

· WARDROBE ·

Suitable Advice

With a new label—and his inimitable insight—Martin Greenfield offers more than tailoring.



WHEN MARTIN GREENHELD JOHN. President Enrohower's custom made mits to the White House, he tucked little notes of pulmical advice into the pockets. Whether the president considered his conssel or ignored is Greenfield never knew, but the salor returned to the Whee House quite a few times. over the next 50 years to matte a number of presidents in suits made at his factory in Brooklen. While

he his stopped hiding notes in pockers, he continues to offer insight to his cheen.

At 84 years old, Generalid-a Holocaust survivor whose concentration camp was liberated by the then General Enrahower-remains andscious and supprises on a varisty of subjects, from points and column to the benefits of a. hand sews, made-to-measure sait, Over the years, Gerenfield often traveled to retailers such as Neiman Marcus and Saks. Fifth Avenue to incurare clients. For a long time, he was a well-kept secret among fashion-industry serram who value the mericulous workmandap of the 140 skilled tailors, corners, and sowers employed in his factory.

It was not ustil a few years ago, when designer Scott Sterriberg approached him about producing mits for his Band of Outsiden collection, that the Gerenfield name became known to the public. Sorroberg instead that each | at completing a beautifully made pucce of clothing. "At the jucket include a tag that read, so part. Thand-tailored by the coul of the day, it is about quality, and that's why people craftspeople at Martin Gerenfield Clothiers, a 100-year-old factory in Brooklyic, New York." The tag generated a number of inquiries, and as Gorcufield's list of pravate clients grew. he and his som, Jay and Tod, decided to launch the Martin | Marin Grenfeld, 718,497,5480, was provide labour on

Greenfield Heritage label, which debated this year. The label includes a new service that offers clients in-hoose or in-office consultations sorts Greenfield or inembers of his team; the client chooses from a host of English and Italian Gibries and is fitted for his made-to-measure unit which mars at \$2,500.

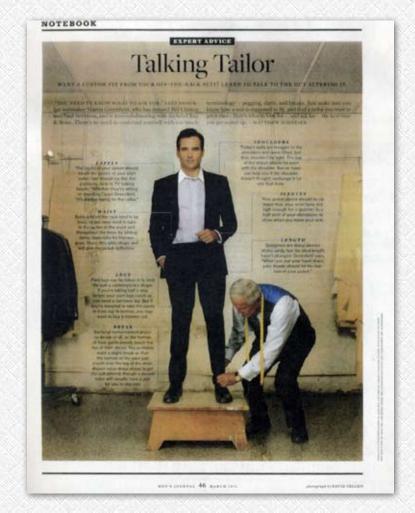
Greenfield's recent affiliations with other brands, such as Duncan Quinn and Rag & Bone, also

deepened his interest in working directly with consumers. "Today handmade clothing is more important," says Greenfield, who wears a tailored suit to the factory five days a week, and on Saturdays works in no less than a button-down shirt, darks, and a vest. The terral for dimmer, trimmer, lighter clothes, he pesses out, is especially importast for the made-to-encouse business."With a sighter fig. the suit must be well-tailored and handmade, so it can move with the man; a man-produced, fined not (which is partially gland rather thus tewn] doesn't mirror.

Greenfield started working in the factory in 1947 at a floor boy; delivering garments to sewers. By the mid-1970s, he bought the business. Today he is most often found on the workshop floor, examining garments and even pressing mays. Time has not dulied his sense of personal satisfaction come to me," he says. Though, no doubt, some of his chems still appreciate the sage advice. - jus sewsoon

Greenfield, long a faction insider's more for materialous infloring, has started his own label and made to example service





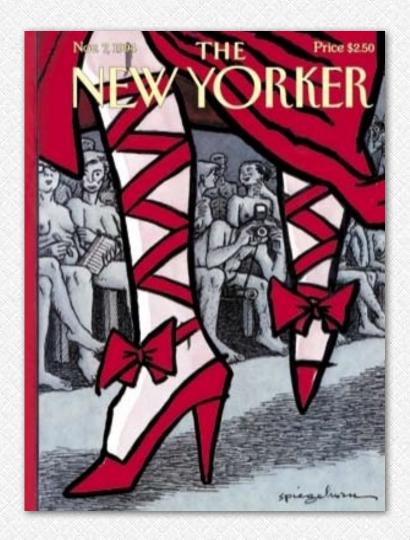




STYLE SETTER

Greenfield scrutinizes each garment, eyeing every stitch, pausing to steam a sleeve or to try on pieces as if

they were his own.





