

Dark Runway

The elegant fashions of **Kambriel**

Interview by **Corvis Nocturnum**



Emma Gown with deeply flared chiffon sleeves in crimson red. Photo of Kambriel taken by Curse.

www.Kambriel.com
Clothing & Accessories for Femme Fatales &
Decadent Gentlemen

Ninth Gate: "How has the early years of "Goth" altered its style compared to today's fashion in the scene?"

Kambriel: "My first experience with what became known as the gothic scene had a style that relied more upon losing yourself than showing yourself. Clothes were long and flowing, shapes were shadowed, oftentimes it was only the hands and face that were exposed. Over the years, the style metamorphosed into something more showy and close to the form ~ fitted corsets took the place of oversized tops, and vivid colours began creeping into a world of black."

Ninth Gate: "Do trends ever play a part in your concepts, or customer feedback for new items?"

Kambriel: "I've never been concerned about paying attention to trends, and have always designed from a place of my own sense of personal inspiration. Customer feedback is welcomed, especially when it comes to someone wanting a custom design made for themselves, but for my own offerings I tend to follow a more solitary path. I design from a place of idealized timelessness, so I strive to only unveil designs which will look as naturally elegant tomorrow as they will today."

Ninth Gate: "How did growing up in Salem influence your youth, your fashions? I understand you frequented the clubs before it was a huge subculture across America."

Kambriel: "Actually, my youth was spent in other areas around the country ~ North, South, East, and

West. It was after living in these other areas that there developed a draw to be in a place like Salem with its rich and layered history, a learned atmosphere of acceptance, and sense of being surrounded by the haunted air of centuries gone by.

As for clubs, I started going to those in the mid-eighties. They became a second home; a place where I could find members of a tribe that I felt a deeper connection with. It was like entering a nocturnal dream-world that existed just below the surface and just out of reach of a more garish world outside."



Medea Tunic with contrasting center panel and dagger mesh sleeves.

Photo of Wednesday Mourning taken by Rebekah



Autumn Leaves Jacket custom made for Monica Richards with hundreds of multi-hued, applied "leaves" of silk chiffon floating amidst a solid silk background.

Ninth Gate: "You have done work for musicians and Shakespearean plays. Does the customer's occupation ever affect the design?"

Kambriel: "For custom designs like those I do for musicians or actors/actresses, the persona, vision, and feel they want to get across to their audience plays a very large role in what I create. It is important to me to come up with something that is individually inspired by the customer and I always immerse myself in their work, be it music, literature, etc... while creating something for them so it will be infused with their spirit in addition to my own."

Ninth Gate: "Kambriel's designs have caught the attention of Goth magazines, bands, and high profile customers. Are you satisfied with the success of the company, or do you feel you have yet more pinnacles to reach?"

Kambriel: "I am deeply appreciative of such positive recognition, but there is much more to do ~ so many visions to release from the inner world of my mind, to the outer world where others will be able to enjoy them too. For example, over the years I have developed a vast collection of exquisite, yet often unseen, fabrics and opulent embellishments

just awaiting their perfect use. I feel it's time they make more of an appearance in my offerings. This will bring about many new one of a kind pieces reflecting a spirit of luxurious exoticism with a couture flair."

Ninth Gate: "Thank you for your time. It was a pleasure, keep making beautiful ensembles!"

Kambriel: "Thank you very much for the honor of being in your premiere issue!"



Black swirling jacquard Dracula's Bride Gown.
Photo of Wednesday Mourning taken by Rebekah.



The ghostly Doppelganger Gown in ivory and black.
Photos of Tanya Bjork taken by Gene Johnson.



Classically designed full length Fitted Cassock.
Photo of Curse taken by Kambriel.



Shadow Puppets Jacket with Victorian modernist styling and ribbon accents.
Photo of Kambriel taken by Curse.