

BIOGRAPHY

HELMUT LANG

1956 Born in Vienna.

1977–1984 Develops signature collections and made-to-measure service in Vienna.

1986 Presents first HELMUT LANG COLLECTION in Paris, *L'APOCALYPSE JOYEUSE*, at the Centre national d'art et de culture Georges Pompidou.

1987 Presents first menswear collection together with women's collection.

1988 Introduces *SÉANCE DE TRAVAIL* as a new concept for the fashion show format, eliminating the classical runway stage.

1990 Introduces HELMUT LANG FOOTWEAR.

1993–1996 Granted Professorship of Fashion Design at the University of Applied Arts Vienna.

1993–2005 Collaborates with Juergen Teller on the HELMUT LANG BACKSTAGE SERIES.

1995 Introduces HELMUT LANG UNDERWEAR.

1995–2005 Opens stores in New York, Paris, Milan, Vienna, Munich, Tokyo, Kobe, Singapore, and Hong Kong, as well as store-in-stores worldwide.

1996 Introduces HELMUT LANG JEANS.

Presents artistic collaboration with Jenny Holzer, *I SMELL YOU ON MY CLOTHES*, at the Florence Biennale.

Begins various collaborations with Jenny Holzer.

Receives *CFDA: Best International Designer of the Year Award*.

1997 Receives *VH1 Vogue: Best Menswear Designer of the Year Award*.

Receives *City of Vienna Prize for Fine Arts*.

Introduces ACCESSOIRES VÊTEMENTS.

Begins various collaborations with Louise Bourgeois.

Opens prototypical flagship store in New York City.

1997–2000 Collaborates with Robert Mapplethorpe Foundation.

1997–2004 Presents advertisements on New York taxi tops as the first fashion house to do so.

1998	Receives <i>Pitti Immagine: Best Designer of the Nineties Award</i> . Receives <i>I.D. Magazine: Design Distinction Award</i> alongside Richard Gluckman. Relocates HELMUT LANG headquarters from Vienna to New York, marking the first transcontinental move by a European fashion house. Launches WWW.HELMLANGNY.COM . Presents SÉANCE DE TRAVAIL A/W 98–99 over the internet, marking the first ever internet-based fashion show. Introduces HELMUT LANG EYEWEAR. Presents artwork in the exhibition <i>LOUISE BOURGEOIS / JENNY HOLZER / HELMUT LANG</i> at the Kunsthalle Wien. Presents SÉANCE DE TRAVAIL S/S 99 ahead of the European schedule in September, causing the entire fashion calendar to shift for good.
1999	Receives <i>Business Week/Architectural Record Award</i> alongside Richard Gluckman. Introduces HELMUT LANG LUXURY BAGS, SHOES, AND ACCESSORIES. HELMUT LANG goes into partnership with The Prada Group. Advertises in <i>National Geographic</i> as first fashion house to do so in the publication.
2000	Receives <i>The American Institute of Architects New York Chapter: Honor Award for Interior Architecture</i> alongside Richard Gluckman. Receives <i>CFDA: Best Menswear Designer of the Year Award</i> . Inducted into the <i>Council of Fashion Designers of America (CFDA)</i> . Consolidates all product lines under the HELMUT LANG main label, following the philosophy that “everything is equally important.” Introduces HELMUT LANG parfums. Opens HELMUT LANG Parfumerie in New York.
2001	Launches HELMUT LANG fragrances for men and women. Presents SÉANCE DE TRAVAIL S/S 02 over the internet, following the events of September 11.

2002 Launches HELMUT LANG CUIRON fragrance.
 Opens made-to-measure studio in New York City.
 Moves collection presentations back to Paris.

2004 Receives *Fashion Group International: The Imagineers of Our Time Award*.
 Receives *GQ: Designer of the Year Award*.
 The PRADA GROUP acquires the HELMUT LANG brand.

2005 Departs from namesake brand to focus on his art practice.

2009 Receives *Austrian Honorary Medal for Arts and Sciences*.

2009–2010 Donates runway silhouettes to Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Paris; Palais Galliera, Paris; Kyoto Costume Institute, Kyoto; The Costume Institute, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; The Museum at FIT, New York; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles; MoMu – Fashion Museum, Antwerp; Victoria and Albert Museum, London; Fashion Museum Bath, Bath; Nasjonalmuseet, Oslo; Groninger Museum, Groningen; Grand Duke Jean Museum of Modern Art, Luxembourg; and Deste Foundation for Contemporary Art, Athens, among others.

2011 Donates contents of the HELMUT LANG ARCHIVE to the MAK Vienna, documenting the evolution of the original HELMUT LANG label between 1986 and 2005 within the larger framework of his holistic and interdisciplinary vision.

Helmut Lang lives and works in New York City and on Long Island.