



Designer Michael Nguyen, and (inset) Drake sporting a Garrison bespoke suit



## Q&A: Michael Nguyen

### The man behind T.O.'s Garrison bespoke, the tailor most trusted by Drake

Michael Nguyen, the third generation in his family to work in the tailoring business, has created a bespoke house frequented by everyone from local celebrities like Drake to the entire Toronto FC team.

#### When did you first fall in love with bespoke suits?

I got a white tuxedo for my first communion. I wore it to the ceremony, and the way I felt in it and the way people noticed it had me hooked.

#### What inspired you to open Garrison?

It was an opportunity for me to follow my passion and my family's legacy in a way that I love. We were pioneers in the market when Garrison first opened. I offer designer bespoke based on the concept that men want clothing that looks great on them, elicits many compliments and fits them.

#### Who are some of your celebrity clients?

I'm really proud and excited about the work we do on the NBC show *Suits*. We provide Harvey Specter's [played by Gabriel Macht] bespoke suits. And we get to demonstrate creativity with the dressing of Hannibal on that TV series. Drake is phenomenal to work with, and David Foster is also a ton of fun. I'm also a huge sports nut. We've created team suits for the Raptors and Toronto FC made from a stretch fabric that has full mobility, to the point they could conceivably play sports in them.

#### Apart from Garrison, where do you shop in the city?

Due West at Queen and Spadina is a shop that I frequent weekly. The guys there are great and have a cool, curated selection of sportswear.

#### Where do you get your style inspiration?

Travel. I travel once or twice a month, and I'm lucky that it's either to the meccas of tailoring, like London or Napoli, or to spots where a lot of guys are wearing suits in unique ways like L.A. or Paris.

#### Why is a good suit so essential to a man's wardrobe?

It's the most flattering thing a man can wear. A good suit that fits your lifestyle, be it classic or casual, is the core staple in every man's wardrobe.