



All Looks Chanel Fall/Winter 2021



For the artist and model
but an attitude: Create
immersion in contem
and perceptive. Espe
words Anni Jacoby ph

AMAZON

left to right:
suit and shoes
CHANEL
coat CHANEL

**Model Anna Kuen, age isn't a number
Creativity, empathy and a conscious
contemporary culture keep us humble
Especially her.
by photos Ronald Dick**



left to right: top,
and earrings **CHANEL** jacket, skirt,
jewelry and gloves **CHANEL**



“I want people to be moved.”

nb: You're an artist and a model at the same time. How did you get into modeling and how did you get into art?

ak: Making art has always been and always will be there for me. I don't think you can decide to become an artist – in my case, becoming a painter was decided for me and was inevitable. Working as a model gives me [financial] independence and allows me to work freely and creatively. It is a balancing act to combine your own artistic work and performative work as a model.

nb: As a painter, how do you want to affect others with your art?

ak: I want people to be moved and to see their own story, their own thing in my paintings. That there's some sort of emotional resonance happening.

nb: Is modeling also an artistic expression for you?

ak: Sometimes, yes. But not always. Modeling is performance. You have to find out what is required by the photographer with an intuitive, subtle feeling. And yet, you have to remain true to yourself, let your own character shine through. It's not about mastering as many poses as possible; it's about being able to convey a feeling, and yes, that can certainly also be described as a form of art.

nb: What do you particularly value fashion for at the moment?

ak: Like art, it is often a mirror of sociopolitical developments. We are currently in an incredibly moving, disturbing and intense time, a time in which it is the people's responsibility to change, to break up structures and to position themselves.

jacket, skirt, jewelry and sunglasses
CHANEL

At a time like this – at least that’s how I perceive it – fashion is more of a refuge in a cozy nest in which it is beautiful and pleasant, in which the clothing gives a feeling of comfort and safety.

nb: What do you think is the role of the fashion industry in terms of representation?

ak: As consumers, we perceive what is shown to us again and again as beautiful and aesthetically ‘right’. We are all extremely susceptible to influence. The task is to make more use of the power of imagery to discuss issues of diversity and identity. A lot has happened, but it is nowhere near enough.

nb: Could one say that age is less relevant in art than in the fashion industry?

ak: I believe that a number does not determine age, but an attitude. What is important is what you do, how you express yourself.



“Clothing is a political issue.”



Left to right: look, pants and jewelry
CHANEL pants, earrings
and bangle CHANEL sunglasses and necklace
CHANEL look CHANEL

nb: What would you say are the advantages and disadvantages as a woman in the field of fashion?

ak: Fashion was and always will be a means of expression and liberation for women. But fashion can also be totally restrictive due to conventions. Clothing is a political issue.

nb: Do you have the impression that there is a generation gap within fashion?

ak: I am not sure. Fashion moves forward cyclically. It quotes itself. It's really exciting to meet people who have worked in fashion for different lengths of time. People who redefine themselves and their work again and again, learn from each other. I think the attitude "everything used to be better" is wrong. Anyone who thinks like this is lying to themselves and, above all, is not present.

nb: What do you wish from the field of art and the field of fashion in terms of "age" in an ideal world?

ak: Age is not a criterion for anything. At 85, you can still struggle with the same things as at 25. You can develop further and find new perspectives. That's never tied to a number. I think it's about maintaining flexibility in perceiving yourself and the world.

nb: And as a final question: What do you wish for both of your careers?

ak: I wish that I can continue to grow. That as much as possible is happening in both areas. And that I can touch people with my creative work.

jacket, earrings and necklace
CHANEL

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