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## TOP 9 HAPPENINGS **FOCUS FEATURES** NIGHTSITES A conversation with Carolina Herrera 2010-05-14 **f** Like Written by: Rebecca Voigt > Tweet 0 ⊕ Share



Photo Credit: Carolina Herrera, Style.com

Fashion legend/royalty/icon Carolina Herrera stopped by the Troy Neiman Marcus last night for a gorgeous runway presentation of her fall collection. I was lucky - and honored - to snag a few minutes of her time to talk about my favorite subject - fashion.

"Fashion is a mystery," Mrs. Herrera said. "It's an art. Inspiration is everywhere."

944: When you start designing a new collection, what comes first? Are you usually inspired by a general idea or mood, or are you inspired by specific people, locales, etc.?

Carolina Herrera: It's all different. Sometimes I'm inspired by a book that I'm reading. Another time I was inspired by Jeremiah Goodman, who is a painter. Or by the color of a painting, or by a conversation I had with someone.

944: Have you found any inspiration during your time in Detroit?

CH: I love to see the way people dress and how they put looks together in different places. It's important for me to see what's going on. I'm very curious, you know?

944: In your opinion, what are some of the key pieces every woman should invest in for her wardrobe?

CH: There are so many pieces - I think as women, we want everything in our wardrobe. I could say a white shirt, a pencil skirt and a pair of trousers, but what about if you want a beautiful evening gown hanging in your closet to make it look more beautiful, even if you never wear it? That's a very feminine instinct - to buy things and even if you don't wear them, you love them.

944: Your designs are so timeless, luxurious and sophisticated - how do you suggest younger women incorporate your pieces into their wardrobes?

CH: There is no such thing as an old dress or a very serious dress. It's the person who wears it that makes it old or young. If a young girl comes and wears any of the clothes [in my collection], she will look as young as always. ... For a woman, it's very important to have her own style that goes well with the personality and the way you are.

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