

COMMERCE

Canali, Andrea Pompilio mutually opt not to renew contract

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Canali suit and tie

By STAFF REPORTS

The list of labels playing musical creative directors now includes Italian menswear brand Canali.

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According to [WWD](#), Andrea Pompilio and the brand have mutually decided to not renew their creative partnership. The stresses of producing collection after collection are beginning to become more apparent as many creatives have decided to step down from posts at prestigious houses to focus on personal projects that may not be as demanding.

Et tu Canali?

Mr. Pompilio joined Canali as a creative consultant in March 2014. During his short time with the brand Mr. Pompilio worked on four collections.

Despite only being at Canali for two years, Mr. Pompilio worked to refresh the menswear label's image. To do so, he focused on a sartorial look that was more contemporary through the use of high-tech fabrics and bold color choices.

Canali has announced that an in-house design team will work on the brand's spring 2017 collection. The in-house designs will be presented at Milan Fashion Week this coming June.



Menswear by Canali under Andrea Pompilio's creative direction

In a statement given exclusively to WWD, a Canali executive said, "The decision to part ways is a reciprocal one and coincides with the natural expiration of the agreement between Canali and Andrea.

"Both parties agree that this is an ideal moment to complete the collaboration, which has come full circle over the course of nearly two years and four collections," they said. "Each season Andrea presented a different perspective on the Canali man, whose aesthetic is in continuous evolution, keeping in line with the company's constant pursuit of innovation and contemporary elegance."

Mr. Pompilio is also the owner and creative director of an eponymous menswear label. It is likely that his attention will now be focused on this line now that his tenure at Canali has come to an end.

Similarly, Balenciaga and Alexander Wang made the joint decision not to renew the designer's contract past its first term in July 2015.

At the time, Mr. Wang was quoted saying that he appreciated the experience at Balenciaga, and thanked the team at the house for their combined achievements during his tenure. He also said he was "looking forward to taking my own brand to its next level of growth" ([see story](#)).

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