Griffin Timoney

Feature Writing

Profile Piece

Growing up, Lorenzo Mitil always had an interest in clothing whether it was making sure he looked nice at his family parties or wearing a white suit for his communion, he always enjoyed looking his best. Now, his interest has grown into a passion, while working with a new “prep” designer and going on to create his own fashion blog, it looks as though Mr.Mitil knows what he wants and where he wants to be and isn’t going to let anything get in his way. Mitil says “ Fashion became a huge part of my life during my sophomore year of college, when I realized I love the way the clothes make the person.” With that being said, Mitil bases his outfit of the day off of what shoes he wants to wear that day. He has created what he calls a “collection” of clothing and loves to wear every piece differently. Anyone that knows fashion, knows to stick with the classics, blue, black and gray, Mitil is no exception. While mixing classics with some of the trendy pieces he finds at boutiques in Manhattan and thrift stores, he has created his own style, which he calls “Urban Prep”. While wearing a Ralph Lauren oxford under a Gray knit cardigan with a pair of selvedge blue jeans and LL Bean Moccasins, he says how he loves that fashion can change, but to never confuse ‘style’ with ‘fashion’ and style is forever.

“ Everyone says to do something that you love, I think it is clear this is what Lorenzo is meant to do with his life, its what makes him happy.” said Chris Kinney, a fellow brother of Lorenzo’s.

This passed October, Mitil was one of the lucky few to work with a new designer K. Cooper Ray on the new brand Social Primer. Social Primer is a young brand, that with help of the dedicated team that Cooper has created, has been working its way into bigger stores such as Brooks Brothers to feature their unique and ‘different’ ties and other ‘prep essentials’.

“ It has given me the opportunity to see how a small business based out of Charleston, South Carolina works. From the designing process to the merchandise is shipped to the retailers, it is truly amazing to see the whole process” says Mitil.

With a bright dream of working for a successful company based out of New York, this was a great chance for Mitil. New York holds a special place in his heart, “it’s a place that is constantly changing and a place filled with inspiration.”

With fashion there always come a source of inspiration, it is a style of art after all. For Mitil he gets inspiration from all different places. From the streets of Manhattan to popular men’s fashion blogs, there is always something new to catch his eye. Some of his favorite photographers include Scott Schuman and Tommy Ton whose work is mostly street based fashion photography, which constantly gives Mitil new ideas. Fashion has given Mitil a new reason to go back to an old hobby of his, photography. Mitil likes to travel into Manhattan and do his own “’street style photography”, giving him his own photos and experiences has inspiration as well.

“ Being Lorenzo’s girlfriend, I have seen his passion grow, most of our evenings spent in Manhattan include us going to trendy restaurants and stores while taking photographs. Its what he loves to do, and I love being able to share those times and experiences with him, We are scheduled to go to France this summer and I already know he will be attached to his camera the whole trip.” Said Mitil’s girlfriend, Sidonie Erlanger

With all of these ideas, Mitil created a fashion board for his room, where he could cut and post photos and ideas for what to wear. After finishing his board and seeing the growth of blogs, he knew his next step.

Now Mitil in his junior year of college, with a collection of clothing and a strong drive, he has created his own men’s fashion blog, Prep Gang. He thought of the name by combining two of his favorite things. ‘Prep’ being the style of clothing he has come to love and live and then ‘Gang’ referencing the idea of cliques of friends that one has in college, while all sharing the same interests.

It’ll be interesting to see the growth of Prep Gang and Mr.Mitil. With a strong passion like his, it’s easy to say he will continue doing what he loves. Eager to promote his new blog and hoping for people to enjoy it and be inspired, just has he was and will continue to be from the same men that gave him the reasons to follow his dream.

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