ANNALS OF HABERDASHERY

THE SUIT DOCTOR

You think you might have a problem with the way you dress? There's one way to find out. Go we Martin Greenfield, the man who knows mits

BY CHARLES MCGRATH

ET me explain something to you. Capone look? You think he finds those Martin Greenfield, the tailors' at Syna? teilor, doesn't need your business.

Neiman's, go to Donna Karan, go to Brooks Brothers, even. The top-of-theline suits there—the Brooks Bruthers Golden Fleece collection, the Neiman Maron collection, Donna's Couture suits for enen-see all manufactured by Martin Greenfield, in a hundredyear-old factory building in Brooklyn. On your own, you could never find this place. Never. So why make things difficult for yourself? Go over to Brooks, fourth floor. There's a beautiful charcost-gray mit-a hun dred-per-cent Super 100 wood It's was Look at thistraditional three-hurran styling, but with a differ-

ence. Look at the way this button stands up. That's a greating horn - last year from a Madison Avenue clothdip on the jacket. Not soo shabby, huh? It's so light you could be weating seething at all. This sair fits your life style, or have been glued together. and today life style is everything. Today, it's life style, life style, life style.

All right, just for the take of argonent, let's say you know somebody who ould get you in to see Martin Greenfield. Your boss, maybe. Where do you think your bost gets those sleek doublebreasted jobs he's always wearing—the ones that give him that corporate Al

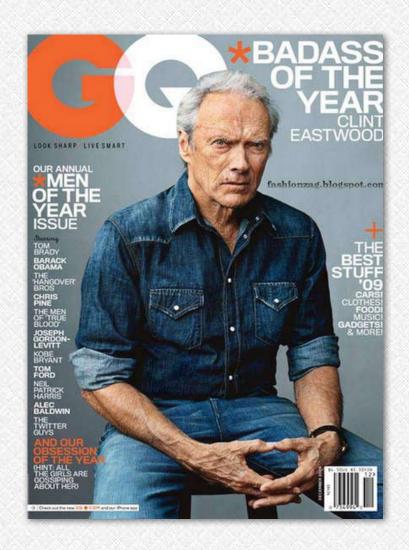
You'll have to take yourself to Brook-Martin Greenfield dresses the President, hp. I'm not even going to get into that, he dresses Paul Newman, he dresses it's so complicated. But what are yet go-Conan O'Brien, he dresses Arnold ing to uver when you see Martin Schwarzenegger. He dresses C.E.O.s. Greenfield It's up to you, but my wore He does this as a frew. You he doesn't is for the two-button in the nailhead. need. You want Greenfield, go to weave—the one you bought off the rack



shake his head and says "Machine."

button, hand-newn. You know what her who shall remain nameless. The suit horn buttons cout? Let me put it this your wife calls the Mintake. But never mind. This is the only garment you own dollars to the cost of the garment. Just that inn't fused. Take it from me, you do not want Martin Greenfield to set you. in a garment whose inner and outer lay-

O.K., you're buttoned into the nailhead. You got a tie on? The one from Barney's? Fine. So now you're sitting in Martin Grennfield's office, on the third [floor of the hundred-year-old factory building, and, admit it, the place looks like well, nor a dump, exactly, but the kind of office where saleumen in a David 1







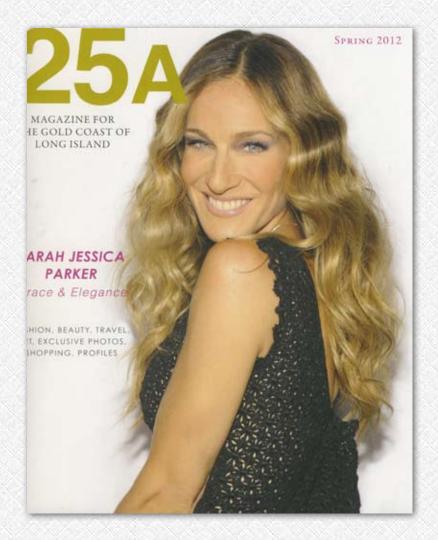












Profiles

MARTIN GREENFIELD **CLOTHIERS**



Martin Greenfield Clothiers in Brooklyn was Tod Greenfield joined in 1985. Working together started in 1977 by Martin Greenfield, after he with Martin, they continue to grow the company. bought the factory from his previous employer, GGG Clothes. Martin had worked his way up from together with Jay's and Tod's combined experience an entry-level floor boy in 1947 to vice president of has established a superb reputation. Martin Green production before that company closed in 1977.

developed into a hybrid manufacturer/contractor, company produces the finest hand-tailored suit Customers supply their own fabric, thereby sav- tuxednes, sport jackets, slacks, and overcoats ing themselves the manufacturer's fabric markup. their price point, This business model provides stability, as every gar. As the very last of what were once over 2,0 ment produced is sure to be delivered. The sumpany similar clothing factories in New York City, Mar doesn't have to deal with unsold merchandese, and tin Greenfield Clothiers continues to operate as there are minimal sales costs.

