For Top Wedding Gown Designers, It's Made in the USA or Nothing

While most of America's clothing is made in other countries, wedding gowns by many of the top designers are still made in the U.S.

March 4, 2010 - <u>PRLog</u> -- Raleigh, North Carolina March 2,2010 Think everything comes from China these days? Worried about the working conditions of sweatshops overseas, poor quality goods, and sending all of our money to other countries? Brides who prefer the "Made in the U.S.A." label have a pleasant surprise in store: a large percentage of all of the top name wedding gowns are actually handcrafted right here in America.

If there is one designer who is the best known and most desired in the wedding gown world, it has got to be Vera Wang. Born in New York City, Vera Wang started her bridal business there in 1990, and her trendsetting wedding gown collection is still manufactured in the United States today. As other fashion companies have moved their operations overseas to cut costs, many of the top bridal designers have chosen to retain their domestic factories to ensure the quality and attention to detail which brides expect from the all-important wedding gown. Of course, everything comes with a price tag, which is why it is primarily the more expensive wedding gowns which are handmade in America, while the budget dresses are mass produced overseas.

Vera Wang is by no means alone in her choice to keep her bridal gown production in the U.S. She is in good company, with other couture wedding designers like Carolina Herrera, Monique Lhuillier, Reem Acra, and Oscar de la Renta. Many other bridal companies such as Amsale, Christos, Lazaro, Judd Waddell, Amy Michelson, and Nicole Miller also take pride in manufacturing their bridal fantasies right here in America. New York is the most popular production site, with L.A. being another hub for domestic wedding gown manufacturing.

The word factory conjures up dusty sweatshops filled with underpaid workers feverishly working for hours on end with no break. That is far from the case at the domestic bridal gown factories, however. When white silk is the chief material, the setting must be pristine. Skilled artisans and seamstresses make each wedding gown individually to order at long padded tables. There are specialists in every aspect of bridal gown production, from pattern making, to cutting, to sewing, to hand beading. Bridal is big business to be sure, but American wedding gown factories are far from the typical image of a manufacturing facility. When the chief designer is nearby, quality control is assured.

With so many people looking for ways to keep their money in the American economy, brides will be relieved to know that not everything for sale comes from a factory overseas. The bridal industry in the United States has by and large done a good job of resisting the lure of cheap labor and lowered production values which come from moving operations out of the U.S.

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