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National Life Stories: An Oral History of British Fashion

An Oral History of British Fashion, a collaborative project between National Life Stories and London College of Fashion (University of the Arts London), is a collection of in-depth life story interviews.

[Sound Archive catalogue number: C1046](#)

The fascinating reflections of each of the contributors highlight the importance of recording the craft skills and business techniques of the ever-changing British fashion industries.

The collection includes interviews with:

- Percy Savage, the man who was the first 'fashion PR'
- Lily Silberberg, a former pupil of Barrett Street Needle Trade School and a teacher at London College of Fashion
- Leslie Russell the 'Smile' hairdresser who, in the 1960s, cut the hair of Peter Sellers and Cathy McGowan (of 'Ready Steady Go' fame)
- internationally renowned fashion designer, Betty Jackson
- Savile Row tailor Angus Cundey of Henry Poole & Co
- Marit Allen, former Young Idea at Vogue Fashion Editor from 1963 - 1973 and an award winning costume designer for films such as 'Eyes Wide Shut' and 'The Hulk'
- Tommy Roberts, the owner in the 1970s of the King's Road boutique 'Mr Freedom' and of 'two columbia road' today
- John Church, of Church's Shoes, Northampton
- Michael Southgate of Adel Rootstein mannequins in London.

Partners and sponsors

- London College of Fashion
- Eley Kishimoto

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