



OMG

FASHUN

THEO BANZON

34

Astoria, NY

HT: Los Angeles, CA

Designer / Founder

Single / No Kids

He/Him

 @theobot

About

Theo Banzon is a self-taught designer hailing from Los Angeles and now living in New York. Growing up, he was always larger in stature than other kids... and because of his size (and due to family financial struggles), he had a very hard time finding cool clothes to fit in with. Eventually, he figured out that he could make his own clothes – and his confidence only grew from there. Now, Theo is all about future fashion – that is, fashion which moves society and culture forward. With his focus on size inclusivity, he wants everyone to feel like a model in his pieces.

Story

- > Theo comes from Filipino roots – both his parents are immigrants from the Philippines. As a kid, Theo struggled with his size. With his large stature, he often found it difficult to find cool clothes to wear... and he longed to fit in with the other kids in school. Eventually, Theo started making his own clothes out of necessity, considering his family didn't have the money to buy him what he wanted. His mom has always been his biggest supporter – and Theo admires her for how much she has sacrificed over the years, just to provide for the family.
- > Theo's mom actually taught him to sew, which planted the seeds for his eventual fashion design career. In Filipino culture, there's a word "Sayang" which means "What a waste." It's a term that ultimately inspired Theo's pursuit – he aspired to make clothes that fit his creative vision, while simultaneously being sustainable and never wasting any materials in the process.
- > These days, Theo's brand doesn't exclude anyone – he caters to all types, shapes, and sizes. From plus-sized models to feminine guys, Theo loves to give his clients avant-garde – yet comfortable – pieces that stand the test of time.
- > Theo loves breathing new life into old pieces. He recently made a full collection out of upcycled cargo pants, a gown out of thrown-out folders, and a top with fridge-packing foam (to mimic a cloud). In fact, Theo even shops at Home Depot for unconventional materials and hardware.
- > Ultimately, Theo has come this far in his life, yet obstacles keep being thrown his way. During the pandemic, Theo's mom got sick, so he had to drop everything to take care of her and nurse her back to health. Additionally, he lost his corporate job at Calvin Klein after working there for 11 years. Despite these setbacks, Theo has persevered through it all and is setting his sights on eventual fashion industry success. In the end, he hopes to pay his mom back for everything she has done for him.



Paper dress



Synthetic hair



Upcycled ring top