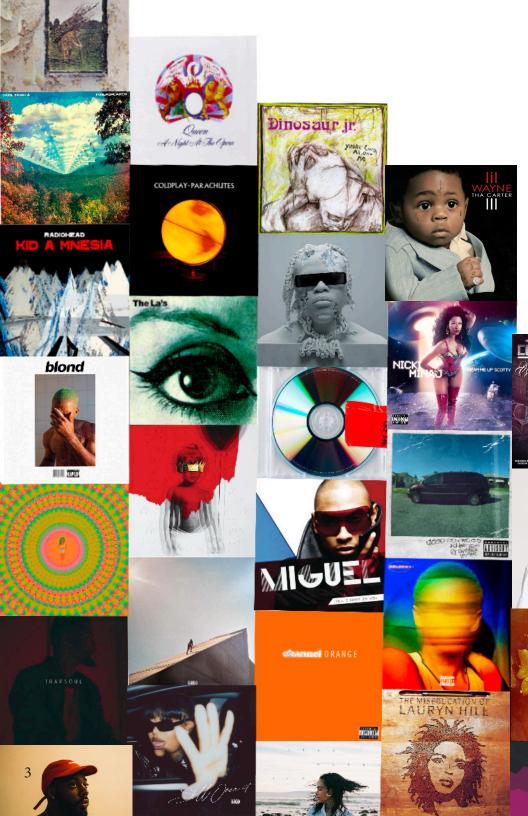




The Subcultures Zine Zine Club at UTSA Volume 2 Issue 5 Made in March 2024, distributed April 2024





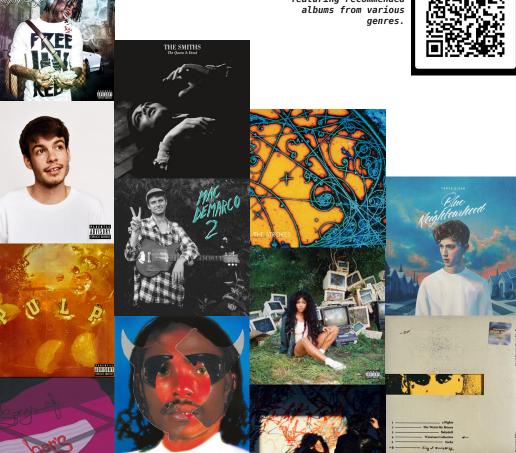


oring

In the vibrant tapestry of musical expression, diverse genres serve as pillars of cultural identity within various subcultures, fostering communal connection and individuality. From the rebellious anthems of rock to the socially conscious narratives of hip-hop, each genre weaves its own narrative, resonating with audiences on emotional and psychological levels. Music acts as a unifying force, drawing individuals together based on shared experiences and values within their respective subcultures, fostering communities of creativity and collaboration. Whether it's the raw energy of rock, the rhythmic flow of hip-hop, the soulful melodies of R&B, or the eclectic sounds of indie, these genres stand as testament to the richness and depth of human expression, shaping culture and identity with their boundless creativity and diversity.

> Scan the QR code and take a journey through a curated playlist featuring recommended albums from various









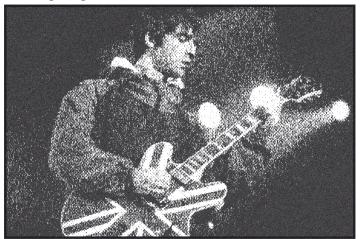
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noel gallagher from oasis



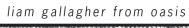
BRITPOP

The mid-1990s British music culture that was affiliated by groups such as Blur and Oasis.





blur





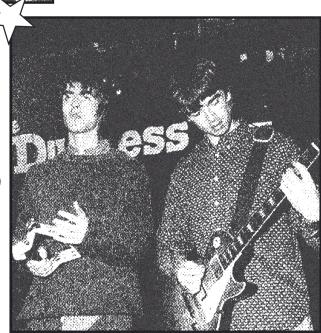
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0 a s i s











RESTHETIC

Aesthetic: "a particular individual's set of ideas about style and taste, along with its expression."

