

Understated Luxury: The Story of The Carlisle Collection

Founded by William Rondina, Carlisle is the flagship collection of the Connaught Group's luxury fashion lines. Recognized and appreciated by women around the world, these exquisitely made clothes of unsurpassed fabrics and couture-quality craftsmanship combine for consistently elegant dresses, suits, separates, and accessories that are stylish and appropriate, but with timeless style. Since 1982, Carlisle has been an innovative alternative to the common shopping experience. Carlisle provides an intimate environment for women of discerning tastes with four yearly collections shown in private trunk shows and showrooms across the nation.

An Impressive Fashion Pedigree

Carlisle's management and design team have years of experience at some of the most renowned design houses in the world, including Christian Dior, Bill Blass, Tahari, Ellen Tracy, Burberry, Albert Nipon, Mary Ann Restivo, Carmelo Pomodoro, Episode and Ann Klein II. Our designers work with our in-house pattern makers to create truly inspiring looks each season.

Only the Very Best

The team behind Carlisle is known for its stringent fabric and construction standards, approving only the finest materials as the basis for each new collection. This commitment to excellence is one of the many things that keep clients coming back, year after year. Each collection is stylistically distinct, but all offer couture-caliber fabrics and craftsmanship, evident in each garment. Fabrics are selected from the finest mills in Italy, France and England – in many cases, the very same mills used by other well-known couture houses like Valentino, Chanel, and Ungaro. Carlisle is also committed to staying ahead of the curve by ingeniously using select cutting-edge, high-tech blend and synthetic fabrics known for their stretch, wicking and foundation purposes—essential for flattering dressing in modern times.

From concept to completion, Carlisle's design team has a reputation for creating clothing with impeccable detail, from linings and seams to zippers, buttons and trim. Each garment is the product of the company's long-term relationships with Hong Kong's most discerning manufacturers, ensuring the highest level of quality. This seamless, high-end production is rare among design houses and allows Carlisle to consistently deliver products of the very best quality.

A Personalized Shopping Experience

Carlisle has built its brand recognition and reputation for client service over 28 years by investing in the development of Wardrobe Consultants who do far more than sell clothes. They provide women with a specialty store experience, focusing on intimate, personalized service women long for.

The Carlisle Consultants are trained, in effect, to become wardrobe specialists. They host private trunk shows and work with clients by individual appointment to develop and customize a wardrobe tailored to reflect and enhance the client's own best image. The collections are designed to be mixed and matched, thereby creating a multitude of looks to accommodate today's ever-multitasking woman. Women can also experience the personalized luxury of Carlisle in our by appointment only, showrooms on East 52nd Street in Manhattan and on Greenwich Avenue in Greenwich, Connecticut.

A Culture of Entrepreneurship

Carlisle prides itself on attracting and retaining bright, stylish men and women with entrepreneurial zeal. The company invests in these Consultants and associates through training, state-of-the-art management tools and by providing opportunities for growth. Each season, sales consultants and management come together to compare notes from the field and to hear from each collection's design team on the latest fashion trends and how these will be reflected in upcoming collections. The company's investment in its management and consultants cannot be overstated, nor can its return on that investment: Consultant and client loyalty that is unparalleled in the industry, with their ranks increasing daily!

A History of Philanthropy

Carlisle also has a rich history of philanthropy. On an annual basis, the Carlisle design team creates a unique silk scarf that benefits the Susan B. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Since 1998, Carlisle's annual scarf program has raised over \$1,600,000 for the foundation's efforts to help save lives and bring an end to breast cancer.

To learn more about Carlisle and The Connaught Group please visit any of the collection sites at: www.carlislecollection.com, www.persecollection.com or www.theconnaughtgroup.com

"I am very proud to consistently deliver couture-quality clothing with a personalized level of service directly to our clients."

William D. Rondina
Founder, CEO and Chairman, The Connaught Group