



edmundo castillo

Written by: Eila Mell

“I love seeing a woman walking in heels with confidence, like she was born in them.”

Edmundo Castillo came to New York from his native Puerto Rico to pursue his career as a shoe designer.

He worked for Donna Karan and Ralph Lauren before launching his eponymous line. In addition, Castillo served as creative director of Sergio Rossi!

In 2001 he was awarded the prestigious Swarovski's Perry Ellis Award for Accessory Design from the CFDA.

We sit down with Edmundo and talk about his latest collection and more!



Does a collection evolve out of the previous one or do you usually end up doing something completely different?

“There are always a few shoes that are an evolution of the previous collection, but there are times that I like to start from scratch and do something different - a new mood. Always staying true to my style of course.”

Your Spring 2012 collection has so many fantastic options for women. I'm obsessed with the multi-colored peep toe pump, but also love the woven sneakers. Do you have a favorite among your collection?

“From the Spring collection I particularly love a style called Rosangela. There's something nostalgic about that shoe that I love. I also love the snake espadrilles and its colors. But, if the shoe makes it to the collection it is because I love it. So I love them all for different reasons.”

Edmundo Castillo SS12



Edmundo Castillo SS12



Edmundo Castillo shoes are so comfortable, without sacrificing any style. How important is that to you as a designer?

“A certain level of comfort in high heels is crucial. Soles are made to walk with and high heels are made for women to look and feel sexy in. Comfort is also relative, but there are things that can be done to shoes to make them feel not as high as they really are.”

I love seeing a woman walking in heels with confidence, like she was born in them and comfort does that.”

Is it a thrill to see women on the street wearing your shoes?

“The best thrill!”

Do your women's and men's collections have to be related somehow, or are they totally separate collections?

“Not really. I like to pick a style or two from the men's collection and do it also for the women's, but they are items that I feel can translate into the women's collection in different colors and combinations.”

I also like to keep the mood or the inspirations completely different. Manuele and I wanted Casbia to be a guy's thing.”



Edmundo Castillo SS12

What are some mistakes you see women make when it comes to shoes?

“I see a lot of women wearing high heels that look too big on them. It's a terrible mistake to wear heels that are not the perfect fit. It is so important to keep the correct arch support and a lot of women ignore that or don't know how important it is to avoid destroying their feet and back.”

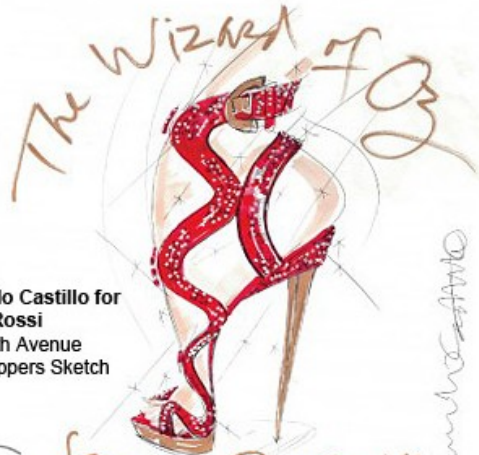
What's the best thing about your job?

“So many things. I love traveling and having great friends from around the world.

But being able to imagine and create new ideas every season is definitely the most fun part.”



Edmundo Castillo for Snakeskin & Suede



Edmundo Castillo for Sergio Rossi
Saks Fifth Avenue
Ruby Slippers Sketch



Edmundo Castillo
Using electroluminescent materials via L.E.D.

Sergio Rossi's Dorothy's slipper



Edmundo Castillo for Tommy Hilfiger
Rope strap sandals



Edmundo Castillo SS12
Rope platform heels



from sketch to shoe

