

Angela DeMontigny

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Angela DeMontigny has a passion for design. She displays an extraordinary ability to produce a contemporary ready-to-wear collection and one-of-a-kind pieces of wearable art that not only express her zeal for Native culture and heritage, but also shows that she is street smart and style savvy when it comes to delivering marketable merchandise. Edginess and elegance intertwine with cultural Chippewa-Cree-Metis elements; her trademark is hand-painted symbols and beaded accents, an inherent artistic skill that has been handed down from her Native ancestors for hundreds of years.

The evolution of Angela's development as a fashion designer started almost ten years ago when she recognized that there was a niche market for Aboriginal designed mainstream fashions; an opportunity for her to incorporate the artistic traditions she had learned, but to interpret these elements in a modern way.

From her home base on the Six Nations Indian Reserve in south western Ontario, Angela first launched her own line of ready-to-wear called 'Spirit Ware' – a collection of comfortable, casual clothing made in a variety of fabrics. This was eight years ago, and since then, 'Spirit Ware' has evolved into an exclusive line of leathers and suedes that is sold in specialty boutiques and galleries throughout North America, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and Italy.

Angela's celebrity as a First Nations fashion designer is evident today not only because of her burgeoning and successful career, but also in part due to her dedication to her regular speaking engagements and advocacy of Native artists and designers. For the last few years, Angela has been one of the featured designers at the prestigious Western Design Conference in Cody, Wyoming in the US; her designs have been showcased in Canadian fashion and Aboriginal magazines and in U.S. publications such as 'Cowboys and Indians', 'True West' and Women's Wear Daily.

As an artist and a designer, Angela's appeal is often to the entertainment world, attracting accomplished singers, performers and celebrities who enjoy wearing her unique and one-of-a-kind items of wearable art. Angela's wardrobing credits include the Aboriginal Achievement Awards and a variety of national television shows, and she was recently the feature of 'Success Story' a regular CTV news segment.

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