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APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES

Tomas Maier's namesake label to close

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Tomas Maier the brand is closing. Image credit: Tomas Maier

By STAFF REPORTS

Following designer Tomas Maier's exit from Kering-owned Bottega Veneta, the luxury group is also ending its partnership on his eponymous label.



Along with serving as creative director of Bottega Veneta for almost two decades, Mr. Maier also linked with Kering on his brand, with the conglomerate taking an investment in Tomas Maier in 2013. According to a report from Women's Wear Daily, Kering is ceasing business operations for Tomas Maier, with the brand's retail stores and ecommerce channel to close by the end of the year.

Shutting down

Tomas Maier was founded in 1997. The ready-to-wear brand has two stores in New York on Madison Avenue and Bleecker Street.

Through a joint venture, Kering helped Tomas Maier expand. The company's revenues are estimated to be around \$10 million.

In a statement given to Women's Wear Daily, Kering confirmed that Tomas Maier would be closing. The group noted that the designer still owns the trademark for his namesake brand.

The shuttering of Tomas Maier is expected to affect around 20 to 30 employees. Kering said it "would do its best, over the next few months, to safeguard employment, in coordination with local unions."



Tomas Maier. Image credit: Kering

Mr. Maier announced his departure from Bottega Veneta in June. His successor is Daniel Lee, who comes to the brand from Cline (see story).

Kering has also recently ended partnerships with other designers.

Luxury group Kering is making arrangements with Christopher Kane for the designer to take full control of his eponymous brand.

On June 21, the conglomerate announced that discussions were underway with Mr. Kane, as the parties looked to settle on conditions for transitioning the label out of the group through a sale of Kering's stake. This move from Mr. Kane comes shortly after Stella McCartney began the process of transitioning out of Kering, and aims to be a similarly collaborative split (see story).

Kering has also sold off its stake in Puma and is in the process of selling Volcom to become a purely luxury group (see story).

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