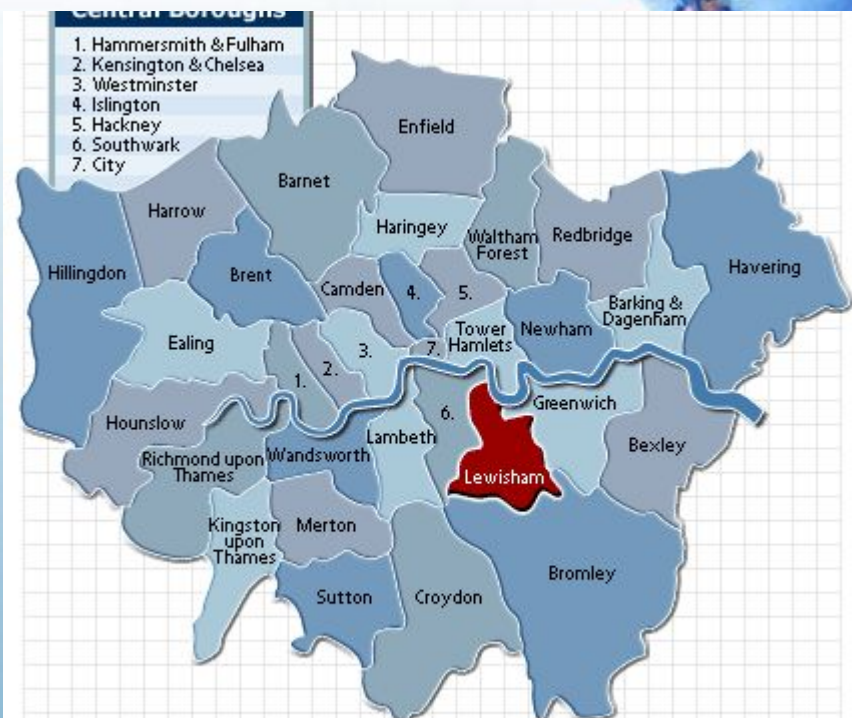# Lee Alexander McQueen. Fashion designer

March 17, 1969 –February 11, 2010

Alexander McQueen

was born on March 17, 1969, into a working-class family living in public housing in London's Lewisham district. His father, Ronald, was a cab driver, and his mother, Joyce, taught social science. On their small incomes, they supported McQueen and his five siblings. McQueen, called "Lee" by his friends

At age 16, McQueen dropped out of school. He found work on **Savile Row**, a street in London's **Mayfair district** famous for offering made-to-order men's suits. He worked first with the tailor shop Anderson and Shephard, and then moved to nearby Gieves and Hawkes.

McQueen decided to further his clothes-making career, and moved on from Savile Row. McQueen began working with **theatrical costume designers Angels and Bermans**. The dramatic style of the clothing he made there would become a signature of his later independent design work.

McQueen then left London for a short stint in Milan, where he worked as a design assistant to Italian fashion designer Romeo Gigli. Upon his return to London, he enrolled at **Central Saint Martin's College of Art & Design**, and received his M.A. in fashion design in 1992.

He became head designer of the Louis Vuitton – owned Givenchy fashion line and, in 2004, launched his own menswear line.

He earned the British Fashion Council's British Designer of the Year award four times, and was named **Commander of the Order of the British Empire.**

Meanwhile, McQueen opened stores in New York, Milan, London, Las Vegas and Los Angeles. With the help of Gucci's investment, McQueen had become even more successful than he was before. Already known for the flare and passion of his shows, McQueen produced even more interesting spectacles after leaving Givenchy. For example, a hologram of model **Kate Moss** floated ethereally at

It was announced on 11 February 2010 that McQueen had been found dead at his Mayfair home. The news came just days after the death of **his beloved mother, Joyce**. He was only 40.

The Bad Boy of the British fashion

Collection after working with **Kodji Tatsuno**

Spring-autumn 2011

The princess Kate Middlton

The hat with Butterflies

The last collection – Autumn/ Winter 2011