



# BIOGRAPHY

## MS. VANESSA NOEL

Vanessa Noel was born and raised in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania on the main line from aristocratic lineage that hails directly back to the last king of Germany, Kaiser Wilhelm. During Noel's childhood her mother was best friends with Grace Kelly. She attended Cornell University where she graduated with a degree in Fine Arts and Architecture.

Early in her career Noel drew the inspiration for her shoes from her architecture background, stating, "I view my shoes as sensual art objects. I create them to be both an individual sculpture and a natural, elegant extension of a woman's leg."



Noel's unique shoes are considered works of art by so many that they are included in the collections of The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, The Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Massachusetts, and Rheinnisches Landesmuseum in Bonn, Germany.

As one of the few designers still designing every collection, Vanessa Noel travels the world sourcing rare and unique materials. Noel also works closely with her Italian tanneries to create exclusive exotic skins such as glow in the dark python, translucent alligator, and most recently 24-karat gold fused alligator. In 2004 Vanessa Noel debuted her stretch alligator boots after developing a process to create stretch alligator from top quality Louisiana alligator skins with her Italian tannery, and Noel holds exclusive use of the stretch skins. Now a Vanessa Noel signature, her over-the-knee stretch alligator boots were chosen by costume designer Patricia Field to be featured on Kim Cattrall in the famous fashion week scene in Sex and the City the movie.

### **TIMELINE OF VANESSA'S CAREER**

- 1987: Vanessa Noel simultaneously launched her fashion label and her first boutique on East 66th Street and Madison Avenue.
- 1989: Vanessa Noel launched her bridal shoe collection.
- 1991: Vanessa Noel opened her second shoe boutique on the exclusive resort island of Nantucket, Massachusetts.
- 2002: Vanessa Noel became the first and only American designer to own her own hotel with the launch of the Vanessa Noel Hotel (VNH), the first boutique hotel in Nantucket.
- 2004: Vanessa Noel opened her flagship boutique located on the ground floor of her Upper East Side brownstone at East 64th street and Lexington Avenue. Designed by Noel, the nearly 2,000 square foot space is a stunning representation of her signature laid-back luxury style and impeccable taste.
- 2005: Noel opened her second hotel, Nantucket Island's first, and still only, environmentally conscious luxury hotel, the Vanessa Noel Hotel Green.
- 2006: Vanessa Noel opened Nantuc