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PAUL GILES

Hawaiian in loud return

Shirt worn by actor Tom Selleck in '80s TV show *Magnum, P.I.* is the 'in' look

FOR too long it has been considered the wearable postcard and the clown prince of the male wardrobe, but I could not be happier to inform you all that the Hawaiian shirt – also known as the Aloha shirt – is back.

It first made an appearance in the early 20th century when the Hawaiian Islands experienced an influx of immigrants arriving to work at the Pacific islands' many plantations.

As these workers came in from all parts of the globe, they brought with them their origin's garments-of-choice.

The Japanese brought along their kimonos, the straight hem was introduced from the Philippines and the American's influence came through with the collar. Blend all these ingredients together and you have the iconic Aloha shirt.

When returning to his island home after earning a degree in economics from Yale, Waikiki merchant Ellery Chun made the first commercially produced Hawaiian shirts in the mid-1930s.

Remembering the clothing made for him by his mother when he was a child, Chun started by sewing some shirts for the tourists from some leftover kimono fabrics. Soon his slow-sales dry goods company, King-

Smith Clothiers, was producing all they could make.

The *Honolulu Advertiser* newspaper was the first to use the term Aloha shirt to describe Chun's creation.

I had the fortunate experience of living in this idyllic paradise for a few years and witnessed first-hand the status of this legendary piece of clothing.

An Aloha shirt and slacks is the business attire of Hawaii.

Show up in a suit or shirt and tie and you must be one of the following: an attorney going to court on the wrong side of the law, a Mormon on a mission riding a bicycle, selling Amway or you're from the US mainland and nobody told you what not to wear.

They come in an abundance of designs and fabrics but it's best to stay with natural fibres. The best look is when paired with pale, smart shorts or white and neutral cotton pants, remembering the rule of only one bold piece per outfit.

Tom Selleck's jungle bird Hawaiian shirt that he wore on the 1980s TV show *Magnum, P.I.* is now in the Smithsonian Institution. Say no more.

Former Calvin Klein model Paul Giles runs image consultancy firm Style Shift. Daily tips can be found on [facebook.com/StyleShift](https://www.facebook.com/StyleShift)

