

International Threads

For the second year running, New Zealand Fashion Tech is pushing back against fashion's love affair of black, producing another Colour of Fashion collection.

The collection is a showcase of the potential colour has to bring creations to life, colour matched with the innovative offerings of Resene. Ultimately ten looks were chosen, five from Auckland and five from Wellington. The chosen diploma students made their garments from hand-woven Indian silk saris and have been transformed into fashion forward offerings that will open four Resene sponsored shows at New Zealand Fashion Week.

What's interesting is how the designers didn't rely on the beauty of the fabric, and opted to experiment a lot with shape, with dramatic effect. For example, Grace Kleinsman's construction of a headpiece to compliment and amp up the purple dress based on Resene Renaissance.

The same experimentation of shape can be seen in Princess Whioke's blue dress that drew on the deep and harsh blue Resene Into The Blue, and paired it with an equally dramatic silhouette.

"Audiences will see a very cool collision of Resene's new-season paint colours, exciting young designers from NZ Fashion Tech with no creative limitations, and the colour imaginings of India - a nation whose zest for colour has long been woven into beautiful fabric," said Karen Warman, Marketing Manager, Resene Paints.

This year a panel of judges will chose a winner, who will then be offered the opportunity to fly to and spectate the iD fashion week, which is fast becoming the ultimate shop-window for emerging talent.

Not only will the Colour of Fashion pieces be seen at New Zealand Fashion Week, but thanks to the 20 Prime Minister scholarships for Asia awarded to NZ Fashion Tech this year, following the runway shows, the looks will be shown again in an event held in India.

Speaking about his experience with the Colour of Fashion project last year, Taylor Jarden-Lambert recalled the life changing event, remembering how lovely the Indian people are and the knowledge of offshore fashion.

"Learning that I think will have the most positive impact for me in my career in fashion. We now have a unique, first-hand view of manufacturing fashion garments off-shore," he said.

Collaborations and experiences like this are what is helping drive the creative products coming out of the fashion industry, as we move into a multi-cultural civilisation that is inter-connected and expanding.

"Taylor's response to the experience epitomises that of the group. The totality of the experience was so immense and empowering for all 15 students, we're certain it will enhance their careers and their lives in many different ways. We are looking forward to watching their careers with great interest," said Val Marshall-Smith, Director, NZ Fashion Tech. 🇳🇿



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