

In the closet with Olga Fedori

The *Holby City* star loves eco-friendly fashion – and hunting for bargains

Words and styling by Tricia Welch



“At a high school dance my underskirt fell down. I stepped over it and kept waltzing”

Olga, 27, left the Ukraine at 17 to study in the States. She cut her teeth on stage in New York before moving to London in 2006 and has since appeared in *Skins*, *Trial and Retribution* and *EastEnders*.

How do you describe your style? Constantly evolving.

What colours, shapes and styles suit you best? I love white but also vibrant colours and natural fabrics. I try to buy ethically produced clothes and avoid leather when I can.

Who is your style icon? I don't have one, but I like how Kristen Stewart dresses – I admire her simplicity.

Which celebrity's wardrobe would you most like to own? Helena Bonham Carter's. You can tell she has fun when she dresses up.

How do you dress on “fat” days? Baggy jeans or a long, flowing skirt.

How long does it take you to get ready in the morning? Ideally, I like to spend half an hour meditating, followed by 15 minutes of chanting and then yoga before a shower. But usually, I only have time for a few minutes' meditation.

Do you have a stylist? No, but I had some help from Helen, the stylist on *Holby City* for the recent TV Awards.

What is your current favourite outfit? A chambray blue dress by Katya Katya Shehurina.

Is there an “old favourite” that you turn to in a wardrobe crisis? It depends on the crisis. Probably jeans.

What is the oldest item in your wardrobe? A dress my mother made 13 years ago. She made most of my clothes for me when I was growing up.

What is the one item of clothing you couldn't live without? There isn't one.

Do you clear out your wardrobe each season? No, I keep most

of my clothes until they fall apart.

Have you ever made a fashion faux pas? Yes, one of the funniest was at a high school dance and my underskirt fell down. I just stepped over it and kept on waltzing.

What is your most successful party outfit? A kimono over a short tutu outfit. It gets me lots of compliments and it's fun to wear.

Do you own more day wear than evening wear? I don't differentiate.

How much of your wardrobe is black? Twenty per cent, mainly basics like jackets and trousers.

Do you have a favourite LBD? Yes, a fitted dress my mother made for me.

Do you own anything vintage? Not now but I used to have quite a few pieces as a student at Harvard. There were a lot of vintage shops near the university.

What is your favourite designer and high-street shop? Alexander McQueen, although I don't have a high-street favourite because I prefer little boutiques and one-off stores.

What is your best fashion bargain? I'm a really good bargain hunter. One of my recent buys was a pair of gold Paris Hilton heels from TK Maxx. They cost about £30.

How many handbags do you own? Just four.

Do you have more shoes than clothes? No. Again, I avoid buying leather shoes.

Do you wear silver or gold jewellery? I inherited some pieces from my grandmother, but my current favourites are necklaces and bracelets I bought in Bali.

Do you have a fashion address book secret? Katya Katya Shehurina. It's a boutique in Kingly Court, Carnaby Street, London.

What article of clothing would you save from a burning house? Nothing matters that much. 📍

Holby City is on BBC1 every Tuesday at 8pm.



Facing page: Olga wears a blue chambray off-the-shoulder dress by Lithuanian designer Katya Shehurina. She loves its oversized sleeves and assymetric hem. "It's a real showstopper and looks different from every angle," says the actress

This page, clockwise, from top left: This oversized straw hat was an airport purchase, with cheap and cheerful sunglasses from Olga's recent holiday to Thailand

Olga has very few vintage pieces but this pretty rose tea dress was a bargain buy from her student days at Harvard, costing less than £10. The pink and green floral dress edged in lace is one

of the many pieces made for Olga by her mother

Stunning in red, this long dress with black straps and a cream beaded trim is also by Katya Shehurina. Her boutique in London's Carnaby Street is Olga's fashion address book secret

"I try to buy ethically and avoid leather when I can," says Olga. This oversized bag made from recycled fabric was bought from an artist's village in Northern Thailand. Here it's teamed with two pairs of colourful Inca-style espadrilles, also from Thailand

One of Olga's favourite colours is white – this diaphanous dress is another from Katya Katya

Shehurina. "I love the purity of white," she says

Olga bought this orange hand-knitted top and choker from California. Her "sacred geometry" necklaces and bracelet from Bali are current favourites

Olga loves tribal jewellery and these feather earrings were bought in Koh Phangan in Thailand. The bracelets are from Serendipity, a Fairtrade store in Brighton, and the pendant, a good luck charm, is from a craft shop in Kiev

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