

International designer Kambriel

You've just won our End of year poll were you surprised to win it?

It was a lovely surprise, and I truly appreciate the readers of Alt Fashion not only for their votes, but for the support of those who've been familiar with my work through the years, and for the new interest of those who may have been freshly exposed to it via your lovely interview! With such talented fellow nominees ~ each with a unique vision all their own, it was a real honour to be included amongst them.

How has 2010 been for Kambriel?

2010 was a whirlwind year, starting off on New Year's Eve in Boston with Amanda Palmer wearing my Stormy Weather flapper inspired dress and soon afterwards wearing a silk brocade version of my Midnight Bustle to the Golden Globes afterparties in LA where she was accompanied by her fiancé (now husband) Neil Gaiman who wore his custom Kambriel Frock Coat and matching Waistcoat to the Oscars.

On the whimsical side, Evelyn Evelyn performed in both the US and overseas in the conjoined bustle outfits I designed for them, we did various desert, fairytale and Alice in Wonderland themed photoshoots with new designs, and the year ended with a fantastical Kambriel fashion show at the Steamcon festival in Seattle, WA.

What new designs and collections can we expect to see this year?

I've been doing a lot of work combining both modern and antique elements, making the most of the strength and innovation of newer fabrics and the sentimentality of those from a bygone era ~ joining them into something completely new, and often one of a kind.

Do you have any favourite amongst the past & present designs in Kambriel's catalogue?

A couple of my newest favourites are the Eleanor Jacket with its fit and flare design and abundantly decadent Fortuny pleated sleeves, and the Femininja Cowl, with its plethora of sheer black mesh ruffles and mysterious hooded design. For men, I love the Bastian Shirt with its thrice buttoned cuffs and high neck, and the past designs? Those are all close to my heart... The Dracula Bride Gown was one of the first, and yet still, it keeps showing new personality depending on what colours it's made in and how it's styled, as though it takes on something of the personality of the wearer and the atmosphere of the situation.

What are the plans for Kambriel throughout 2011?

If this year is anything like last momentum-wise, goodness knows... To begin with, I've been commissioned to design more pieces for Neil Gaiman, and am currently working on some new creations to be photographed beneath the ghostly and monumental Spanish moss-draped ancient oak trees of Savannah. Beyond that, we shall just have to see what surprises are in store!

www.kambriel.com