



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

News Release

Issued: 17 March 2015

PHOTO CALL

**12.00 PM, WEDNESDAY 18 MARCH 2015
MAIN BUILDING, EDINBURGH COLLEGE OF ART
LAURISTON PLACE, EH3 9DF**

Fashion students' wondrous runway designs are out of this world

Space-age holidays, old family photographs and vintage Parisienne couture provide some of the inspiration for University of Edinburgh fashion students, whose designs will be showcased at a leading style event.

The fashion students' collections have been created for Edinburgh College of Art's SHOW 2015, which will take place from 23 to 25 April. They will be spotlighted at a media preview event tomorrow (Wednesday).

The College's sculpture court will be transformed to provide a striking backdrop for the seven multimedia catwalk shows. They will give audiences the chance to see the work of some of Scotland's most talented new designers.

Space-age silhouettes created using neoprene, emblazoned with Hawaiian prints and cartoonish slogans, give one student's work and out of this world holiday theme.

Many of the shapes, colours and fabrics are influenced by the students' own upbringings and some even incorporate rediscovered family photographs.

One eye-catching womenswear collection echoes the opulent Victorian Parisienne fashion movement. The dusky pink outfits are heavily layered, with hats moulded into the shape of desserts or money bags.

Fifteenth century figurines of nuns and the Japanese philosophical theory of negative space have inspired one student's oversized range, which also draws its energetic inspiration from the Fauvist artistic movement.

Another student's menswear collection reflects upon his desire for a sense of belonging, drawing upon images from fantasy novels and epic computer games such as Final Fantasy X.

Gender stereotypes are challenged by another collection that blends hip-hop fashion with pre-Raphaelite styles. All the outfits are in varying shades of gold.

Final year student Fernanda Goodship – inspired by her Spanish heritage – is the first ever student to be sponsored by internationally-renowned Scottish clothing brand Mackintosh.

Two students are sponsored by Sophie Hallette Lace, a company that regularly works with the top couture houses in Paris and produced the lace for the Duchess of Cambridge's wedding dress.

Ranked among the top universities in the world

Edinburgh College of Art Fashion Programme Director Mal Burkinshaw said: “We are delighted to showcase some of the exceptional work produced by our students ahead of Graduate Fashion Week. This year’s collections are of an extremely high standard and audiences are sure to be captivated by the fresh ideas and skillful craftsmanship.”

Fashion students at Edinburgh College of Art are the only ones in Scotland to showcase their work on the catwalk at the annual Graduate Fashion Week in London.

In 2013, final-year student Lauren Smith was awarded one of the world’s top awards for graduates at London Fashion Week, the GFW George Gold Award for best collection.

Tickets for the SHOW 2015: Fashion / Costume / Textiles cost £12 (plus £1.25p booking fee). They can be purchased via Hub Tickets - <http://bit.ly/buyECAFS2014tix>.

For further information please contact: Kathryn Dunlop, Press and PR Office, tel 0131 651 5587; email kathryn.dunlop@ed.ac.uk