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STREET STYLE - VINTAGE

Denim Dudes

WORKWEAR - OBSESSION

AMY LEVERTON

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DONWAN HARRELL

Founder of PRPS, New York

Shot in New Jersey

'The jean jacket is an original vintage Levi's Type 1 jacket from the late '40s. I love the hand-threading repair, mix of panelled denim, the patina on the hardware and the natural colour of the worn denim. It's the best. The military jacket is a vintage '60s Vietnam permeable A-2 cold weather field

jacket. It belonged to a friend of mine who wore it in the war.

'The jean was a limited-edition collaboration with one of the blogs I frequent: Selvedge Yard. Only 50 were made. We thought it would be cool to come up with a giveaway jean to celebrate the coming together of both companies, but it turned into a three-way official effort with Triumph Motorcycles. We printed the bike on the inside pocket bags, and the gas-tank icon as the stitch on the back pocket. It's my personal favourite rope-dyed, Japanese selvedge jean.'

GREG CHAPMAN

Creative director of Gentry

Shot in Brooklyn, New York

"I've been breaking in selvage raw denim for over 20 years – ever since I came across a pair of 50s deadstock Levi's from a vintage store in San Francisco back in '91. I had owned a few pairs of vintage Levi's but never deadstock. The guy I bought them from told me to wash once and never wash again. It got a little stressful with all the crocking, but I would go back to them again and again as they were so comfortable. Over the years, I did wash them

a few times when they got totally minging, but the end results were insane. I started to notice the highs and lows – and the fading, it really intrigued me!

"I never found another pair like that, but when Levi's launched Levi's Vintage Clothing, I bought every piece in my style and started the process again, and have been doing so ever since.

"The jacket I'm wearing was a gift from the guys at Post Overalls that I've had for around 12 years. It's one of my favourite jackets. The vest is an old RRL piece in pure indigo with a Wabash stripe. The jeans are from Mister Freedom. I love them – I love the fit, the 14-oz denim and the styling."



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SIDEWALK
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KEN ITO

CEO of a SF Bay Area assisted-living facility

Shot at the Inspiration LA show, Long Beach

'I used to work for a big farm-export company who compressed big 150-lb bales of hay. I used to load the bails on and off the truck and this is the denim apron I wore while doing that. All the wear you see on it is from that time. I'm not in that business anymore, but I have kept it all this time and wear it for purist denim occasions like these.'

'The jeans are pretty special too. My friend Jonathan runs the Bandanna Almanac website; he was at the Kapital Century Denim release night, and got a pair for me. They were actually customized by the president of Kapital, so they are a particularly rare jean.'





HAKIM KRIM

Guitarist and singer of Dead Lord

Shot in Stockholm

'Being a semi-broke rocker, Cheap Monday jeans are a lifesaver. They look good and are dirt cheap to get here in Stockholm.

'These are probably my favourites. I think I even got them at an employee's discount when I worked some extra hours at a jeans store. They've been patched up way too many times. I've worn them on loads of gigs, slept in them, and spilled lots of beer and whatnot on them. And of course I've never washed them, apart from hosing them off whenever they got too smelly. However, at the time of writing, they are unfortunately dead. They split mid-crotch while doing some power knee-slides in Helsinki. But I'm keeping them for patching future ones.

'The jacket is an old 1960s Wrangler that I got on eBay. It's way too small for me to be able to button it up, but too-small denim jackets look way better unbuttoned.'





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FRANÇOIS GIRBAUD

Designer

Shot in Paris

'Jeanswear doesn't have to mean indigo or a workwear attitude, which was the case when the garment had to adapt to the lifestyle of the wearer. For instance, I don't wear cowboy or work boots anymore since there are no longer cacti in the city!

'I am not especially drawn to animals and yet I have observed cattle over a long time and am intrigued and inspired by them. So the pants I am wearing are inspired by the way the hoof and leg are attached.

'They are made in a multiweave fabric that delineates areas without having to make any unnecessary cuts. The trainer and pant leg are united in the ankle hole, emphasizing ankle signage, which has been somewhat forgotten these days as jeans are too often rolled up.

