

Obituary: Bernat Klein (1922-2014)

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Bernat Klein was a Yugoslavian-Serbian designer and artist, working primarily in Scotland. In 1940 he attended the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design in Jerusalem, transferring to the University of Leeds in 1945, where he studied textile technology. He was employed by various textile companies in England and Scotland until 1952, when he established Colourcraft (Gala) Ltd, a weaving workshop in Galashiels, producing rugs and other items which were sold in his shop in Edinburgh. In 1962, Coco Chanel chose Klein's textiles for her spring collection, which led to further sales to Dior, Balenciaga, Pierre Cardin and Saint Laurent. Klein resigned from the company in 1966, a year after publishing *Eye for Colour*, preferring to set up his own studio near Selkirk, where he established a cottage industry of textile crafts employing some 250 people. Until then primarily a textile designer and manufacturer, from the 1970s he began producing clothing collections, and later established himself as a design and colour consultant. He won a Design Council Award in 1968, and was awarded an honorary degree from Heriot-Watt University in 2003.

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