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APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES

Clare Waight Keller to exit Chlo

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Chlo spring/summer 2017

By STAFF REPORTS

French fashion house Chlo has confirmed that its creative director Clare Waight Keller will be leaving the label.



According to Business of Fashion, Ms. Waight Keller's departure from the Richemont-owned brand after six years was a mutual agreement between the designer and the company. No successor has been named as of press time, making Chlo the latest in a series of fashion brands to have its top creative role left vacant.

Moving on

Ms. Waight Keller's last collection for Chlo will be autumn/winter 2017, which will be shown during Paris Fashion Week on March 2. The British designer's contract was up for renewal in March.

While Ms. Waight Keller's family moved from London to Paris at the beginning of her time at Chlo, they moved back to London in June. It is likely that the designer, who had been commuting back and forth from Paris, is looking to spend more time at home with her three young children.



Clare Waight Keller; image source Chlo

"Clare has been a remarkable partner at Chloe over the past six years," said Chlo president Geoffroy De La Bourdonnaye in a statement given to Business of Fashion. "She helped rejuvenate the legacy of Gaby Aghion, the first ever Chloe girl, by infusing a cool and easy breeze into the Chloe wardrobe, effortlessly mixing graceful and feminine flou' with a free-wheeling and boyish take on tailoring.

"Clare has a unique talent in directing a large studio of strong creatives. I would like to personally thank Clare for her loyalty and dedication to Chloe."

When rumors began circling of Ms. Waight Keller departure from the Parisian label, speculation about her replacement began.

While Chloe has not made any public appointment, sources have said that it has chosen Natacha Ramsay-Levi as its new creative director.

Ms. Ramsay-Levi is currently the second-in-command at Louis Vuitton, under the brand's creative director Nicolas Ghesquire. Rumors began swirling that Chlo was in the market for a new creative director in December after news broke that Ms. Ramsay-Levi was in talks with the brand (see story).

Chlo is Richemont's most profitable fashion label, with sales estimates for the brand reaching around 400 million euros, or \$417 million at current exchange rates.

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