'My Dior redingote looks very OK Corral with my feathered scarf. I haven't climbed high enough to sport an eagle on my big head yet...'

OLAF HUSSEIN

Founder of Olaf Hussein

Shot in Amsterdam

The long wool coat I'm wearing is a clean, simple and elegant coat that suits any style and almost every occasion. I like to style it with my vintage Levi's jacket that I bought last month at Spitalfields Market in London. It's in a beautiful washed-out shade with frayed collar and small holes forming from natural wear. The jeans I'm wearing are my signature denim jeans, made from 13 oz. sanforized selvage denim that's been dyed with natural indigo and sourced from the Kuroki mill in Okayama, Japan. I have been wearing this pair for about 10 months straight with only one wash, and I just love the strong fading, wear patterns and patina. The hand-painted sneakers are a collaboration between Converse and Margiela. The idea of the paint is that it will eventually wear off, creating a unique patina on the shoe: very cool. I just love wearing classic garments with a clean modern design that are easy to combine and long lasting in both style and quality. I am a big believer in buying good things, and owning them a long time!



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PIERO TURK

Denim designer

Shot in Milan

'When I was a teenager I really loved the outfits of Chinese people during the Mao period: simple, clean and smart. I also loved the outfits of European workers: blue, strong, simple, with

a strong sense of dignity. I think it's probably the smartest look you can find around. And these workers, in Europe, Asia or the US, wearing denims or solid blue garments, were the men who built up our countries, our rights and our democracies - working and fighting hard for their lives but for our freedom as well.

'So my outfit is a tribute to these men and women, a tribute to simple things. A tribute to blue, the colour of workers.'



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DANIEL VERGÉS

Creative director & co owner at Slowartworks

Shot in Barcelona

Since I was a child there has always been a lot of music in my house. My parents and brothers have always been music lovers. And even though we like different styles, American roots music was always there: rockabilly, blues, country ... That brought me to this style and

to a certain way of doing things. I'm a graphic designer and my work is also very influenced by it, the way I approach work from a very organic point of view, giving the maximum importance to the process. I'd say this way of thinking brought me to the world of denim. I'm in love with my Companion jeans, made here in Barcelona by a very talented craftsman, I'm also wearing Edwin, another favourite brand that is finally available here in Barcelona. I also love Levi's Made & Crafted, Red Wing boots and Brixton hats; they have really cool fits.



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SHUNJI OHASHI

Denim designer at Kapital

Shot in Tokyo

'I like to eat lunch in the canteen at Kapital's main factory every day, where the president, the craftsmen and the seamstresses all eat as well. When I get there, there's always a mountain of shoes by the door: we have to take them off before going into the building, as is Japanese etiquette. I have a habit of tidying them up and putting them neatly in pairs.'

'One day, Kondo-san, one of the old artisans, spoke to me. "It's you," he said. "I always wondered who was tidying our shoes for us. Thank you." A few months later, he asked me, "Do you want my old apron? It's pretty beaten up, so either you take it or I'm going to throw it away."

Of course I said I wanted it. I've worn it ever since. It feels like it has a soul - like he gave me a piece of himself. I'd like to leave a piece of myself in all the clothes that I design, too.'





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ANDY PALTOS

Head menswear designer for Threebyone and co-founder of Rolla's, Melbourne

Shot in Collingwood, Melbourne

'Denim and cars have played a huge part in my life. In my late teens 1960s classic cars became an obsession, which led to vintage denim. I loved the look of the vintage denim I found, but the fit was never quite right, which was what got me started on customization. I started adding darts, patching, running the legs in, bleaching, painting them with house paint, etc., which eventually led me to spending the last ten years or so designing for denim brands.'

'In this photo I am wearing some vintage jeans I customized back when I first started getting into denim. The jacket is from the '50s. I bought it about ten years ago from a girl in Kansas whose father had just passed. He literally spent his life working in denim: I ended up buying his whole wardrobe! The vest I bought from an old biker in Pasadena who used to be part of the original road crew for Black Sabbath through the '70s and '80s, so it's a special piece.'