

# The NEWS

WHERE FASHION  
MEETS CULTURE



## NEW DESIGNERS YOU NEED TO KNOW

**Gabriela Hearst,**  
*worn by Lauren Hutton,*  
*and the latest labels*  
*on the rise*

Designer Gabriela Hearst created her ultraluxe namesake collection of dresses, coats, and shoes with active women—like her good friend Lauren Hutton—in mind. “When clothes look beautiful, fit beautifully, and you can move in them, you can do things in them,” says Hearst. Read on for more of the season’s standouts. ►

*Photographs by Michael Avedon*

Gabriela Hearst gown, \$2,695, and shoes, \$595. Barneys New York; 888-8-BARNEYS. David Webb cuffs and bracelets. 212-421-3030.



Hutton with Hearst at her wedding in 2013

# FASHIONABLE FRIENDS

*Designer Gabriela Hearst and supermodel Lauren Hutton on Hearst's subtly luxurious new line and why they have a bond that transcends style*

“FOR A VERY LONG TIME, I DIDN’T HAVE MANY FRIENDS IN FASHION,” says supermodel Lauren Hutton, whose career in the industry has spanned more than five decades. “Most of my friends were artists—sculptors or painters—and comedians. When I was young in New York, I think I went to one party, at Eileen Ford’s. It was a cocktail party, so I was supposed to be able to make fast, bright, chipper small talk, and I’m not good at that at all. I’ve never been comfortable in crowds of strangers. Most of the time I would be asleep by 10:30 or 11.”

At 71, Hutton still prefers traveling to exotic locales and going on scuba-diving excursions to mingling at fashion parties. However, she found a kindred spirit when a mutual friend introduced her to fashion designer Gabriela Hearst three years ago at an African Rainforest Conservancy benefit. “Gabi and I bonded instantly—I think because we’re a lot alike in so many ways,” says Hutton. “Gabi grew up with horses on a ranch in Uruguay, and she’s one of those women, like Anjelica Huston, who could ride before she could walk.”

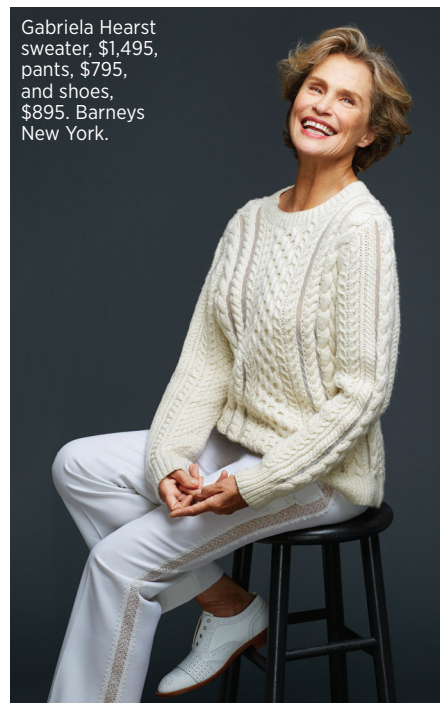
The feeling was the same for Hearst. “We hit it off right away because I recognized that badass-ness in her,” Hearst says. “She was telling me, ‘You’ve never been to Africa? You have to go to Africa!’”

When Hearst decided to create her new line, Gabriela Hearst, a follow-up to her more contemporary offering, Candela, it was Hutton’s turn to be inspired. Hearst built her latest venture, which launches this month, around the idea of creating clothes and accessories that reflect a chic, understated luxury with a collection featuring impossibly soft cashmere sweaters, polished knee-length leather skirts, and impeccably tailored coats. “I wanted to do clothes that are well made, using yarns I really love, leathers I really love, the kind of craftsmanship that I aspire to have,” she explains. “I started with the concept of just shoes, but then obviously it became a whole collection. So you have your day pieces, your outerwear pieces, your gown to go out in, your beautifully made sweaters, your coat with a separable liner—it’s warm and beautiful at the same time. It’s about authentic luxury, an honest luxury.”

Once Hutton saw the new collection, she was immediately taken with it. “Gabs has the work ethic of a Roman legion, so I wasn’t surprised that she wanted to do this,” Hutton says. “Even though she has closets full of Charles James, she has created perfect working clothes but made from very lush materials, and they fit the body. They’re very quietly seductive.” In particular, Hutton loved Hearst’s array of shoes, which includes knee-high boots and color-blocked heeled loafers. “Form follows function with Gabs,” says Hutton. “She would never make big shoes with long, tiny pencil heels that a woman could never run or protect herself in. I used to practice getting my high heels off in seconds if I went out alone so I could plant them on someone, just in case. She knows that’s an important skill.”

“There’s a masculinity in my approach,” Hearst says. “Usually men’s clothes are really well made because they’re built to withstand movement, so there’s another type of endurance to them. It also ties back to my background, growing up in the countryside, on a ranch, with things that are made to last. That aspect of clothing is important to me.”

A tough-meets-pretty sensibility is exactly what Hearst was working to develop when she thought about the woman she was designing for. “I’m always intrigued by women with strong character,” says Hearst. “I have a fascination with women who have that inner strength and a sense of style—women like Lauren. She may be beautiful, but there is something so strong about her, a fearlessness. She’s not limited by the perception of what a woman should be. She was never limited by that.” **Priya Rao**



Gabriela Hearst sweater, \$1,495, pants, \$795, and shoes, \$895. Barneys New York.

HEARST AND HUTTON: HANNAH THOMSON

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Gabriela Hearst sweater coat, \$3,995, and boots, \$1,595. Barneys New York. See Where to Buy for shopping details.