

Power dressing

Giancarlo Alhadeff

Giancarlo Alhadeff, 59, is founder of Milan- and London-based Studio Alhadeff Architects. Founded in 1991, Studio Alhadeff works on projects in the US, UK, Japan as well as Asia and the Middle East.

Shirt by personal shirtmaker

If I had to describe my style, the key word would be informal. As architects we see ourselves as being active on site rather than at a desk. My favourite shirts are made by my beloved shirtmaker, who is sort of a family secret. My family has been going to her for about 10 years. The shirts are white piquet with no initials; white is the only colour that lets me think. They must have a pocket for the pen I carry with me, ready to explain something on paper. I find ties constrictive.

Jacket by Aspesi

I only wear dark blue blazers. My jacket is like my Mac computer, beyond discussion and essential. This jacket is by Aspesi and from Tincati, a store in Milan and is slightly lighter for summer. I also love my Aspesi micro-fibre over-shirt which is great for travelling around Milan on my *motorino*. It is to me what architect Jim Stirling's blue shirt and blue and white polka dot tie were to him in the 1970s. I was very inspired by him as a student.

www.apesi.it

www.tincati.mi.it

Trousers by Incotex

These light grey wool trousers are too light for British weather. I love this brand and I know only a couple of stores that sell them. I am addicted to the low-rise style – very comfortable. The detailing is great and they are slim-legged. I like my trousers quite neat.

www.incotex.it

Belt by Ermenegildo Zegna

I wear one of two reversible belts, in brown or black. I keep buying this classic style. I have lost one or two at the airport, forgetting to pick them up after security.

www.zegna.com

Shoes by Tod's

I wear Tod's slip-ons unless I am on-site when I wear Merrells. I used only to wear Church's, like my father, but they are impractical if you travel a lot: they are heavy.

I probably own about 20 pairs of Tod's slip-ons.

www.tods.com

Watch by IWC

I have had this watch for 16 years. Having a watch with the date is essential.

www.iwc.com

Glasses by Persol

I like the fact that the frames are transparent. But I don't like frameless glasses – I would destroy them as I am always putting them in my pocket.

www.persol.com