Social media websites like TikTok, Pinterest, and Instagram have helped propel numerous different aesthetics into the spotlight. Some of these are more "alternative" aesthetics based on real subcultures, and others are entirely of the internet's own creation like "tomato girl" and the various "-core" aesthetics. There was a noticeable uptick in people experimenting with their personal style during quarantine, in part because of social media virality and also because people were free to experiment with their identity within the confines of their own homes. However, more people adopting "alternative" aesthetics without knowing the history of the subcultures led to some controversy both online and in real life. Let's just say, the word "poser" got thrown around a lot.





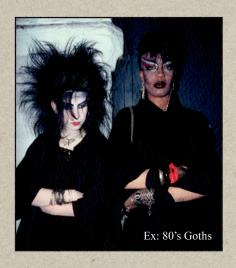
In recent years, the accelerated speed of the internet has led to the creation of hyper-specific aesthetics based on a specific "vibe" or niche topic. It seems like each month, a new fashion trend comes out, and anyone who wants to participate has to adjust their wardrobes accordingly. Some examples include: coquette, opium, cottagecore, indie sleaze, clean girl, twee, mob wife, Y2K, Barbiecore, dark academia, coconut girl, scenecore...etc. With so many aesthetics falling in and out of fashion every day, it's hard for consumers to keep up. Many people turn to fast fashion as a way to participate in these trends. I think that people should really be evaluating what their personal style is and how something fits into their existing wardrobe before purchasing additional "trendy" items, lest they fall into the pitfalls of consumerism. As someone who loves fashion and also the earth. I think that thrifting and shopping second-hand is a perfect way to create a thoughtfully curated wardrobe!

Personally, I love the creativity and diversification of fashion that people adopting "aesthetics" has brought. I feel like prior to 2020, the general public had little to no interest in alternative fashion, and often looked at people who dressed differently as "freaks" or "trying too hard". In 2019 there was a huge dichotomy between "E-girls" and "VSCO girls", and you could probably throw the term "art hoe" somewhere in there, too. These were my first pre-covid glimpses into some distinct aesthetics that originated from the internet, and I feel like this phenomenon increased tenfold with the popularity of TikTok. As much as I love to hate on that app for causing attention-span brainrot, I do have it to thank for introducing me to a lot of interesting fashion, media, music, and subculture content that I otherwise might not have seen without the algorithm hurdling things at me at a million posts per minute. Overall, aesthetics are not bad! I love aesthetics! I just created this zine to clarify the difference between the two, and why some people might get upset when people look a certain way without acting the part.

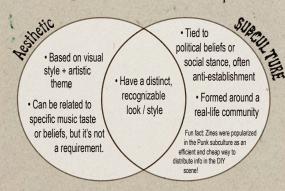
ENBUMINKE

Subculture: "a group having social, economic, ethnic, or other traits distinctive enough to distinguish it from others within the same culture or society."

This definition is broad in the sense that it needs to encompass all forms of subcultures, due to the sheer variety of subcultures. In short, a subculture is a form of cultural or social deviance from a norm with a strict set of rules. When comparing simple dictionary definitions, there is a very prominent distinction between subcultures and aesthetics, but there is also a lot of room for confusion.



Here's a venn diagram to help illustrate some of their differences and overlap:



