

Local
**STYLE
 PROFILES**



Get to know Tokyo-based designers and trendsetters –find out what inspires their style and where they love to shop in the city

SOLÈNE BALLESTA
 Collector / Founder of KOMOREBI

KOMOREBI COLLECTION IS...
 My personal Japanese vintage collection. I want to spread and highlight Japanese vintage clothing and reveal them to the world.

TOKYO FASHION IS... Something you can see nowhere else. Two things that really marked me when I started vintage shopping in Tokyo were how clean and meticulous the shops were, and the absolute originality of the items you can find. Tokyo is one of the best cities in the world to develop your sense of style. You can dress exactly how you like, and nobody will care or repress you for it.

MY TOP PLACES TO SHOP IN TOKYO ARE...

ASAKUSA: All the little kimono shops close to Hoppy Dori in Asakusa: This is where the magic happens.

BINGO SHIBUYA: Bingo Shibuya: You can find some very beautiful Japanese designer items here as well as a timeless selection. @bingo_shibuya

CHOCOLATIER ERICA: They have gorgeous kimonos and crazy bags. www.bazz-store.com and www.haneq.co.jp

 komorebICollection.com

 @komorebi_collection_tokyo

Kimono for the New Age



Whether recycled or upcycled, the traditional Japanese garment adds some oomph to your everyday wardrobe

— Compiled by Solène Ballesta

In recent years, kimono has seen something of a revival fueled by a love of traditional patterns and colors but also a vision of what kimono might look like in the future. Scouring the vintage shops of Shimokitazawa and Asakusa, you can occasionally find hidden gems in the shape of impeccably kept haori or classic bags featuring luxurious kimono fabric. Incorporating them into your wardrobe is easier than you might first think.



AM I THE DRAMA?

Michiyuki are a traditional cover designed to be worn over a kimono in cold weather. Their oversized cut makes for a perfect statement and layering piece for when you want to look calm, cool and collected. For a chic monochromatic look, pair with a matching top and a wide-legged pant. For a bold and dramatic look, pair with a contrasting skin-tight bodysuit (preferably patterned). Red michiyuki kimono from Komorebi.



FIT FOR SHIBUYA

In contrast to michiyuki, haori are short kimono jackets traditionally worn by men. From the 1930s, however, women in Tokyo adopted it and nowadays it's considered a proper genderless piece. A stylish haori can be worn in place of a cardigan, for example, and are easy to pair with skirts. For a Shibuya street-style look, opt for an asymmetrical haori with mesh details around the neckline to throw on over a long-sleeve top. White cotton and red mesh haori from Komorebi.





ACCENTUATED ACCESSORIES

If you keep your eyes peeled, you can also find vintage kimono accessories in Tokyo's vintage shops. Available in a range of designs featuring kimono fabric, ditch the evening designer bags for one of these hidden gems. Not only is it cheaper but you'll likely be the only one flaunting it at the party. Black satin purse from Komorebi.



TRANSPARENT SOUL

You can never go wrong with a black kimono – or in this case, a black haori. Whether you're putting together an all-black outfit for a night out or are looking for something simple to cover your shoulders and arms, a neutral-colored haori is our new favorite closet staple. Pair over a white top and pant set for an eerie but put-together look. Black transparent haori from Komorebi.