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The Most Fashion-Forward Films On At The Tribeca Film Festival

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I write about the crossover between fashion and pop culture.

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Jun 19, 2023, 10:21am EDT

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Rock Hudson (Photo by Herbert Dorfman/Corbis via Getty Images) CORBIS VIA GETTY IMAGES

You can't have film without fashion, even though costume designers are backstage, while actors strut their style on the red carpet. But this year, costume design takes center stage. This year's Tribeca Film Festival in New York City highlights the stories of costume designers, models and style icons in their documentary and narrative fiction feature films. Here are some of the top fashion film highlights.

Rock Hudson: All That Heaven Allowed

First off, Rock Hudson was a style icon who epitomized classic American style. Secondly, he was a Hollywood icon. Directed by Stephen Kijak, this documentary looks into Golden Era Hollywood star Rock Hudson, who saw his rise in the 1950s

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and 1960s, starring in films alongside Elizabeth Taylor and Doris Day. Throughout his career, he had to hide his homosexuality, and died from AIDS in 1985. The film shows his public persona, which was micro-managed by his agents, and his personal life, which was kept hidden. The documentary hits HBO Max on June 28.

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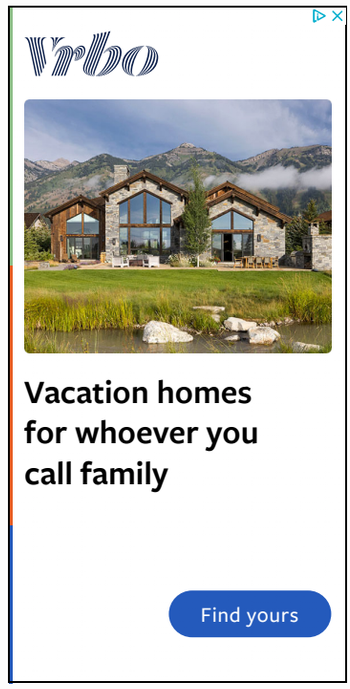
NEW YORK, NEW YORK - JUNE 13: Lisa Cortes, Fran Lebowitz, Bethann Hardison and Frederic Tcheng ... [+] GETTY IMAGES FOR TRIBECA FESTIVAL



Invisible Beauty

This film is more than just a documentary on trailblazing black supermodel Bethann Hardison, it shows how racist the fashion industry has been over the past half century, and how she fought for opportunities. She didn't just fight for herself, but the younger generation of models as well, as she founded the Bethann Management Agency in 1984, acting as a mentor to Tyra Banks and Naomi Campbell, and she discovered Tyson Beckford. She also co-founded the Black Girls Coalition with Iman in 1988. She worked behind the scenes throughout the 2000s to get more black models on the runways of fashion weeks, namely for brands like Prada and Calvin Klein. Still, it feels like her work isn't done.

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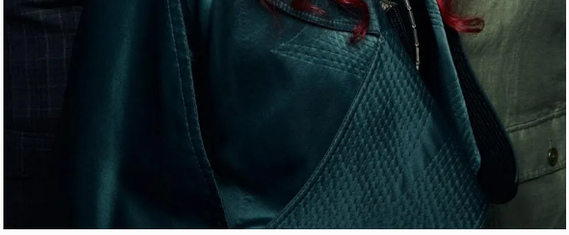

NEW YORK, NEW YORK - JUNE 07: (L-R) Samuel Paul, Patricia Field and Michael Selditch of the film ... [+] GETTY IMAGES

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Happy Clothes: A Film About Patricia Field

If the stylist and reluctant costume designer Patricia Field is one thing—it's entertaining. While she had a boutique in New York City for over 50 years, she is probably best known as a stylist for her work on TV shows like *Sex and the City* and *Emily in Paris*. In this documentary, we follow her fast-paced life living in downtown Manhattan, from shopping for vintage clothing, to planning looks for TV shows. Her creative process is simple—stay creative, be bold and use color.

It's inspiring to see how fearless her styling is, and it's something the fashion industry should do more of, which is taking risks. The bland, boring looks we've all seen on the runway is the opposite of what Field is about; loud patterns, mixing high and low garments and always being noticeable. It's by far one of the most inspiring documentaries of the year. There are interviews with actors like Lily Collins, Kim Cattrall and Michael Urie, among others.

NEW YORK, NEW YORK - JUNE 08: Director Lily Rabe and Vanessa Hudgens attend "Downtown Owl" Premiere ... [+] GETTY IMAGES FOR TRIBECA FESTIVAL

Downtown Owl

You wouldn't think that a film set in small town North Dakota would have your typical Target and Walmart looks, but not if it's set in the sparkle-friendly 1980s. This movie adaptation of Chuck Klosterman's quirky novel, *Downtown Owl,* stars Lily Rabe (the co-director alongside Hamish Linklater). Following

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Rabe's looks as the town's one local bar is an exciting romp through retro sequin dresses, frills, velvet and more, from costume designer, Kimberly Leitz.