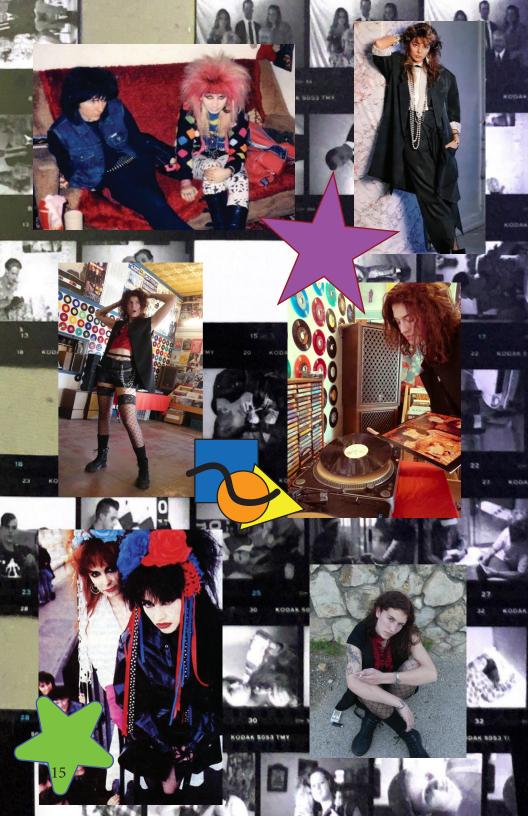


Example: Japanese Lolita fashion. Originating in the '80s on the streets of Haraiuku, most Westerners see Lolita fashion as a doll-like conglomeration of all things frilly, girly, and cute. However, lolita fashion actually has feminist roots. The outfits tend to be modest rather than sexualized. According to the article The Rejection of Normative Culture Through Lolita Fashion, aside from rejecting the social norm of working in an office while pursuing a career, lolita fashion is also about ownership of the female body: "beyond the pursuit of money and career the Lolita subculture resistance to the growing normalcy of sexualized dress, male gaze and male-created beauty is highlighted."

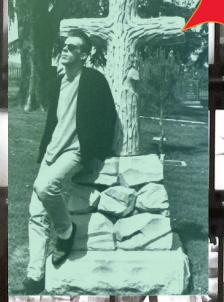
Subcultures collect under shared desires that transcend aesthetics, but just happen to collect under aesthetics as well

11

These pieces of fashion have history, and members of these subcultures believe that ignoring that history is disrespectful to their intention.

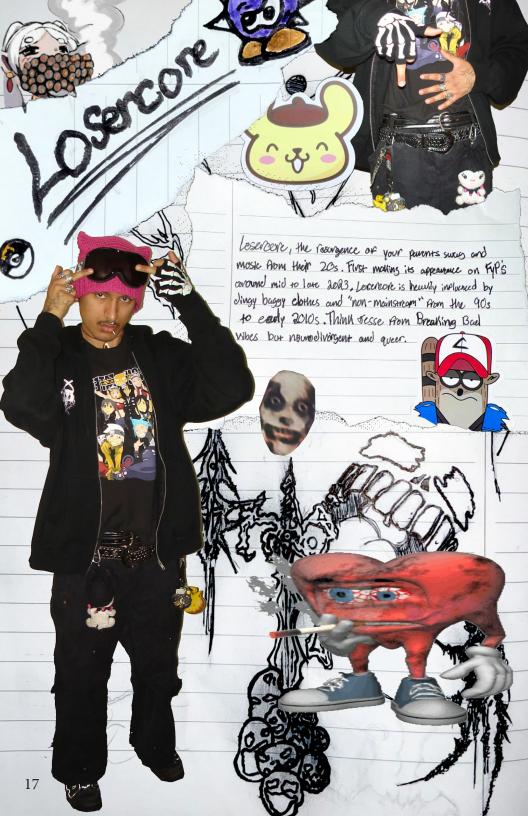


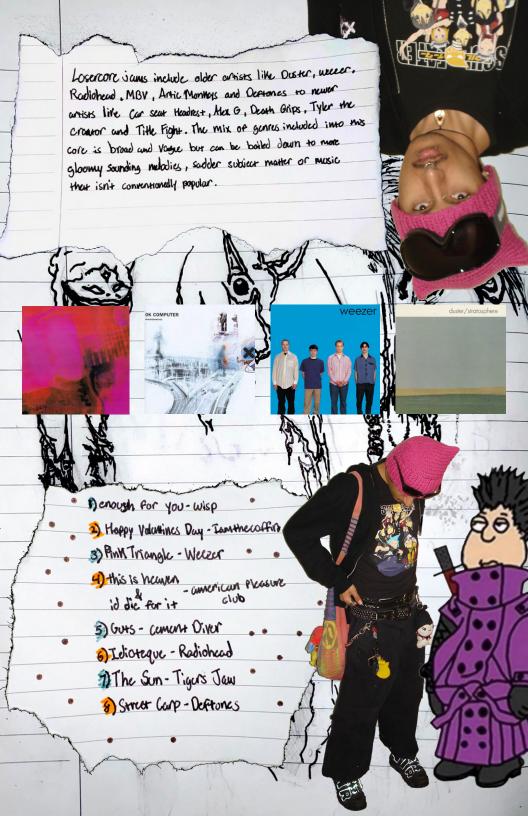














Miss Maggot



Sherry Amore











Traditional Goth began in the late 70's as an extension of the post-punk genre. The goth subculture is largely rooted in the music genre of the same name, but the fashion and style grew out of the Batcave music venue in London. Most goths tend to be accepting and often stand against societal evils.



