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Handmade heaven



Was a time that craftsmanship was the order of the day instead of mass produced, readymade, disposable madness. I want that time back. I want things that are made specifically for me rather than for thousands upon thousands of women that fit my demographic and shopping profile. Hetty Rose is a designer I really admire, not just because she handmakes

her shoes but because she also uses vintage Japanese kimonos as her uppers. These exquisite shoes are a work of art.

I have a pretty good kimono story. When Raj and I were in San Francisco we found this bizarre Aladdin's Cave of a shop in the Italian quarter that was just wonderful. They mostly imported things from central Asia but this man in the back had a big old dresser crammed full of old kimonos and half kimono tops that were all on sale. It was working out at about £10 per top but since



Raj was with me and we both hate shopping, I only got one top and ran out the shop. You know buyer's remorse? Boy did I feel that when I came back to London. Not because I'd bought the top but because I hadn't bought several while the going was good. In the end I sent my beloved kimono top to Pakistan for a tailor to figure out how it was put together and make me several more in raw silk. It always comes down to craftsmanship.



Visit www.hettyrose.co.uk for more on Hetty's shoes and how to get a pair made just for you. Bear in mind it takes 4-8 weeks and, compared to some shoemakers, the price is very reasonable starting at about £290. About the same as a pair of readymade designer shoes on sale. Except these will be made just for you. Get in there quick before she's required to raise her prices in line with the amount of work that goes into each pair.