##  COLLETTE BROWN

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 Collettelb@hotmail.com

ASSETS AND ABILITIES:

- Excellent spoken and written Italian.

- International design experience at a designer level.

- Excellent research abilities.

- Ability to work under time constraints, able to respond quickly, efficiently and creatively.

- Excellent organisational skills and time management.

- Flexibility: able to adapt style confidently to the requirements of the label.

- Excellent technical abilities during fittings.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

CONSULTANT/FREELANCE DESIGNER: April 2014 - present day

- Moka London

JAEGER

HEAD OF WOMENSWEAR DESIGN December 2012 - April 2014

- Research of colour, trends and predictions at the beginning of the season: thinking creatively and imparting this to the team.

- Management and direction of a team of eight designers, of varying levels, across all product categories: Wovens, Knitwear, Jersey, Accessories and Print. Also working across departments with the Buying, Merchandising, Fabric Research and Quality Assurance teams, ensuring not only quality of design but quality of product, sourcing and pricing.

- Working closely on setting and managing the Critical Path.

- Building, recruiting, directing and motivating the Design Team.

- Re-structure of the Jaeger Product-life-cycle process. Developing objectives and strategies.

- Seasonal trips to the Far East and Europe, liaising closely with suppliers.

- Working with the in-house pattern team on Seasonal and Core product areas.

- Scheduling work and activities in the Studio: from approval of sketches, organising, planning and prioritising work-schedules. Including sketch reviews, fittings, fabric reviews, inter-depatrmental sketch and swatch reviews, up to final sign-off.

- Co-ordinating the work and activities of the Design Team, with the schedules of other departments.

- Creative decision making and problem solving.

- Working closely with the Buying, Merchandising and Fabric teams at final sign-off, to ensure a competitively priced and well-balanced Collection.

- Presentations to the global company at the end of season, presenting the design vision and product.

- Regular presentations to the CEO and Director of Womenswear of the design progress.

- At the end of season, working closely with the stylist on the Ad Campaign, finalising the design vision with the Look Book and Seasonal campaign.

BURBERRY ‘LONDON’

SENIOR WOMENSWEAR DESIGNER October 2007 - December 2012

- Responsible for the Womenswear Collection – from setting the initial Design Concept through to Showroom presentation – reporting directly to the Design Director.

- Development of the range as Burberrys secondary Womenswear Collection.

- Close work with the Commercial team and Merchandisers, ensuring that the label forefills not only all design briefs set but also all financial goals required – this also means close work with global sourcing on the vendor base.

- Responsible for all fittings – from initial prototype through to final sign off for Production.

- Management of design assistants for the woven collection and designers of the Jersey and Shirting Divisions (both Senior and Junior). Liaison with the knitwear team, setting the direction.

- Close and continual work with the fabric team, on initial fabric concept, selection, prices and final production sign off.

- Constant liaison with the Product Development team on the Calendar, fittings, pricing.

- Direct relationship with vendors, ensuring an effective, working relationship.

- Presentation of Collection in showroom to the CEO and Commercial Team.

- Styling of the look-book, with the Stylist, finalising the concept of the season with a visual documentation, used by the commercial team to represent the ‘perfect buy’ to clients.

PRINGLE OF SCOTLAND – LONDON March 2004 – October 2007

HEAD WOMESNWEAR DESIGNER – COLLECTION - Responsible for overseeing and unifying the woven and knitted collections.

- Development of the concept and identity of the label, also reinforcing the differentiation between Gold label and the other Pringle labels.

- Responsible for the fitting of all garments, wovens and knits.

- Research and development of all fabrics, yarns and accessories.

- Interpreting the brief for the season - giving direction to the team and managing the collections evolvement.

- Responsible for the overseeing of the developments of embroidered and embellished pieces manufactured in India.

- Close working relationship with the manufacturers of both the wovens and knits.

- Creation of show specials: strong input on the show, working with the Creative Director and the Stylist.

BALLY – MILAN March 2003 – March 2004

SENIOR WOMENSWEAR DESIGNER

- Responsible for the co-ordination of the Womenswear Collection with the Accessories Collection, working closely with the Accessories team.

 DOLCE & GABBANA – MILAN October 2001 – March 2003

WOMENSWEAR DESIGNER – WHITE AND BLACK LABELS

- Strong emphasis on research and the development of innovative ideas: development of embroideries, embellishments, print work and fabric manipulation. Specific emphasis on the development of the innovative use of leathers and furs.

- Creation of “special pieces” for the catwalk shows and for private clients. Working on the development of “celebrity specials”: including Stage and Red Carpet Outfits.

- Design input on the two mainline collections: “White” and “Black” Labels.

- Working on the organisation of the catwalk presentations and the Look Books for all collections.

MOSCHINO – MILAN June 1999 – September 2001

WOMENSWEAR DESIGNER – CHEAP AND CHIC

- Working within a small team on the “Cheap and Chic” Label, from concept to the final presentation of the catwalk show.

- Design Assistant to the lines: “Moschino Mare” and “Moschino Intimo”.

CAROLINE CHARLES – LONDON August 1997 – May 1999

ASSISTANT DESIGNER – WOMENSWEAR

BIBA – LONDON December 1996 – August 1997

ASSISTANT DESIGNER – WOMENSWEAR

RED OR DEAD – LONDON March 1995 – May 1995

FREELANCE FOOTWEAR DESIGNER

LIZA BRUCE – LONDON September 1994 – May 1995

DESIGN ROOM ASSISTANT

EDUCATION:

BA HONS (FASHION AND TEXTILES)

RAVENSBOURNE COLLEGE OF DESIGN AND COMMUNICATION – LONDON

REFERENCES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST