

APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES

## Designer movement persists as Peter Copping exits Oscar de la Renta

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*Oscar de la Renta resort 2017 runway show*

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By STAFF REPORTS

Designer Peter Copping is leaving the creative director position at Oscar de la Renta, citing personal reasons for his departure.

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Mr. Copping was brought on to the Oscar de la Renta design team shortly before the label's namesake designer passed away in 2014. This move follows a growing trend within the fashion industry, as creative director tenures become shorter.

### Musical chairs

The British-born Mr. Copping began his fashion career as an intern at Christian Lacroix. From there, he took jobs at Sonya Riegel, Nina Ricci and Louis Vuitton, where he spent 12 years.

On choosing Mr. Copping as his successor, Mr. de la Renta said, "Our industry has not always done the best job when it comes to changes in design leadership. My hope is that, in leading this selection, and actively participating in the transition, I can ensure the right design future for our company and brand."

Mr. Copping's first collection for Oscar de la Renta was fall/winter 2015 ([see story](#)). He saw his job as bringing new ideas to the house while staying within the pillars established by Mr. de la Renta.

Speaking at the Financial Times' Business of Luxury Summit in May ([see story](#)), Mr. Copping said, "There is such a loyal clientele, and we have to keep those.

"I've been out on the road attending trunk shows and I've met a lot of the women who are these passionate, loyal clients and they're fantastic people," he said. "They love clothes, they love the house. And I see it as my job is keeping them happy and to attract a new client as well."



*Peter Copping; photo by Inez & Vinoodh*

Explaining his reasons for leaving, Mr. Copping said in a brand statement, "After almost two years at Oscar de la Renta, personal circumstances require me to return to Europe. I have loved my time in New York where I hope to return at some point in the future."

No replacement has been named yet for Mr. Copping, but some rumors suggest that former Oscar de la Renta employees Laura Kim and Fernando Garcia, who left the label to found their own brand Monse, might be considered. In addition to their own label, the duo also currently works with New York-based brand Carolina Herrera.

An in-house team will design Oscar de la Renta's next runway collection for spring/summer 2017.

With Mr. Copping's exit, another name is added to a growing list of houses in creative limbo. Just within the past couple of months, Maria Grazia Chiuri left Valentino for Dior, Bouchra Jarrar filled the top design spot for Lanvin women's wear and Hedi Slimane left Saint Laurent, opening up the job for Anthony Vaccarello. Raf Simons, who left Dior last October, seems poised to take over at Calvin Klein in the near future.

More moves may be in the future.

Yesterday, rumors suggested that LVMH is considering the removal of Nicolas Ghesquire as the creative director of Louis Vuitton, a position he has held since November 2013 when Marc Jacobs stepped down from the brand. The luxury fashion industry has been plagued with creative upheaval across brands that have appeared to be creatively stable, but the transmission of talent screams otherwise ([see story](#)).