merchandise they require in advance and commit to foundation for the future of manufacturing in Ne it. They serve innovative designers, specialty retail- York City. ers, costume designers, and discerning individuals. Jay Greenfield joined the company in 1981, and

Martin's 65 years spent producing intrinsic value field Clothiers has achieved worldwide notori Martin started as a manufacturer, but quickly great press coverage, and a loyal customer base. The

union shop out of its 1917 location in Brooklyn. W This model requires customers to decide what are proved to serve as an anchor to the past and

www.greenfieldclothiers.com, or call 718-497-5480-



+ MICHAEL JACKSON 1958-2009 + Jax was sew secret



Tailor Martin Greenfield (L) at Brooklyn shop with sons Jay and Tod. The elder Greenfield was need to make suits (sketches leset) for Michael Jackson. Photos by Linda Resier/Daily News

B'klyn tailor made suits without seeing the star

BY DOUGLAS FEIDEN

IT WAS the most off-the-wall job a Brooklyn

IT WAS the most off-the-wall job a Becooklyn alialor-to-the-stars had ever gotten. Bushwick's Martin Greenfield has fitted Paul Newman and Bill Clinion.— but it dinn't prepare him for working for Michael Jackson. It was a cloak-and-daager operation. Greenfield, 80, wasn't allowed to meet the King of Pop. Handlers explained, "Michael doesn't do Brooklyn." He couldn't get measurements, had to use Jackson's stylist as a stand-in and had to work from headless phoens of the star.

a blue Italian silk suit with tapered waist, 2 inches of shoulder padding, slasted flap pockets and peak lapies that Jackson wore at a rehearsal two days before he died.

two days before he deed.
"T've measured thousands of people and I've made suits for Frank Sinatra, Jerry Lewis, Patrick Ewing and Conan O'Brien," Greenfield asid. "There was nothing quite like making suits for Michael Jackson - and in the end, there

was nothing sadder."
The thrillier began when Chelsea stylist Zaldy
— who uses only his first name — showed up in
May at Greenfleld's Varet St. factory.
He brought sketches for four outlits, silk and
woof fabrics; metallic buttoeholes for gold
chaims; and red jacket iming printed with imag-

chaims, and red jacket imag printed with imag-se of Jackson munocualiting.

There would be no measurements, not future, no similarly steed suits to work from— and no Jackson, Zakby explained.

"How can we make his costumes if we can't get his sizes?" Greenfield's son, Jay, asked.

"Simple," said the small-boned Zaldy. "He is my size, and if it fits me, it will fit been.

Greenfield's workers made a muslin — can-vas upon which a garment is fashioned — and

Zaldy flew it to L.A., draped it over Jackson, took photos and returned to Brooklyn. When the Greenfields were handed the pic-tures, Jackson's head had been cut off.

They used them to craft a better-fitting mus-tin and Zaldy shuttled to L.A. again, returning with a new set of headless photos.

with a new set of relacious photos.

The process included a third time in early June. After three trips and eight photos, work was completed on two suits for the show — and two backup duplicates.

Three were shipped to Zaldy — who did not respond to calls and e-mails for comment from the Daily News — by mid-June. The last went out June 26, the day after Jackson died. The \$10,000 hill was promptly paid,
"It would have been nice if these were the first sails we made for Michael Jackson — instead of the last," Jay Greenfield said.

All His Tux In a Row

Master Tailor Martin Greenfield Has the Measure Of Clients Like the President and Gen. Powell

By Robin Givhan — The Washington Post — Thursday, May 15, 1997

A shope again the gape their gape to the gape to the gape their ga Provident Johnson and Ford have serve to handwork. Today, he is the sailor who knows that retired Gen. Calin Dowell prefers to want a single-bettered

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"A for of people wanted from of being far," Greenfield says. "Hick in very good shape."

The raise understands that a culy splen-tial and begins with fine day greeds, the hardi-mark of six led fragers—new an assumption for markine—and an unspeculable life. By the time-it is interplated, though, in his become much more than a more gornest.

"A can to a recomply of civilization," one art bisseries Area Hollander, author of "Sen and Suite."

a matter tent.

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Coverheld to Donna Kana.

se artist, the best as the business."

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very formular. Weakington's political establishment, the folics who hastest Benedix, Bresthers, for enterior, between the folics with the property of page, there is no submaried to the property of the prope



The Making of a Tailor

It can take up to 100 hours to make Growthild out. The Golden Florer label by