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Passion Flower ~ oil painting by Rosie Little

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# Mint Museum Randolph in Charlotte, NC, Offers Exhibit of Anna Sui Designs

The Mint Museum Randolph in Charlotte, NC, is presenting *The World of Anna Sui*, presenting 100 looks from the iconic designer's archive with a roll call of 12 archetypes that capture the Sui aesthetic, on view through May 1, 2022.

No other fashion designer captures the zeitgeist of a historic period, place, or artistic movement in such a timeless yet contemporary look as Anna Sui. She does so by designing the entire look - from dress to accessories, hairstyles to makeup, and even sound and scent.

The World of Anna Sui shines a spotlight on the designer's heroes from her youth and the importance of her collaborators, including the New York City Garment District. The exhibition gives insights into her process, allowing the viewer to step inside her imagination and watch it unfold.

The first iteration of this exhibition debuted at the Fashion and Textile Museum, London, in the summer of 2017.

Anna Sui reinvented pop-culture fashion with her signature rock-and-roll romantic label in the 1990s. Unlike other popular American designers, Sui is driven by telling stories head-to-toe about the worlds of cowgirls, grunge girls, hippie chicks, hula girls, Mods, pirate rock stars, Pre-Raphaelite maidens, and surfer nomads.

Beginning with her premiere catwalk show in 1991, Sui has shaped not only the garments, textiles, accessories, cosmetics, and interiors that comprise her design universe, but also the course of fashion history by popularizing the boutique fashion look. Sui's unique approach to creating narratives through her work is legendary. A self-taught historian of culture, art, and fashion, she references music, books, exhibitions, movies, time periods, photography, and art movements in her designs.

Sui signature fashions, accessories, and products, explore wide-ranging materials



Models walk the runway during the finale of the Anna Sui spring 2004 collection shown in New Yorks Bryant Park, Wednesday Sept. 17, 2003. (AP Photo/Stuart Ranson)

and inspirations, including papier-mache mannequin heads, linens by Vera, Claire McCardell sportswear, army surplus jackets, Japanese hankies, qipao dresses, wood-soled platforms from Goody Two-Shoes, the style of Jane Holzer, Zandra Rhodes, Nirvana, Keith Richards and Anita Pallenberg, and Minnie Mouse. Her collections are replete with historicism, processed and creatively reimagined through her signature filter.

Organized by the Fashion and Textile Museum, London, *The World of Anna Sui* was curated by Dennis Nothdruft. Annie Carlano is curator of The Mint Museum's iteration. The exhibition has toured the globe from New York to Shanghai. The Mint Museum is the last stop for the current international tour.

The exhibition organized by the Fashion and Textile Museum, London is generously presented by PNC Financial Services. Generous individual support provided by Deidre and Clay Grubb, with additional support from the Mint Museum Auxiliary. Additional individual support provided by Posey and Mark Mealy, Celene and Marc Oken, Kati and Chris Small, Ann and Michael Tarwater, Rocky and Curtis Trenkelbach, the Fashion Task

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