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Viv's Fur Refusal

Westwood goes pelt-free

Tuesday, October 03, 2006

(PARIS) Vivienne Westwood may not have set Leonard Peltier free just yet, but she has liberated herself from using fur in her collections.

The punk-rooted British designer announced today through The Humane Society of the United States that she will no longer use any fur in her future clothing lines. "It wasn't a hard decision to make," Westwood said backstage at her show this morning. "It's just what you should do." Beginning next season, Westwood won't source any fur from China, nor will she use rabbit, cat, or dog fur.

"We thank Vivienne Westwood for putting the compassion into fashion," said Michael Markarian, executive vice president for The Humane Society of the United States, in a statement. "She is not only a talented and respected leader, but is a legend in the fashion industry. We applaud Vivienne Westwood and the many other leading designers who have decided to go fur-free, recognizing that the animals need their fur much more than we do."

Best-known for designing clothes for the infamous Sex Pistols, Westwood remains a powerful voice in the industry 30 years later, and continues to break taboos with revolutionary looks for major labels. A human rights activist, Westwood regularly speaks out on political prisoners and sweatshop clothing manufacturers.



Vivienne Westwood © First View

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