

JOHN LAWRENCE SULLIVAN

SS21 PRESS RELEASE

For Spring Summer 2021, Arashi Yanagawa heightens the underground narrative of John Lawrence Sullivan taking inspiration from Robert Mapplethorpe. Yanagawa challenges the philosophies around classical beauty; his Spring Summer 2021 Look Book pays homage to Mapplethorpe's work, using a combination of Black and White bordered portraits alongside simple yet tranquilly beautiful full body shots.

Following John Lawrence Sullivan's core aesthetic of dark subcultures; Yanagawa directly approaches fetishism through strategically positioned body piercings, penetrating the clothing, Yanagawa regenerates heavy leathers, snake print materials and playful multifunction tops, echoing the attraction to dark, industrial cultures.

A key item for Spring Summer is the bespoke face mask holder and fetish face mask. The multifaceted chain holder can be used with a face mask, as a sunglasses chain or as a necklace, and comes in a delicate pearl, thin silver or heavy metal industrial chain, with the fetish style mask being offered in leather and nylon with fastenings on the sides and front.

Yanagawa continuously plays with the restrictions of classic tailoring, from exaggerating wide leg trousers and built in body-harnesses to adapting blazers with side fastening buttons and removable panelling in the shoulders and lining. John Lawrence Sullivan also introduces a two-way leather Garment bag. For Spring Summer, the new striking white denim is clashed with black and adapted with detachable knee panels.

KEY STOCKIST LIST

MENSWEAR

SHINE - HONG KONG

TOM GREYHOUND - SEOUL

WORKSOUT - SEOUL

H. LORENZO - LOS ANGELES

SSENSE - ONLINE / MONTREAL

WOMENSWEAR

MEI MEI - CHENGDU

NOT JUST ANOTHER STORE – LONDON

BIOGRAPHY

Founder Arashi Yanagawa did not train as a fashion designer, instead beginning his career as a professional boxer before founding his brand in 2003.

Named after the 20th century American heavyweight champion, John Lawrence Sullivan pays homage to a man who embodied traits of strength, personality, and dignity—and who never shied away from a challenge.

Based in Tokyo and with three standalone stores in Japan and over 60 worldwide stockists.