

My mother, the style icon

Time was, we'd go to any length to avoid dressing like Mum. Now it's something to aspire to. For Mother's Day, *Victoria Moss* celebrates fashion's ageless new approach – and *Ellen Burney* meets the women leading the way

PHOTOGRAPHY: TOBY COULSON

How times have changed. Where once a girl would roll her eyes at her mother's wardrobe, shuddering at the prospect of frumpy shoes and bad skirt lengths, now fashion is, thankfully, ageless.

This shift is something that luxury brands are starting to reflect; taking tentative steps to show the *real* demographic of its customers. Last year, Céline and Saint Laurent featured Joan Didion (81) and Joni Mitchell (72) respectively in their advertising campaigns. While this was successful for the stunt value, it did highlight how different generations of women are now being seen as aspirational and, quite simply, cool.

A year on, a middle ground has emerged: for its spring jewellery campaign, Calvin Klein pictured mother-daughter duo Lisa Bonet (48) and Zoë Kravitz (27), running joyously along the shore. Meanwhile, we've seen the resurgence of the

Below Lisa Bonet (left) and Zoë Kravitz for Calvin Klein. Right Instagram icon Natalie Massenet



original supermodels. Naomi Campbell (45), Cindy Crawford (50) and Claudia Schiffer (45) all star in the Balmain campaign; while Giorgio Armani unveiled his 'New Normal' collection on Yasmin Le Bon (51), Stella Tennant (45), Eva Herzigova (42) and Nadja Auermann (44). The rise of Instagram has made stars of Anna Dello Russo (53), Natalie Massenet (50) and Caroline de Maigret (41), none of whom conform to a traditional 'model' look. What they do have, though, is significant clout, respect and influence.

The fashion industry has been slow to reach this point – the logic of showing clothes bought by women in their financial prime on teenagers seems limited – but it has been, and still widely is, the standard. The reality, however? We now have a generation of women raised on those same supermodels, who are fiercely fashion literate and want more from their wardrobes.

Why shouldn't women of any age be charmed by the latest jean cut (a cropped flare, FYI), a glittery Gucci loafer or a dress by brand-du-jour Vetements? In fact, we'd argue that the older you get, the wiser your fashion choices are; less victim, more, 'me'. We know what works and what doesn't, what we feel comfortable in. And with the younger generation living under the pressure of an era of narcissism via selfie-assessment, perhaps it should fall to wisdom and experience to make the serious calls on the fashion industry.

Here, four sets of style-savvy mothers and daughters explain how they have shaped each other's look. If ever you needed proof that fashion is for all ages, surely this is it.

Sienna wears: Coat and overalls, both Carrier Company. Jumper, Gudrun & Gudrun. Sandals, Kurt Geiger. Tina wears: Coat, Carrier Company. Skirt and sandals, both Miami. Hair and make-up: Violet Zeng



SIENNA GUILLORY
40, actress

I've always loved that Mum looked more powerful than other mums; she had really toned arms from gardening, wild hair and an ear cuff. Everybody always looked at her a lot. They still do.

She is usually dressed in an ancient sailor's slop, 501s and DMs. She's much more adventurous with colour than me, and as a student she used to paint silk scarves and sell them. Mum wears more of the old family jewellery now; big diamonds look wicked on older skin.

I like to dress like a boy. I wear menswear but I'm quite feminine with it; I like the contrast. Mum designed me a pair of trousers I can wear every day. If there's something I keep stealing from her, like an old pair of shorts, we work on creating a more modern version of it.

Nothing gets thrown out; it gets mended till it's worn out, then makes its way into the dressing-up box. Then I know it's mine.

TINA GUILLORY
71, designer

Sienna and I have kind of morphed together style-wise. She has great ideas, and together we make what we need and wear it! When I need to dress up for an event, I'll raid her cupboards.

I wear what I feel like 'me' in, which are pieces from my workwear label, Carrier Company, as well as Dr Martens boots and long jumpers – probably not far off from my art-student days. It was the early 1960s then, so I wore beatnik attire: long black jumpers over short black skirts, black tights, flat shoes and lots of smudged eye make-up.

When Sien was small, there wasn't a lot of money for fancy brands. While her school friends were dressed in camel coats and white tights, she wore a blanket coat and striped tights, not always happily! Sometimes I recognise her clothes and I know she raids the dressing-up chest. We all do from time to time.

SIENNA'S WISH-LIST



Embroidered jeans, £168, Aries (ariesarise.com)

TINA'S WISH-LIST



Pocketed skirt, £92, Carrier Company (carriercompany.co.uk)



Silk-mix top, £285, Paper London (paperlondon.com)



Tweed trainers, £189, Diemme (diemmefootwear.com)

'My mum's clothes are the bomb'

BIP LING 25, musician and model

My mummy is the coolest. She had me while in her final year studying fashion at Central St Martins, so I've been around fashion since I was a baby. She used to wear this cool pink fluffy dress and was quite punky. She has absolutely influenced the way I dress. I look forward to mooching in a new look every day. We both love Prada and like to wear brights.

When I had a tomboy phase growing up, Mummy would always ask me to wear a dress for church on Sundays and I'd have a strop. She loves how I dress now, though. At Christmas she told me that she loved my white nails and I haven't changed the colour since.

The cashmere jumpers she designs are the bomb. I have this cool Veryta dress that she designed and then painted on. I don't know if she knows that I have it, actually...



