Issey Miyake (on loan from Dr Gene Sherman), 2008

Consumers can elect to buy high quality garments that may be ‘timeless’, or ‘original’ in their design. Designers such as Issey Miyake are known to produce fashion garments that befit these categories – timeless in their appeal yet unusual and at times spectacular in their design. While these types of fashion garments are often more expensive for the consumer, their considered design allows a garment to transcend the traditional six-monthly fashion season.

Gene Sherman’s love and collection of Japanese fashion garments is well documented. Each season Sherman will purchase a small number of fashion articles that will replace the same number of existing pieces within her wardrobe. As Sherman considers the care and storing of her clothing to be critical to the longevity of the pieces, some of these items are then suitably donated to the Powerhouse Museum’s collection in Sydney. Slowing and reducing fashion consumption can be very much in the hands of the consumer. Sherman’s approach to the limited wardrobe, whilst not typical, is within the reach of the average consumer.

Credit: Photography