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Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week: Backstage with Mark & Estel

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Celebrated American fashion designers Mark Tango & Estel Day just presented their fall/winter 2015 collection at Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week. The runway show not only consisted of the signature rockstar-chic vibe that the designers are famous for—but seamlessly transitioned into a stellar closing musical performance by Tango and Day themselves. After the show concluded, I met backstage with Mark & Estel. It was then I was able to gain some insight into their unique collaboration process and design aesthetic from their points of view.

I'd like to pick your brains... What was your inspiration behind this collection?

Estel: You know with Mark and I, we always start with the music first. So we created this song called "Stairway to the Stars," and basically the inspiration behind that was that everyone is a fashion rock star. Everyone has their own unique sense of style within, and everyone has that. And they just have to let it shine.

What was the most interesting part of the collaboration process for this collection?

Mark: When we started this collection, and the songs we heard on the runway... We basically started by making up these songs. And in the beginning it was like a mess—just a bunch of crazy guitar parts and crazy drawings. Most collections we kind of start loose like that, but the beginning everything was just colors and shapes. And then we had to take a month to turn all of that into actual, wearable clothes because they were just musings. So, I guess the craziest thing is how it transformed from our noise and musings. We then carefully took each piece of music and each design, and sculpted them into something wearable. What we want to get across is the attitude mostly—then the functionality comes second. But then the functionality becomes first during fashion week. So that is the craziest thing.

What is your favorite look from the today's show?

Estel: The first and last are pretty good.

Mark: Yeah, I agree.

Estel: The cape and then the red carpet dress—like it's so good.

Mark: That's why we chose them as first and last because they were our favorite looks.

What advice could the two of you give to someone who wants that Mark & Estel aesthetic?

Estel: Be a fashion rock star and believe in yourself.

Mark: You've got to rock your own style.

Estel: And believe in your style!

Mark: Yeah, you've got to rock your own style. Trends—it's good to look at trends. But trends are meant to inspire you. They're not meant to dictate what you're supposed to wear. You're supposed to look at something and be like—if that's for me, I can do some of that—you know? Remember trends are an inspiration. What you like to wear, your own favorite thing, your own favorite look—that's always going to look the best.

Below you can watch video coverage of Mark & Estel's fall/winter 2015 runway show. And for more about Mark & Estel, visit their [website](#).

Video Coverage of Mark & Estel F/W 2015 Collection Presented at MB Fashion Week



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