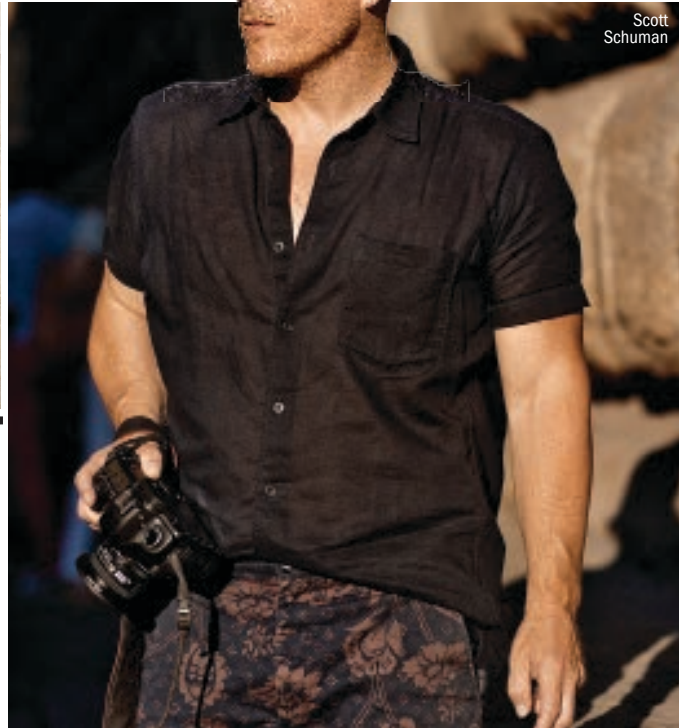


Things to Do

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Scott
Schuman

All the world's a runway

Street-style photographer Scott Schuman tells us about his newest tome and travels.
By **Jillian Anthony**

Regions of New Yorkers (and fashionistas worldwide) hope to someday be stopped on the street by Scott Schuman, the one-man show behind the wildly popular blog the Sartorialist. While his first two books focus on snapshots from more traditional style hubs like Milan and Tokyo, his third book, *The Sartorialist: X* (on sale Tuesday 27, \$30), traces those caught by his discerning eye over the past three years from the corners of South Africa, India and beyond. Schuman will speak about his work at the Met on October 29, but first, we caught up with the photographer while he was in Paris, finishing up his Fashion Month travels.

The Sartorialist: X displays inspirations in patterns and colors you found in unexpected places. How deliberate were your travel choices for this book?

They were very deliberate. When I first started the blog, I had no money, so it took awhile to build a bit of travel money so I could go where I wanted to go, as opposed to where people would pay me to go, like for an ad campaign. So in this book, I went to India, Africa, Peru, Bali and Bhutan. I really

wanted people to turn the page and not know where they were going to be each time. The core of this book has a very central theme of style, but it really challenges the reader to open their eyes about what style is.

What was the country that most inspired you?

India was pretty incredible. Everyone talks about the color of India, which is true, but there's also a lot of great pattern mixing. They have beautiful fabrications, and the setting and light is beautiful. And because it's an older country in the sense that there's still a lot of people cooking outside by open fires and getting their hair cut outside, it gives you a totally different backdrop when you're shooting compared to Paris or London.

Tell me about your cover girl.

One day, I just kept looking at her photo—it's like a needle in a haystack, you can't unsee it—and I realized that should be the cover image;

there was no other question. The only problem was I didn't know who she was. We didn't even speak when I took the picture outside of the Dries van Noten show in Paris, so I had to figure out how to get a hold of her. I put the photo on Instagram hoping someone would tag her, and eventually someone did. We DMed her with a mock-up of the cover, and just two days ago was the first time I met her. Her name is Elaine.

You live in Greenwich Village and often shoot in the area. Is there a certain street corner you haunt for your NYC images?

I most like being downtown. I like the backgrounds, and it's more relaxed—all of those streets down in Soho, like Lafayette, Crosby and Prince. I get a lot in Nolita or Tribeca, but I still like to go uptown or to Brooklyn—on my bike I can make it all around the city pretty quickly.

What are three style staples that should be in every New Yorker's closet?

For men: black jeans. I just bought my first pair a year ago, and I'm still trying to figure out how to wear them. I would say a Yankees cap—the Mets people won't be happy with that—and a good blue sport coat, cashmere for fall and a nice lightweight cotton for summer. For women: a light cotton print summer dress, which is very hard to find, a pretty pair of shoes—not necessarily high heels, but I'd like to see more girls slightly more refined—and a nice twin set.

What's your next project?

I just designed a pair of shoes for a special project with Sutor Mantelassi that came out this fall, and it did so well, we signed a contract for a full collaboration for next fall. I have to be out walking around all day, so the challenge was creating a shoe that looked dressy on top but was still very comfortable. I'm also playing with a couple of ideas for a fourth book.

Schuman will speak about *The Sartorialist: X* at the Metropolitan Museum of Art Oct 29 at 6:30pm (metmuseum.org). \$30.

