

News Release

Stunning fashion models give sneak preview of masterful fashion collections

The lid was lifted today, (Tuesday, 11 December 2007) on five stunning womenwear collections which will debut at the chic 'Masters Fashion Promenade' this Thursday, (13 December 2007) in the Mackintosh Gallery at The Glasgow School of Art.

Two promising New Faces from the Scottish modelling world* unveiled creations by Lori Marshall and Florence To - two of the talented all-female Master of Design (M Des: Textiles as Fashion) student team, who have lovingly created collections for the inspirational show. Previous textiles graduates from the Glasgow School of Art include internationally-acclaimed fashion designers Jonathan Saunders and Pam Hogg.

All shows are open to the public, and will take place at 6.30pm, 7.30pm and 8.30pm. Tickets, priced at £5, will be available at the door on a 'first come' basis.

Two further Scots (Louise Brown and Shona Douglas) and one Finn (Emmi Lahtinen) make up this year's M Des group. Collectively, the designers draw their inspiration from a wide range of eclectic international influences – from Boudica, Japanese art and the stained glass windows of Glasgow's Burrell Collection, to the Tudors, photographer Cecil Beaton, surrealism and the avant garde.

Textiles Department Head, Jimmy Stephen-Cran said:

“Over one intensive masters year of study, our designers are encouraged to hone their professional skills, take considered creative risks and ultimately strengthen their individual creative voice.

“The supportive, hothouse environment of the course is underpinned by close contact with tutors, helping to consistently turn out well-rounded, highly-creative and successful textiles designers.

/more.....

“As evidence of the maturity of the programme, it is encouraging to note the range and quality of employment positions being held by graduates particularly so soon after graduation. Two of last years graduates are now at Alexander McQueen, others are at Philip Treacy and Richard Nicoll.’

- ends -

11 December 2007

For further information or images, please contact Sharon McHendry, Media Relations Officer, The Glasgow School of Art. T: 0141 353 4443 or Pamela Bailey, PR Continuum, Tel: 0141 445 1661.

Notes to Editors:

* The two exciting New Faces models include Cerise Wade (from Model Team Scotland, Glasgow) and Amanda Hamilton (Superior Model Management, Glasgow)

Student biographies:

Emmi Lahtinen, 26, from Finland creates simple dresses that are influenced by the iconic photography of Cecil Beaton. Her surreal dyed designs, a reaction to the Finnish modernist movement, take on an almost dream-like effect which is open to interpretation. Wadding at the bottom of the dress and arms allow the dresses to sit flat and the wearer to float like a cloud.

Louise Brown's collection features three jackets and two coats in navy, black and burgundy. The work of the 25-year-old from Larkhall in Lanarkshire focuses on volume and her influences lie in surrealism and the avant garde. Her designs are influenced by early 20th century French designers Paul Poiret and Elsa Schiaparelli. Louise's gorgeous oversized coats and jackets have drop sleeve detail and are carefully embroidered with mohair satin stitch, velvet and organdie appliqué.

Glasgow-based **Florence To**, 22, uses traditional fabrics in neutral colours as a basis for her designs. Her outfits feature crocheted curtain rings woven with raffia. She is influenced by Boudica, the Russian Constructivist Movement and a book from the mid 1980s entitled Rattan Work by Masako Maki. She also cites Japanese artist Yoshinari Nishio as an influence.

Lori Marshall, 24, from Glasgow, takes her influence from the Burrell Collection's stained glass windows. She has created a collection of high waisted leggings and jumpers in various styles using processes such as digital print, laser cutting, laser design and mono printing. She also works with layered, sheer feminine fabrics to create items such as her cream Organza brain jumper which is sheer with a ruffled Tudor neck.

Shona Douglas, 22, from Clarkston on Glasgow's South Side, creates hand woven garments using various synthetic and natural textures. Shona wishes to break the traditional image of the weaver and is influenced by harbours and the contrasts in the natural landscape. Her collection features three dark tunic dresses and two woollen skirts.