

RETAIL

Natalie Massenet reportedly up for Farfetch position

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Image courtesy of Farfetch

By STAFF REPORTS

Net-A-Porter founder Natalie Massenet may be headed to another luxury retail disruptor in the near future.

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Since leaving Net-A-Porter last year ahead of its merger with Yoox, Ms. Massenet has launched her own consultancy Imaginary Ventures, but she might be adding another role to her resume soon. According to a report in the [Daily Mail](#), Ms. Massenet is in talks to join Farfetch as a consultant or in a non-executive position.

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Ms. Massenet resigned from Net-A-Porter as its merger with fellow online retailer Yoox was about to come to fruition.

[Bloomberg](#) reported that the executive, who had started her business 15 years prior, was leaving rather than staying on to become the chairman of the combined company, taking it as the right time to explore other opportunities. With her long running experience in the fashion industry, Ms. Massenet was expected to be instrumental in maintaining relationships with the luxury industry for the new company ([see story](#)).

According to the Mail, Ms. Massenet's non-compete agreement with Net-A-Porter ended in September, freeing her up to be considered for this new position.

Ms. Massenet, who began her career as a fashion journalist, has been the chairman of the British Fashion Council since 2013. This speculated move comes as Farfetch shoots down an additional rumor of a public offer.



Image courtesy of Farfetch

The online retailer recently said it sees a public offering as a possibility only after its strong investment period ends, which it anticipates happening as soon as two years from now.

Responding to a Nov. 4 report in Bloomberg that the high-fashion startup was speaking with advisors in New York about an IPO as early as this year, the \$1.5 billion-valued company's CEO Jose Neves told [Reuters](#) that he would only start to consider an IPO years from now. Providing a new model of luxury retail, Farfetch has seen a lot of interest from investors over the years ([see story](#)).

Neither Ms. Massenet nor Farfetch have confirmed their talks.

If Ms. Massenet does join Farfetch, she would not be the first hire from within Yoox Net-A-Porter Group. Farfetch picked The Outnet founder Stephanie Phair to fill its newly created chief strategy officer position ([see story](#)).

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