'Whatever you do, you can do it stylishly'

TANYA LING 49, artist

I always told my children, 'Every day is a style day': whatever you do, you can do it stylishly. Bipasha took that and ran with it. She has always looked effortless in what she wears, and her hair is always very groomed and her make-up immaculate.

I found my signature scatty-elegant style in my 20s. It was quite art house, but not in-your-face. We share an ability to mish-mash colours together and both of us never say never.

When Bipasha was nine, I bought her a gorgeous gingham Cacharel shirt from New York; she didn't like it – you can't impose your world on others. However, she rediscovered it as a teenager and has now worn it to death. I also bought her a navy-blue Austrian boiled-wool jacket that she never wore. Then in her late teens, that was *the* jacket she never took off.

BIP'S WISH-LIST



Dotcom bag, £1,870, Fendi (fendi.com)



Wrap dress, £32, Topshop (topshop.com)

TANYA'S WISH-LIST



Embroidered linen shirt, £918, Vita Kin (matchesfashion.com)



Cashmere wrap, £670, Queene and Belle (queeneandbelle.com)

Bip wears: Top and culottes, both Sadie Williams. Shoes, Christian Louboutin. Tanya wears: Dress, Marni. Hair and make-up (this page and following pages): Madeline Scantlebury and Samantha Cooper at Carol Hayes Management using Bumble and Bumble and Nars

'Hand-me-downs are gladly accepted'

KITTY HADAWAY 23, student

I don't think my mother's career as a fashion editor has influenced the way I dress. There's only been two times when she has taken complete control of my outfit: my school leavers' dinner (a black lace dress from French Connection) and my undergraduate graduation (a dress from Self-Portrait). She put a lot of thought into both outfits; I knew that I would look good.

Mother dresses on-trend, while never losing sight of her style. I don't follow trends – my usual style is jeans, T-shirts and trainers. Hand-me-downs are gladly accepted, though, and I'll make a piece more my style by introducing it into an otherwise very 'me' outfit.

Mum has no interest in borrowing my clothes, although I once noticed a necklace of mine had worked its way into her collection – possibly the highest praise one could receive.



'She likes a sexier look, I'm more androgynous'

LISA ARMSTRONG 54, Telegraph fashion director

I use my daughters as a yardstick as to how I *won't* dress any more. I don't want to be a sad old tribute act and if we like the same things, we wear them differently. Kitty has a black leather jacket; mine is a tan Marni one.

She's really honest with me. I will ask if something is 'a bit mutton'. No one else will tell me.

Kitty won't follow trends. I'm not a trend-chaser, but it's important for me to look as if my style is evolving. She likes a sexier look, whereas I'm more androgynous.

She has borrowed my Louboutins for about six months. Although I used to ban her as she trashed everything – and I don't think a Chanel handbag is right for a teenage girl.

But I think Kitty will end up dressing like me. She has been delving into my wardrobe more and wants my input. There's less of the curled lip and scorn.

Kitty wears: Top, Topshop; Jeans, m.i.h; Shoes, Manolo Blahnik. Lisa wears: Earrings, Plumo

KITTY'S WISH-LIST



Printed dress, £35.99, Mango
(shop.mango.com)



Suede pumps, £425,
Christian Louboutin
(net-a-porter.com)

LISA'S WISH-LIST



Silk-georgette dress, £425,
m.i.h jeans (mih-jeans.com)



Pink Tourmaline Double
Flower Earrings, £2,200,
Pippa Small (pippasmall.com)

'Boyfriends would ask why I didn't dress like Mum'

TAMARA CINCIK
46, fashion stylist

My mum was a rocker in the '60s. She had me when she was young and my boyfriends would ask why I didn't dress more like her. She had long dark hair and would wear Scholl sandals with flared jeans, white T-shirts and amazing make-up.

To rebel, I didn't wear make-up or jeans. My look is bohemian. I think my fascination with colour and texture comes from having a Turkish father. When I started styling, I used costumes from around the world.

Mum thought styling suited me as a career. I'd long worn vintage '60s dresses with Victoriana boots and dinner jackets, or '30s ballgowns with adidas Gazelles. But she didn't like my nose ring.

I have more expensive taste than her: she has worn the same grey skinny jeans for years. Her long white hair is a part of her look – I can't ever see her cutting it.



'My daughter gives me styling ideas I'd have never thought of'

MARILYN CINCIK
65, retired

Day-to-day, I wear jeans with plain T-shirts and a scarf. I remember trying to look like a beatnik and my mum knitted me a big, baggy red jumper. I also wore a red velvet Beatles cap and black socks with buttons up the sides. My mother was under instruction never to wash my Levi's – they'd been shrunk by my sitting in a very hot bath.

I realised Tamara would be different when we went down Watford High Street and her outfit included a pair of tights where one leg was black and the other fuchsia – she still has them.

I have some of her cast-offs: a leather jacket and a flare-skirted raincoat, and she gave me a classic Nicole Farhi shift dress. I wore it at Christmas with a Cacharel blouse underneath – something I'd never have thought to do until seeing Tamara in something similar. She has a knack!

Tamara wears: All vintage. Marilyn wears: Trainers; Zara. Styling: Ria Laskaris. With thanks to Matches Townhouse

TAMARA'S WISH-LIST



Silk-chiffon dress, £2,490, Erdem (mytheresa.com)



Suede shoes, £428, Gucci (matchesfashion.com)

MARILYN'S WISH-LIST



Wool and silk trousers, £495, Joseph (joseph-fashion.com)



Pebble-chain clutch, £85, Whistles (whistles.com)