

When I was in Spitalfields market last year I spotted some beautiful embroidered dresses.

I stopped to talk to the lady selling them, and asked her how long it took to make them. She told me that hand embroidering takes over 100 hours per dress!

When I saw the price was £130 I thought that was quite low for such a unique item. That's a lot of work for much less than minimum wage.

That conversation made me realise that many of the high street retailers we support are pushing prices down, and making it difficult for independent makers to survive.

Most of the big brands outsource their production processes, setting up factories in third world countries where workers are exploited and basic human rights undermined.

We have heard horror stories about badly built factories falling down and crushing people to death, children being sent to work, and employees jumping from factory windows because they would rather die than endure those working conditions.

Bacanara taught herself to sew and learnt embroidery at a college in London. She has been in business for 12 years and dedicates almost every waking hour making dresses.

You have your party venue booked, and your guests have sent their RSVP. With the event just a couple of months away, you're looking for the perfect dress to make you shine on your birthday.

You've already spent quite a lot on your venue, so you need something affordable. You also need something special.

Hand-made dresses are completely unique. You will not find anyone else wearing the same style. What's more, sizes are made to order, so if you supply your measurements, you can get a dress that fits you perfectly.

By supporting a dressmaker like Bacanara, you are supporting someone to live their dream.

Doesn't that feel much better than contributing to a culture of exploitation and suffering?

Fill out the form below to receive your discount code on your first order.