

APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES

Stella McCartney teases new mushroom-based garments

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Mylo is a soft, substantial, sustainable leather alternative made from mycelium. Image credit: Stella McCartney

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

British fashion brand Stella McCartney has created a new set of leather-alternative garments made from lab-grown, vegan mushroom leather.

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Reflecting its 20-year dedication to being a vegetarian, leather-, skin- and fur-free brand, the company is highlighting the world's first-ever Mylo garments, furthering its partnership with Bolt Threads. The two products from the collaboration, a black bustier top and utilitarian trousers, are not currently available for sale but are the latest example of what Stella McCartney believes to be the future of its fashion offerings.

"These rare, exclusive Mylo pieces embody our shared commitment with Bolt Threads to innovate a kinder fashion industry one that sees the birth of beautiful, luxurious materials as opposed to the deaths of our fellow creatures and planet," said Stella McCartney, founder of the eponymous brand, in a statement.

Much room for mushroom

Stella McCartney is the first fashion house to use Mylo to create clothing. Mylo is a soft, substantial, sustainable leather alternative made from mycelium, which is the renewable underground root system of mushrooms.

The fashion brand released a 35-second vignette illustrating the partnership and giving consumers a background on the alternative.

Stella McCartney is the first fashion house to use Mylo

The alternative is notably similar to animal products but carries fewer environmental impacts. Mylo is also unlike current synthetic options in that it is not petroleum-based.

French fashion house Hermès is also experimenting with mushroom-based textiles for handbags ([see story](#))

Stella McCartney first partnered with Bolt Threads on vegan Microsilk in 2017, with the label using the mycelium-based material for a prototype of the Falabella bag.

Scientists at Bolt Threads are aiming to continue reproducing resources from under the forest floor, where

mycelium grows best, in their labs with mulch air and water. The process takes only days, compared to other labels' animal-based processes that could take years.

The process also helps save water, greenhouse gas emissions and promotes the protection of vital ecosystems including the Amazon from deforestation.

This is Stella McCartney's latest push in prioritizing sustainability and hoping to bring forth a more cruelty-free and environmentally conscious fashion industry.

This development has been in the works since 2018, with Bolt Threads launching Mylo. A Stella McCartney Falabella handbag crafted out of Mylo was displayed at the Victoria & Albert Museum's "Fashioned from Nature" exhibit ([see story](#)).

In 2017, Stella McCartney first collaborated with Bolt Threads on a vegan spider silk made from yeast, in the continual pursuit for more sustainable materials. The first physical manifestation of Stella McCartney and Bolt Threads partnership was featured at the "Items: Is Fashion Modern?" design exhibit at the Museum of Modern Art in New York ([see story](#)).

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