

# Grooming For One

By [Jarrod King](#)

Updated: October 16, 2013



Would you go to a barbershop with just one chair? [Brian Lipstein, of Henry A. Davidsen](#), wants that answer to be yes. Within his showroom sits his new grooming area, TRIM (Tradition Restored In Men), a product of the partnership between himself and Jahmal Rhaney of 2B Groomed. His hope is to bring in a slew of new customers who will appreciate being pampered in addition to being well-dressed. The uniqueness of this venture may be a step in the right direction, but a single chair could pose a problem.



There are only a handful of places like TRIM around the country where grooming and custom tailoring are offered. You could also order a drink from the bar while you're at it. This one-stop shop for men's style may not have existed had it not been for the murmurings of a friend and the realization that barbershop culture is very infectious. When discussing how he came up with the idea, Lipstein said,

“One of my vendors put a little bug in my ear saying ‘Oh you should put a barber’s chair in your place...’”. At first he was skeptical, but the idea grew on him as he began to think about it. Since people frequently need haircuts he saw this as a way to bring in more business and add the element of community.



“People are always talking in the barbershop, so it’s kind of like a gossip center.” He prefers to differentiate *his* place as a business networking center, but we all know that once the drinks start flowing people talk a lot more than just business. “What happens in the barbershop stays in the barbershop,” was his response to a query about the crazy stories that have come through. It’s good to know that your time in the chair comes with a confidentiality agreement.



*Photos: Taylor Baldwin – A Peaceful Movement*

And about that one chair, Lipstein says, “I have plans to kind of shift some things up around here.” He’s hoping to open up more space and get another barber chair soon. It’s not like he’d leave his

customers standing (there are comfortable seats around the showroom), but walk-ins will be difficult so be sure to head over to the [TRIM website](#) to book an appointment if you're ever in Philly.

Again, would you go to a barbershop with just one chair? What if that barbershop came with custom tailoring and a bar?

Hit the like button and let us know your thoughts.

# Sustainable Squares

By [Jarrod King](#)

Updated: April 22, 2014



Happy Earth Day! It's that one time in the year that reminds us about taking care of our environment through everything from recycling to paying attention to the clothes we wear. If you're looking for eco-friendly things to wear look no further than Glass House shirt makers. Their selection of men's shirts made from a blend of fabrics like cotton and lyocell show their dedication to a healthy planet. Today, they're even taking it a step further by releasing a new line of pocket squares.



These new accessories are made with fabrics that otherwise would have been discarded. Glass House was able to produce over 1,000 of these in 14 fabric variations, and will only cost you anywhere from \$25 to \$45. That's a great price for sustainable fashion and any of these are sure to give you a style boost this spring.



Check out the [Glass House website](#) today and purchase a pocket square for Earth Day before they're all gone!

# 360 Degrees of Fashion

by Jarrod King

We all know trends come back around at some point, but what about the fashion industry itself? Philadelphia, PA was once known for being #1 for textiles and manufacturing in the US. Can that happen again? With the Philly Fashion Expo, creator Ron Wilch hopes so. During the event's launch party I sat down with Wilch to pick his brain about what inspired him to start this event and what attendees can expect.

**TCL** What made you start this event?

**RW** For the last two years I've noticed that the fashion community has been getting weak with no growth or unity. So, 360 degrees of fashion means unity, and the Philly Fashion Expo is where the designers, manufacturers, boutiques and the public get to come together for two days to mingle, network, buy, and see hot fashion in the city of Philadelphia.

**TCL** How many designers are going to be involved?

**RW** Right now we have 15 designers in a 2-day period. We're looking to have Macy's and Saks Fifth Avenue be a part of the children's show. We're locked with a good number of designers - especially local designers.

**TCL** Will we see any menswear designers, and if so, who will be there?

**RW** We have a couple of menswear designers involved including Doc of [Doc C Custom Clothier](#). You'll have to come to the show! We have quite a few designers that you would love to see.



A sleek cardigan we'll see at the Expo

**TCL** So, I've heard that you were somehow connected to the rapper, Eve. What is the relationship there?

**RW** Well, I'm her father! She's doing well and has a new album out called 'Lip Lock'. I hope everyone supports her album.

**TCL** How would you describe your personal style?

**RW** Classic - The Great Gatsby: Handkerchief in the pocket, clean look, shoes shined, wingtips, a nice spread collar shirt, and a comfortable fit.



A live model showing us what to expect at the event

**TCL** Do you have any style advice for the readers of TheCuffLink?

**RW** Study the history. Style always comes back and repeats itself as we're seeing more french-cuff shirts, natural fabrics such as tweed and houndstooth, and even double-breasted jackets. It all comes back around.

The Philly Fashion Expo looks like it's going to be two days of great fun and fashion for all audiences. The event runs September 14th and 15th at Temple University's Liacouras Center, and there will definitely be something for everyone. VIP tickets are on sale now on the [official website](#) and general admission tickets will be available at a later date. Be sure to follow @phillyfashionex on Twitter and Facebook and pay close attention around late August for a possible special announcement.

**Update**





Remember that special announcement? Well, it came a bit earlier than expected. See that pic? That's right, Eve, herself will be performing at the upcoming event this September. Her appearance makes this party all the more special. VIP tickets are still available for purchase and keep an eye on the event's website for general admission info.