Rave culture can be traced back to the origin of house music in the 80's.
Raves were often secretive and thus drew in young and rebellious crowds. Ravers embrace free expression and acceptance.





Scene as we know it today is an offshoot of the emo subculture that developed in the early 2000's.

The internet is essential to the scene subculture as well as the idea of individuality and the "DIY" scene.





While often criticized for it's lack of intersectionality, riot grrrl was a feminist movement that involved taking power back from men. It is notable for it's bands, community, and staunch beliefs.







1 ACTION

Starring: Brandon Lee, Rochelle Davis, & Ernie Hudson

Year: 1994

THE CROW

Monis IMDB Rating: 9/10 Stars

Based on James O'Barr's hit comic released in 1989, The Crow Film follows the basic plotline of the comic. Eric Draven has risen from the dead on the one-year anniversary of his & his fiancée's deaths to avenge the crude acts meaninglessly placed upon them. The story follows Eric's path of destruction as he slowly takes out the gang members responsible for the tragedy. The film boasts great character development as Eric struggles throughout the film with his reincarnation af the task at hand. With its soundtrack's use of NuMetal and the film's Grimy setting, the dark tones are harmoniously associated with Brandon Lee's Twisted performance of the anti-hero vigilante.

9 HORROR

Starring: Kevon Dillon & Shawnee Smith

Year: 1988

Monis IMDB Rating: 10/10 Stars

T H E BLOB

Following the horror film trend of 1950's remakes, The Blob is a modern take on the 1958 classic. When a space entity crashes into a rural town, town reject Brian Flagg takes on the hero role to save the town and the girl. An action-packed body horror film that takes the viewer through the towns struggle to destroy a body-melting goo. Complimented With cheesy 80's horror special effects and bad acting, The Blob is a good time for any gore fan. Hailling from my personal list of the best cheesy movie releases, The Blob aims to shock and startle the viewer. It is not recommended for those who can't see a body completely melted in pink gum.

ROMANCE

Starring: Leonardo Dicaprio & Claire Danes

Year: 1996

ROMEO AND JULIET

Monis IMDB Rating: 10/10 Stars

"My only love sprung from my only hate! Too early, seen unknown, and known too late." Can't you understand Shakespeare? Want to see a fast-paced romance with amazing sets, costumes, and guns? Want to be less creeped out by the whole Romeo and Juliet age gap? This movie is for you. One of the best of the Shakespeare to 90's film era that just oozes that 90's style. Everyone knows the story, but this movie takes the time to transport you to what Romeo and Juliet would be like in the era of grunge, the mutiny, & Radiohead. With one of the best soundtracks I've ever seen and Leonardo Dicaprio waving a gun In a Hawaiian shirt every 2 minutes, how could I not recommend this one?

4 SUSPENSE

Starring: Mark Wahlberg & Reese Witherspoon

Year: 1996

Monis IMDB Rating: 8/10 Stars

FEAR

Did your mom ever sit you down & tell you, "Watch this movie & learn something"? If you were a girl with a mother like mine, you were shown this film at 16. Mark Wahlberg stars as David Meall, A seemingly harmless love interest to Reese Witherspoon's Nicole Walker. As the film progresses, David begins to show his true and chaotic character. Going to any lengths to keep his lover, even threatning his father-in-law and attempting to kill his girlfriend's best friend, stepmother, & brother. This one takes a TURN out of nowhere if you aren't prepared for it. Infamous for its chest-pushing scene, this movie is a must-see for girls of all ages. Sometimes the scariest thing in the world is man.