NEW YORK, NEW YORK - JUNE 10: (L-R) Logan Marshall-Green and David Duchovny attend "Bucky F*cking ... [+] GETTY IMAGES FOR TRIBECA FESTIVAL

Bucky F*cking Dent

X-Files star David Duchovny wrote, directed and starred in his own tale about a tender father-son relationship, *Bucky F*cking Dent*. The film stars Logan Marshall-Green, Stephanie Beatriz, Pamela Adlon, and Evan Handler. The retro, 1970s, I'm-a-Grateful-Dead-fan garb on Marshall-Green is especially memorable, from soiled t-shirts to knit v-necks and flared pants (not to mention enormous sideburns).

Nadja Sayej

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Nadja Sayej is a fashion journalist based in New York City. She covers celebrity style where it intersects with high art and pop... **Read More**

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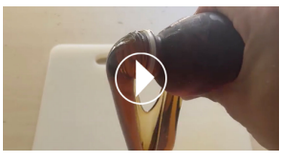

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Is It Time to Rethink Cloud Optimization?

Sudhir Srinivasan Brand Contributor
Dell Technologies BRANDVOICE | Paid Program

Jun 14, 2023, 03:26pm EDT

IT leaders viewing cloud optimization through the lens of cost are giving the topic short shrift. Cloud optimization is also about deliberate workload placement.

Viewing cloud optimization solely through the lens of financial considerations neglects broader transformations like rethinking where and how to place application workloads. GETTY

Cloud optimization is broadly understood as a tactic that organizations use to curb cloud spending. Look no further than recent earnings calls of public cloud providers, whose CFOs cited optimization as a lever for slowing cloud consumption.

No doubt economic headwinds are a driver for why companies reduce compute instances and/or migrate to lower cost storage tiers. With headwinds looming, spot pricing, reserved instances and savings plans look more attractive to cost-conscious customers.

That's part natural ebb and flow of business, part correction to exuberant cloud spending. Indeed, 64% of CIOs surveyed by IDC said they were spending more on cloud software than they budgeted. As the cloud vendors all attest, the corrections are happening—through cloud optimization.

Rethinking Cloud Optimization

And yet.

Viewing cloud optimization solely through the lens of financial considerations neglects the broader shift underway. Cloud optimization isn't just about reducing infrastructure costs in hosted environments; it includes rethinking where and how organizations are placing their application workloads.

Over the years, IT departments have found themselves supporting disparate application workloads and data across public and private clouds, on-premises systems, colocation facilities and even edge networks. Roughly 90% of IT environments today operate public and private clouds, according to HashiCorp.

Some of this hodge podge was cultivated from workload placement decisions made by IT; some of it is due to developers running workloads wherever made sense for them. Much of this workload accrual occurred by happenstance, coalescing in a multicloud by default that added complexity.

Organizations have grown weary of this dispersed collection of assets, many of which require cloud-native development or refactoring of traditional apps, due to their unique infrastructure and APIs. Such approaches often include inconsistent and proprietary tools.

As a result, IT departments are taking a more intentional approach to placing workloads to simplify operations and boost IT agility while reining in costs. In this multicloud-by-design strategy, application and business requirements dictate where workloads reside.

Several factors determine how IT leaders decide to redeploy workloads.

Performance. Are applications performing as desired to deliver the best business outcome? Is that AI application better served running in a public cloud environment or on prem? For getting a test-and-learn instance up and running or an app that requires dynamic scaling or "burstability," a public cloud may be the optimal solution. For a steady state app, an on-premises deployment will almost always deliver better speed and lower latency.

Check application dependencies. Modern applications often depend on others to perform their intended functions. Running apps that depend on handshakes or handoffs with other apps residing in different environments can court latency issues or may break. Ideally, apps with greater interdependency will run in the same locations, or at least adjacent locations, such as on prem and colo.

Data residency matters. Rapidly revolving regulatory changes means governance, compliance and security requirements may determine where workloads are best suited to run. Check: Does data locality afford the opportunity to run apps in a cloud or does it dictate that apps should run on-prem in data centers or an adjacent colo?

Timing is everything. If an app requires real-time access to data it's important to evaluate whether it is running in the appropriate location. Public clouds and on-prem environments can support both real-time and time tolerant workloads. And edge environments often work well for certain real-time requirements. It will usually come down to which environment offers the best price/performance ratio. The choice mustn't denigrate the user experience.

The sustainability quotient. Enterprises are increasingly taking ESG goals into account and IT must also get on board. Check whether service and equipment providers meet corporate sustainability requirements around hardware, including plans for critical end-of-life, recycling and refresh tasks.

The Bottom Line

More than a cost cutting exercise, cloud optimization is a reconsideration of the technical viability of running a workload in a specific cloud. It's about performing due diligence and right-sizing IT estates to accommodate the new multicloud paradigm.

The optimization calculus will be different for every organization. Some organizations may choose to repatriate workloads, or move them from a public cloud or other home to a new location—even another public cloud.

Organizations implementing greenfield applications have golden opportunities to plan where they place their workloads, ideally in locations that offer the best cost-per-performance ratios.

Our Dell APEX suite of solutions facilitates the multicloud-by-design strategy that can help IT organizations enjoy consistency, agility and control while achieving desired business outcomes—without the constraints associated with siloed ecosystems and proprietary tools.

Taking a multicloud-by-design approach to optimizing workloads can help IT departments craft a consistent experience across their IT estate and brace for economic challenges now and in the future.

Keep Reading: What's Multicloud by Design and Why Does It Matter?

Learn more about how Dell APEX can help you apply a multicloud-by-design approach to your IT strategy.

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