# The History of Menswear

By Jarrod King

Updated: April 30, 2014



When starting this blog I remember asking myself, "Where can I go to learn more about men's fashion?" I enjoy putting a great outfit together, but to write about it on a regular basis would mean that I would have to have some real knowledge about the legacy of menswear and the trends of today. While I have learned some by attending different events and fashions shows since, I am happy to say that I've finally come across something that would greatly increase my knowledge of fashion. That something is a book titled *The Fashion Resource Book Men* by Robert Leach.

## THE RESEARCH PROCESS

Burberry • Thom Browne • Comme des Garçons  
Louis Vuitton: Kim Jones • Sibling • Yohji Yamamoto  
RRL by Ralph Lauren • Nigel Cabourn • Alexander McQueen  
The Vintage Showroom • Christopher Shannon

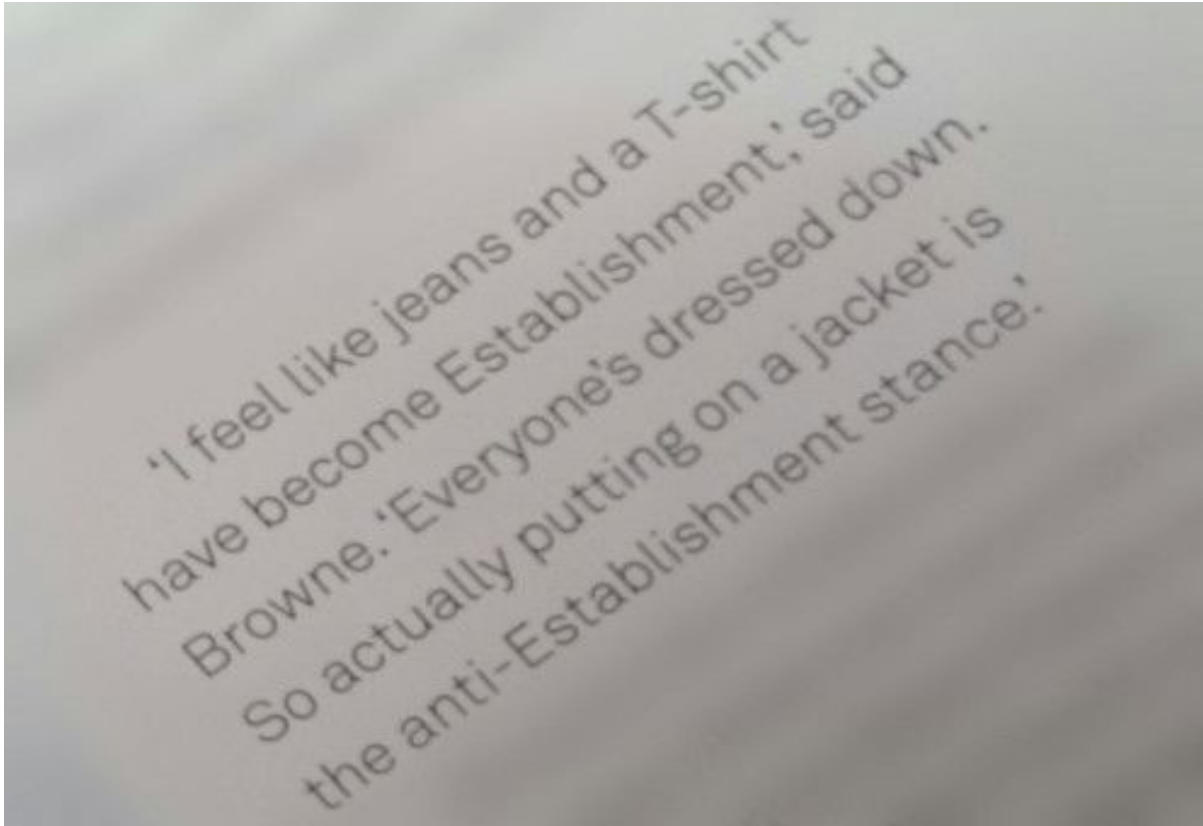
## RESEARCH AND INSPIRATION

Historical Research • Trends and Forecasting • Street Style  
Style • Popular Culture • Heritage • World  
Formal Wear • Uniform • Workwear • The Language of Clothes  
Sportswear • Concept-Led and Avant-Garde

## GARMENT BIOGRAPHIES

The Trench Coat • The Pea Coat • Case Study: Philip Strawbridge  
The Parka • The Motorcycle Jacket • The Denim Jacket  
The Flying Jacket • The Duffle Coat • The Field Jacket

This book is split into three sections: research, inspiration, and garment biographies. The first section details the research process of different brands such as looking at the history of a culture, the heritage of its own brand, and travel for inspiration. Then it moves into how designers take inspiration from trends emanating from sources like street style and pop culture. The last section gives a great detailing of the history and current use of everyday pieces like the trench coat or motorcycle jacket.



A quote from Thom Browne

At first glance, the book has the style of a school textbook – an immediate turnoff for some. I had to get over my initial aversion, but after taking the time to read I found myself zipping through the pages. You'd have to want to learn about men's fashion when beginning to read, but it hardly has the pace of a normal textbook. The wording is conversational – often quoting fashion heavy-hitters to drive a point home. There are also a ton of illustrations, for what would a book on fashion be without multiple visual examples. The number of pages totals just over 200 meaning that one could get through this in one day if they decided.

It's clear to me that if you're looking to learn more about menswear and its history, *The Fashion Resource Book Men* by Robert Leach is a great start. You can grab your copy at select book retailers now for around \$29.95.