ARCHI-TORTURE PRESENTS

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Shot Eye-sight, Bad Backs, & Last Minute Changes - This Is the Norm For Architecture students everywhere. But the best part of design? those late nights, up at 3 A.M. That I call "The Flow Zone", Moments where you make strides in your work and have your "AHA!" moment. I took the time to interrupt this moment to ask UTSA Arch Students,



EDGAR SANCHEZ







EGL Fashion

Elegant Gothic Lolita fashion (EGL) or commonly known as "Lolita" fashion is an avantgarde alternative fashion known for emerging the on the streets of Harajuku in the late 80's and has been evolving and spreading worldwide ever since. The fashion is not to be confused with the book of the same name, of which the fashion has nothing to do with. Lolita has its roots starting as early as the late 70's in the form of otome kei (maiden style) clothing, with the creation of a few foundational brands, but wasn't coined into the fashion and name we know it as till the mid 80's. By the 70's overly cute aesthetics were massively popular in girls, creating almost a youth cute-ifying culture often coined today as "kamaii culture" where every day aspects of life down to handwriting styles we made cute by its participants. Around this time shojo (girly) genre manga and anime as well as mascot character companies like Sanrio were getting their big break. When these same girls sought to express themselves more and more EGL fashion and the communities that grew around them were born.

Despite its "traditionally" feminine look, EGL fashion in it's core is actually a form of visual and social feminist rebellion, challenging and over exaggerating Japanese beauty standards of the time while also blurring mestern influences. The clothing expressed the fantasy aesthetic that many girls and young momen of the late 20th century tended to romanticize from the media they consumed. Ruffled elegant silhouettes designed by momen for momen to enjoy, a style of clothes not made to appeal to the mature straight edge standards men had on momen.



A group of girls dressed in lolita & other kawaii street styles at harajuku bridge (2010 tokyo fashion.com)



American lolitas gathered in front of the lolita brand Angelic Pretty's flagship store in the US, located in San Fransico. This was for a dinner party and meeting with one of the designers in 2019



A picture from a lolita tea party at Texas anime convention A-Kon in 2022. A-Kon is known as North America's longest running Anime convention

The popularization of Japanese pop culture through anime and manga in the 21st century lead to the west being further exposed to the youth culture of Japan. In turn many forms of "otaku" media introduced people to street fashions such as EGL. Albeit niche, communities a nd online threads for foreign lolitas began to form worldwide, eventually manifesting as in person clubs,

Canaelic &

groups and communities. Western anime conventions began bringing in Lolita brands as quests, welcoming designers to host fashion shows and panels, and of course an easy may to sell their dresses without their customers morrying about overseas shipping costs.

Companies like Angelic Pretty and Baby the Stars Shine Bright would go on to open up western Flagship stores in the US and Europe. Today the fashion has worldwide participants and oodles of substyles and almost every major

3 1city has it's own lolita community, yes including San Antonio!

EGL Sub-Styles

Today many people mix and match styles of all kinds into lolita, but the primary substyle categories can be broken down into these three, with further sustyles per category

Sweet lolita

Sweet lolita is cute and frilly. It can range from over the top cupcake-esque silhouettes on solid pastel fabrics and ribbons, or loud printed pieces. Usually motifs like sweets, toys, and cute animals will be used as themeing! Brands like Angelic pretty, Baby The Stars Shine Bright and Metamorphose temps de fille are best known for their sweet styled clothing.

Pictured is one of my close friend's, Hannah, wearing a sweet lolita coordinate made for the winter time! Instagram cred @rosequartzroyalty



Gothic Iolita

Gothic lolita is what exactly it sounds like, darker pieces usually heavy on blacks and high contrast visuals. Gothic lolita often features crosses and other wester religious symbolism and motifs. There are many overlaps with those who wear romantic and trad goth clothing as the styles go hand in hand visually. Thick lace and heavy embroidery is common but lately designers have been dabbling in printed pieces.

Gothic lolita is more hevily tied to the music subculture known as visual kei, music groups where the singers dressed just as flashy as their often edgy music stylings. Classic lolita and gothic lolita have a bit of an overlap, both having very romantic and elegant components, both being the "original" styles of lolita, with their very european and fantasy influences people associate with princesses and roccoc clothing.

