News Release

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PHOTO CALL

6PM, THURSDAY 23 APRIL 2015 EDINBURGH COLLEGE OF ART, MAIN BUILDING, LAURISTON PLACE, EH3 9DF

Art school students' inspired designs are set to be runway success

A circus act with real feather wings, ballet costumes decorated with fishing lures and hats in the shape of desserts feature in a catwalk event this week.

They are just three of the show-stopping designs crafted by University of Edinburgh students for SHOW 2015. The events take place in Edinburgh College of Art's Sculpture Court from 23 to 25 April.

Costume student Tilly Jones has created an outfit for a part-human, part-bird circus performer. The costume includes spectacular wings made from preserved bird feathers and an oversized headdress with plumage.

Ellie Van Riel has made costumes for a sci-fi ballet. The dancers' outfits are covered in more than 1,500 plastic fishing lures and printed with images from outer space.

Fashion student Heather Dooley's womenswear collection echoes the opulent Victorian Parisienne fashion movement. The dusky pink outfits are heavily layered, with hats moulded into the shape of French desserts or money bags.

Other attractions in the fashion strand of the event include final-year student Nina Cutler's all-gold collection which blends hip-hop and pre-Raphaelite styles. Kiki McKenzie has created a lively sportswear line for women using sequins and Sophie Hallette lace in eyecatching colours.

Further performance costume designs include a six-foot grasshopper from Roald Dahl's *James and the Giant Peach*, a contemporary costume for Mary Queen of Scots and an outfit that reflects what life is like for people who have Obsessive Compulsive Disorder.

A dragonfly costume from Charles Kingsley's fairy tale *The Water Babies*, designed by Izzy Gibbs, will also go on show. It includes an appliqued green satin coat and oversized sculptural headpiece.

In addition to the catwalk shows, three alumni who graduated in Performance Costume will host a talk following the 2pm show on Saturday 25 April. Anna Robbins, who now works for the award-winning drama *Downton Abbey*, and Katy Taylor and Emma O'Loughlin who work for the international hit, *Game of Thrones*, will discuss their experiences and answer questions from the audience. Guests can attend the talk at no extra cost.

Edinburgh College of Art (ECA) will be the only Scottish higher education institute to show at the annual Graduate Fashion Week (GFW) in London.

Two fashion students have been sponsored by Sophie Hallette Lace, which produced the lace for the Duchess of Cambridge's wedding dress and regularly works with the top couture houses in Paris.

Fernanda Goodship's fashion collection – inspired by her Spanish heritage – is the first student range to be sponsored by -renowned Scottish outerwear brand Mackintosh.

Tickets are still available for SHOW2015. They can be purchased via <u>Hub Tickets</u> and cost £12 each (plus £1.25p booking fee).

Photographers are invited to the opening night of the show. Please meet at the Main Door of Edinburgh College of Art at 6pm. The show begins at 6.30pm and finishes at 7.50pm.

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