptly titled, "Desiree Scarborough." With a focus on wearable art, Desiree sought to make everyday pieces more exciting through colors, textures, and patterns. Her brand was launched out of necessity – it was during the pandemic and she had just graduated from school. Since then, Desiree has been recognized in *VOGUE* as one of "Six Designers to Watch from RISD's Class of 2020."
- As someone who loves to push boundaries, Desiree is inspired by Colm Dillane, Gabriella Karefa Johnson, and Aurora James, among other designers. Many of her pieces derive inspiration from growing up in Brooklyn – whether it's commentary on Black Lives Matter protests, police brutality, or simply just harkening back to the "golden era" of 1990s hip-hop. When she's not designing in her studio, she works a 9-5 as a handbag designer for another company.
- Overall, Desiree would love to be able to afford her own studio space, so that she can move her operation out of her mom's living room. She would love to be recognized as a serious designer, as she knows many interesting smaller brands out there are often overshadowed by the major fashion houses.

Benjamin Moore paint swatches

Fabric scraps folded and sewn together

Silk-screened recycled vinyl sandwich board