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APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES

Longchamp collaboration to come centers urban functionality, transforms 'Le Pliage' tote

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Long champ's newest capsule collection features pieces of multiple functionalities. Image credit: Long champ

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

French leather and accessories brand Longchamp is collaborating with the designer behind the Paris-based namesake accessories label D'heygere for its newest collection.



Codesigned by Belgian creative Stphanie D'heygere, Longchamp's line consists of six multipurpose pieces items such as belt bags that turn into backpacks, rollable rain hats and cross-body umbrellas each made for urban lifestyles and flexibility and all inspired by the brand's mainstay tote style. The capsule collection will be released for purchase in stores and online on Jan. 3.

Championing mobility

Focusing on the many needs of urban living, most of the six pieces in Lonchamp's upcoming capsule serve multiple functions.

The collection derives from a foldable poncho Ms. D'heygere designed for the brand in 2019, also inspired by the Le Pliage tote bag, bringing extra mobility to city life.

Rather than having to pack many things before going out, the collection allows urbanites to carry less with them thanks to the practicality and many functions of it all. The pieces also work for multiple settings, whether it be days out in the city or attending festivals.

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A post shared by LONGCHAMP (@longchamp)

The capsule offers six color choices, including fuchsia pink, navy and white, as well as a leopard print.

"It was a neat pitch because [Longchamp] asked me to work around Le Pliage but without doing a bag," Ms. D'heygere said, per *WWD* reports.

The first piece, a rain jacket, "embraced very well this idea of new mobility mobility in the city itself," she said to *WWD*. "temperatures are never ideal there's a bit of rain, of wind and we also thought about the fact that it could be people in transit for work."

The collection will also feature pants, an umbrella, two bag options and a rain hat.

Capsule pieces are all made from recycled polyester and nylon, reflecting the sustainability of Longchamp and the fashion direction of Ms. D'heygere's spring 2023 collection. The assortment features accessories such as earrings made of DVDs, embracing the idea of circular fashion.

Speaking to the capsule collection, Sophie Delafontaine, artistic director of Longchamp, said she is "very impressed by the way [D'heygere] twists function, plays with functionality," while serving on the 2018 ANDAM Prize jury, *WWD* reports.

The collection is unisex designs and cuts are not geared towards any particular gender orientation.

"I regard the gender-free aspect of the collection as a particular success: the cuts and the details are neither feminine nor masculine, and the sizes go from S to XL," Ms. D-heygere shared with *Grazia*.

"Inclusivity and universality are very important to me, and I always try to include these values in my work," she said.
"I know that, with Longchamp, we can explore this dimension further."

Pieces will range in price between \$175 and \$390. Aside from the aforementioned capsule release channels, Longchamp will host a pop-up at its Saint-Honor flagship location in Paris.

The brand's Le Pliage bag has remained central to its identity.

Since the introduction of the style in 1993, the classic handbag has evolved into many different variations, including the Le Pliage Leather, Le Pliage Filet and Le Pliage Green. In July, the French maison's Le Pliage Re-Play campaign served as a testament to the brand's commitment to sustainability, as it neared its 75th anniversary (see story).

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