

mile-high STY[E

With a wardrobe that has more frequent flyer miles than the average A380, fashion photographer Micol Sabbadini explains how travel inspires her eclectic look

Sabbadini is also in demand on the other side of the camera lens. Having first established herself in her home country of Italy, the photographer and artist is now booked out with collaboration requests from some of the world's most high-profile fashion houses. Her first "real project" was shooting for Giorgio Armani – admittedly, a very good start. She was then approached by Roger Vivier, followed by Louis Vuitton, photographing its monogram luggage in Bali, Kenya, Moscow and New York.

Her globetrotting career combined with an international upbringing (she was born in Milan, attended boarding school in Switzerland, followed by university in the US, then had stints living in China, Cuba and New York) means Sabbadini has a collection of clothing as eclectic as her passport stamps. We caught up with her in Paris, where she let us in on the secrets to her well-travelled style.

DRESS FOR YOUR MOOD

You can tell a lot about my frame of mind from what I'm wearing. For example, if I'm in all one



colour, it probably means I'm not in a great mood. There are times when I feel more hippie and there are times when I feel more simple and sophisticated. My dad says I have a split personality – I guess it translates to my style.

I GOT IT FROM MY MAMA

Half of my wardrobe is my mother's vintage collection. She is the chicest person I've ever met. Even when she walks the dog, she might be wearing a tracksuit but she'll have her Hermès bag and a cute little jacket on top. I wear her Chanel jacket from the '80s. As soon as she doesn't fit into something, I take it.

ART THEORY
Sabbadini (in
a vintage Chanel
jacket, Ralph
Lauren shirt,
vintage Ralph
Lauren skirt,
Manolo Blahnik
heels and Fendi
bag) blends old
and new; her
LA-inspired art

MORE MILK

CHAMELEON CHIC

My look tends to change according to where my travels take me. I just came back from Byron Bay, NSW, so all I want to wear is patterns, colours and loose shapes. When I'm in a new city, I look through all the little boutiques for completely unknown brands that no-one else will have back home.

JUMBLE SALE

I'll never wear a full look straight off the catwalk. I like to mix and match a lot – pieces from old and new collections mixed with things I buy while travelling.

FENDI FRENZY

I love Fendi bags. They're so unique and just beautifully made. Their craftsmanship is incredible and their colour combinations are divine. I'm a huge, huge fan.

SAFE KEEPING

I never throw anything away. So my wardrobe has grown into a multi-decade-spanning hoarder's delight. □