Pictured to the right is Mana, creater of lolita brand Moi-même-Moitié of which he is wearing. Mana not only wears his own brand in a fully feminine and elegant styling but was and currently still is a visual kei artist, being the former guitarist of band Malice Mizer and current creative head of the group Moi Dix Moi. Mana was a trail blazer in lolita fashion due to his mysterious aura lack of regard for

gender roles in fashion. It is important to note that despite it's target audience of women, EGL fashion can be worn by anyone of any gender identity and has been for decades!

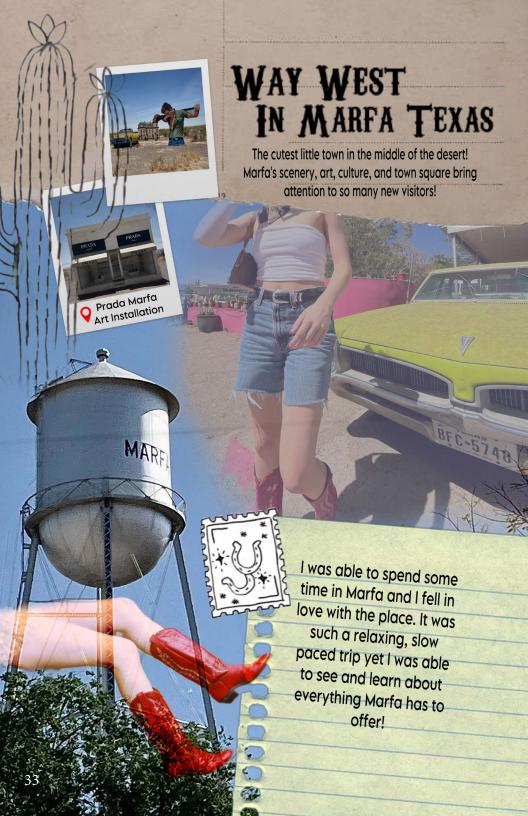


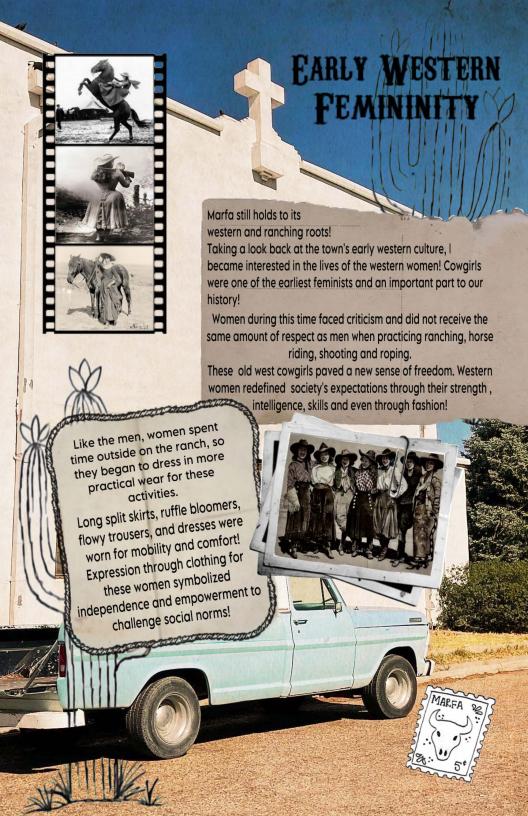
Classic lolita is a style that can be defined as timeless. Patterns feature floral, simple and romantic themeings on the lighter side compared to gothic. Solid prints and simplicity are celbrated in the same breath as ruffles and roses. Classic lolita is historic and elgant in a innocent fashion. Elements of classic can be mixed and matched into other asethetics to create futher styles. Classic lolita can range from something as simple as an Alice in wonderland themed coordinate to a regal princessy look.

Most lolita brands have pieces that could work in classic lolita, as it is somewhatof the default look. To the right is a picture from the brand innocent world, a long standing foundational brand in lolita that highlights the core components of EGL.







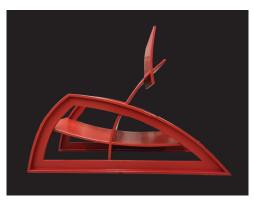








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