

BLOG

Title: 10 Minutes With: Leonard Gorski

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Neiman Marcus: Gorski has evolved immensely in outerwear and fur fashion since its launch in 1984. Can you speak to the brand's success and growth over the past three decades?

Leonard Gorski: It is a fantastic journey working closely with Neiman Marcus, the finest group of specialty stores in the world, creating fashion furs and outerwear, for the most fabulous women in the world.

My collections are often born during my frequent store visits, interacting, observing and listening to special customers, is likely one of the key factors for our growth. We listen, which enables us to anticipate, interpret and create trends.

I am surrounded by some of the finest design, materials and technical collaborators in Italy and North America which enables us to create consistently evolving, cutting edge and successful collections.

Our collections evolved and are always modern, sexy, versatile adopting to our customer's lifestyle. We view our furs, cashmere and fur, après-ski as being integrated, completing a refined fashion look, whether day or evening, travel or leisure.

I listen, observe, then create - guided by the conviction that our customers deserve the best.



NM: Who is the ideal Gorski woman? What kind of social events does she attend, and how is she dressed when she arrives?

LG: She is a savvy and discerning shopper; at different stages, she leads a busy career, charitable and community involvement, supports the arts and committed to causes.

She travels often, including to her winter then summer homes. She is conscious of her well-being and appearance and her wardrobe reflects same.

She wears a fabulous dyed to match fur shrug over an elegant gown, a reversible to down navy sheared mink to work or shopping, a down jacket with sable vest over it for travel, and fabulous après-ski made in Italy with superb SAGA fox in Aspen, St Moritz or just a fall or spring weekend in the Hamptons.

She loves life. She feels great when she looks great.



NM: What new design concepts were incorporated into the Fall/Winter 2017 collection?

LG: Our customers love light weight effortless furs and fine outerwear. Versatility, easy shift from day to night, great for travel - and the reason why many of our customers who have a rich wardrobe will own a new Gorski fur this winter.

Our down-filled “puffer” collection, pairs a fabulous fur vest and puffer jacket with fur collar. You may decide to wear the set, or sport the vest or the puffer jacket separately, see it as a fabulous new way to wear a fur. Great for travel, evening or day wear.

Our fabulous reversible ultra-light sheared mink in fashion colors is not your “old grandma” furs but a fashion must. For the holidays and inauguration parties we have a huge revival of shrugs in fabulous chinchilla, sable, superb Zimbal mink, fox boas are super popular in dyed navy, wine or dyed colors to match your gown.



NM: Are there any new colors introduced in the collection that you're particularly excited about?

LG: We love shades of blue, purple berry and wine, and their play with blacks and browns. We love intarsia, color block designs, prints.



NM: Name one piece from your Fall/Winter 2017 collection that every woman should have in her closet.

LG: The down filled puffer with either sable vest ensemble or in mink.



As seen in the Neiman Marcus Holiday Book

NM: How excited are you for the upcoming holiday season, given that you have so many beautiful eveningwear items?

LG: The holidays are a fabulous time to accent your eveningwear, creating your unique signature look. Try on for color our fox boa and shrugs collection. Or pair your neutral designer dress with elegant jewelry and a colorful Gorski chinchilla, mink or fox shrug to make it fabulous.



NM: What is your favorite part about holiday dressing?

LG: The holidays: color, jewels, furs, champagne - time to slow down, think of others while accepting that you too should accept and reward yourself, allowing others to pamper you. Whether you are pairing a stunning evening gown, with a pair of designer pumps for a charity function, or wearing jeans and a cozy sweater, diamond earrings and red lip for dinner or a fab dress for family festivities – throw-on a fur or cashmere with fur trim for an “entrance” wherever you appear – your well-coordinated look will be noticed.



NM: How would you suggest styling one of your furs for a day-to-night holiday look?

LG: Our fox boas are a fabulous versatile look for lunch date, wrapped casually, like a scarf then open and drape over your shoulder for your evening affair - showing off a fabulous necklace or diamond chandelier earrings.



NM: Who is the most memorable person you dressed recently?

LG: I love our clients and will go to all ends to create a fantastic shopping experience.

I truly view each interaction, each order as memorable and important. At Neiman Marcus we cater and dress the most beautiful women in the world.

No request is ever too big or detailed – we strive to make each shopping experience a perfect journey – thus we often serve same customer often and again for joyful occasions.



NM: How are you planning to reinvent your designs for the Fall/Winter 2018 collection?

LG: The creative process is ongoing with some fantastic fashion-forward designs for Fall/Winter 2018 already arriving at Neiman Marcus.

My current visits to Neiman Marcus stores, meeting and working with customers is what inspires me in design the new collection: be it a tailored fine sable, a remarkable lynx, a plush chinchilla or my prized, sought after, ultra-light reversible mink short coats repertoire. It is always the special Neiman Marcus customer that I have in mind when creating each piece, to be effortlessly chic for that elegant evening, or smart day wear.

My mind is constantly inspired by listening to customer wants, world travels, and every day surroundings.

Visit the Neiman Marcus store or check out Gorski on www.NeimanMarcus.com