



## The Suzanne Rogers Fashion Institute Announces Three New Fellows

July 10, 2018 – Toronto, ON – [The Suzanne Rogers Fashion Institute](#) (SRFI) is pleased to announce the second group of Fellows entering the program. Recent Ryerson School of Fashion graduate Olivia Reubens and current students Matin Mithras and Jonah Solomon will join the SRFI community as newly appointed Fellows, as they begin to hone and develop their design practice through the support and mentorship provided by the SRFI.

“The SRFI allows the Fellows to thrive by building a community where each has a platform to gain recognition, network with industry insiders, and have access to competitive funding,” said Robert Ott, Director of The Suzanne Rogers Fashion Institute. “This past year, the SRFI was able to impact the professional lives of our inaugural Fellows and provide opportunities that would not have come easily without our support. The Institute is thrilled to elevate and nurture three more individuals and inspire them to make a difference in the fashion industry.”

The selection process to enter the SRFI is competitive and requires the applicants to participate in a multi-phase application process. The members of the 2018 selection committee are Izzy Camilleri, Canadian fashion designer; Nicholas Mellamphy, fashion retail expert; Wayne Clark, Canadian womenswear designer; P.Y. Chau, fashion design educator; and Robert Ott, Director of the SRFI.

The three new Fellows will be joining the SRFI’s first co-hort of Fellows, announced last year: [Stephanie Moscall-Varey](#), [Alexandra Armata](#), and [Quentin Tecumseh Collier](#).

### **Olivia Rubens**

Olivia Rubens is a contemporary eco-friendly womenswear designer with a passion for textile and knitwear design. Olivia campaigns for issues for women in the workplace. She is committed to continuing an important and sensitive dialogue to create unity and support for women in beauty, public relations, and technology in Canada.

Olivia grew up in Canada’s capital, Ottawa, and obtained her bachelor’s degree from Ryerson University in fashion design in 2015, with a semester abroad at Hong Kong Polytechnic University in 2014. She has placed and participated in numerous competitions, and most recently showed her autumn/winter 2018-2019 line at Toronto Fashion Week. In September 2018, Olivia will be pursuing a MA Fashion in Design Technology Womenswear at London College of Fashion in England.

### **Matin Mithras**

Matin Mithras was born in Iran, where he spent his childhood surrounded by creativity and learned sewing from his mother. Matin’s creative exploration has involved drawing, painting, and graphic design, which he used to study interior design.

After completing his training, Matin worked as an architectural drafter in Tehran. Later, he and his family moved to Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. Matin was accepted into the fashion design program at Ryerson University in 2015 and moved to Toronto from the East Coast to begin his journey in fashion. Matin will begin his fourth year at Ryerson and is preparing to design his graduation collection.

### **Jonah Solomon**

Jonah Solomon is from Thornhill, Ontario, and is entering his third year of studies at the School of Fashion. From a young age, Jonah was exposed to a wide variety of artistic media from his grandfathers – one a photographer, the other a painter. This exposure sparked a passion for the arts, which grew into a love for the fashion industry.

As Jonah develops as a designer, he looks to art as a source of inspiration. Jonah is equally passionate about fashion illustration, which he uses to bridge the gap between art and fashion. In the upcoming year, Jonah will be participating in a one-semester student exchange program at Kingston University London in England.



**Olivia Rubens**



**Matin Mithras**



**Jonah Solomon**

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### **Media Inquiries**

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### **About The Suzanne Rogers Fashion Institute**

The Suzanne Rogers Fashion Institute (SRFI) at Ryerson University is a program dedicated to supporting emerging Canadian fashion designers nationally and internationally. Serving third and fourth-year Ryerson fashion design students and recent graduates, the Institute educates and provides mentorship, awards and international opportunities to new talent in fashion craftsmanship. The SRFI was made possible through the generous \$1 million gift from The Edward and Suzanne Rogers Foundation. For more information, visit [www.srfi.ca](http://www.srfi.ca)

### **About Ryerson School of Fashion**

Ryerson School of Fashion is the place to study fashion design, communication and culture. For 70 years, the School of Fashion has been developing fashion professionals. Undergraduate programs in fashion design and in fashion communication lead to a Bachelor of Design and graduate degree Master of Arts in Fashion. For more information, visit [www.ryersonfashion.ca](http://www.ryersonfashion.ca)

### **About Ryerson University**

Ryerson University is Canada's leader in innovative, career-oriented education. Urban, culturally diverse and inclusive, the university is home to more than 44,600 students, including 2,600 master's and PhD students, 3,100 faculty and staff, and nearly 188,000 alumni worldwide. For more information, visit [www.ryerson.ca](http://www.ryerson.ca)