



**S** THE SUZANNE ROGERS  
**FASHION INSTITUTE**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**  
2019-20



# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR | ROBERT OTT

It has been a year beyond expectations for The Suzanne Rogers Fashion Institute. Our Fellows have showcased incredible work, a perseverance to obstacles, a willingness to learn, and a dedication to the craft of fashion design. Seeing their evolution year after year is precisely why this program was developed.

When Suzanne Rogers and I began building the SRFI, we considered ways in which we would determine success. One of our first measures of success was to receive international recognition at a major global fashion week. Four years later, I am thrilled to say we exceeded our expectations. Not only did we have one Fellow show at London Fashion Week, we had three.

Watching the MA collections of Alexandra Armata, Stephanie Moscall-Varey, and Olivia Rubens on the runway amongst fashion leaders was gratifying. Over the past few years, I have witnessed each of them grow and shape into confident designers. Each equipped with a laser-focused work ethic and a unique voice to offer the world. Congratulations Alexandra, Stephanie, and Olivia—you are the leaders of tomorrow.

This major milestone makes me eager for the years to come. Making way for our second measure of success— building sustainable businesses that will positively contribute to the fashion system.

We are currently experiencing unprecedented times. The COVID-19 pandemic has presented unique challenges for the fashion industry and our Fellows are certainly feeling the effects of this global crisis. The SRFI continues to respond in the same supportive manner and help uncover new opportunities that arise. Designers are gifted with the ability to uplift the human spirit through their creativity, and we urge them to adapt and remain vigilant through these trying times.

As we move forward together, we encourage our Fellows to help guide us in our decision making. A one-of-a-kind program, like the SRFI, benefits from a community that is symbiotic and responsive. We will continue to be adaptive and provide a network of support, guidance, and wisdom that will lead each of them to fulfilling futures. As I reflect on this past year one thing is clear, the future of the SRFI looks brighter than ever.



## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN | CHARLES FALZON

As part of our regular report, I'm particularly appreciative of this moment to offer thanks on behalf of myself and all of my colleagues at FCAD for the leadership, vision and unwavering commitment that you have demonstrated to Canada's fashion landscape through The Suzanne Rogers Fashion Institute.

This year marks two contrasting poles in the life of the Institute. The first being the unprecedented challenges that Canada's emerging designers will face in a future made so uncertain due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The second being the tremendous milestone of renewed support to the Institute for another 5 years. I am so heartened to know that your renewal will allow for the vision that has been defined, and the momentum that has been achieved to realize that vision, to see Canada's new fashion minds through these unsettling times.

FCAD is a global centre of media and creative invention. As a disrupter in innovative education, FCAD is where students, researchers

and professionals come to transform and reimagine everything they thought was creative. Critical to this is the drive to create and strengthen international connections to empower the next creative generation.

I can think of no Institute or Research Centre on campus that exemplifies this ethos better than The Suzanne Rogers Fashion Institute.

I trust that this latest report will affirm the impact that is being created through the mentorship, guidance and profile that the SRFI offers to its fellows and the partnerships and linkages that the Institute has created between Canada's design community and global fashion centres.



# OFF TO THE RACES

As a regular attendee of Mass Exodus, Ryerson Fashion's year-end showcase, Suzanne Rogers has seen the potential of Canadian design talent at the starting line of their careers. Watching the designs debut on the runway sparked her curiosity of what happens once the race begins.

Suzanne Rogers' interest in uncovering the path of young designers became the first step in the creation of The Suzanne Rogers Fashion Institute at Ryerson University. Over a period of two years, Suzanne Rogers and SRFI Director, Robert Ott, developed a dynamic fellowship program set to enrich the next generation of Canadian design talent.

# BRIDGING THE GAP

With a gap in the Canadian fashion landscape, The SRFI finds itself as the bridge between education and career. The Institute targets creatives at the beginning of their career and helps define a path that will offer them a successful transition into competitive world of fashion design.

INTERNATIONAL  
GRADUATE  
PROGRAMS



TORONTO  
FASHION  
INCUBATOR

CANADIAN ARTS  
& FASHION  
AWARDS

COLLEGE  
DIPLOMA/  
CERTIFICATE

UNIVERSITY  
UNDERGRADUATE  
PROGRAMS

FASHION ZONE  
AT RYERSON  
UNIVERSITY

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

CAREER SUPPORT

# THE OPPORTUNITY

The SRFI fellowship program is unique in the Canadian fashion landscape attracting potential Fellows earlier in their academic and fashion careers. Undergraduates from second, third, and fourth year, along with recent graduates of the School of Fashion are eligible to undergo the competitive selection process to become a Fellow at the SRFI.

Throughout the duration of the fellowship, this talented group will receive support through a variety of opportunities aimed at realizing the promise of their full potential as exceptional Canadian fashion design professionals.

The goal of the SRFI is to educate, support, promote, and advocate for new talent at Ryerson University in the Faculty of

Communication and Design in fashion craftship and design. With these goals at the cornerstone of the SRFI programming, the Institute fosters and empowers the next generation to pursue their greatest ambitions.

The creation of this one of a kind program was made possible through the generous \$1 million gift from The Edward and Suzanne Rogers Foundation. The funding provides meaningful and impactful scholarships for the benefit of the Fellows enrolled in the SRFI.



EDUCATE  
SUPPORT  
PROMOTE  
ADVOCATE

# THE ADVISORY GROUP



**GEORGE  
ANTONOPOULOS**  
CREATIVE DIRECTOR



**JEANNE  
BEKER**  
TV HOST, EDITOR, AUTHOR



**DAVID  
DIXON**  
DESIGNER



**TYLER  
FRANCH**  
FASHION DIRECTOR, HBC



**SUSAN  
LANGDON**  
TFI



**DON  
LEE**  
MASTER TAILOR



**TODD  
LYNN**  
FASHION DESIGNER



**VICKY  
MILNER**  
CAFA



**ODESSA PALOMA  
PARKER**  
FASHION NEWS DIRECTOR



**LISA  
TANT**  
FASHION CONSULTANT



**SUZANNE  
TIMMINS**  
RETAIL LEADER

Unlocking the full potential of future design talent requires the help of strong leaders. The SRFI has established an Advisory Group of individuals who are influential, connected and passionate. The Advisory Group has been selected because of their contributions and expertise that has helped shape the industry today. Their willingness to share the wisdom of the national and international industry gives the Fellows tools to better understand fashion as a business and as a platform for creative expression.

The Advisory Group is made up of storytellers, community-builders, insiders, and makers. Each member is guided by the mandate to enhance public awareness of emerging Canadian fashion design talent, identify and facilitate exceptional career opportunities in Canada and abroad, and assist in mentorship that provides invaluable insight into the global fashion industry.





Photography: (Opposite page) Lynne Hey by Mary Chen, Jonah Solomon by Ted Belton



## SINCE LAST TIME

COVID-19 has drastically affected the global fashion industry. As a result, the bridge between education and career has presented unforeseen obstacles. Mentorship, guidance, advocacy, and support continue to be the fundamentals in rebuilding the bridge. Disrupting the status quo will be the key to the success of the Fellows.

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Under these extraordinary circumstances the production of Mass Exodus was canceled, leaving students without a platform to show their fourth-year collections. We congratulate Lynne Hey and Jonah Solomon on the completion of their fourth-year collection.

# BECOMING A FELLOW

To identify the most promising talent, the SRFI undergoes a multi-stage application process that includes an application package, installation, and interview. With efforts to attract the brightest talents, this process is offered virtually, giving all fashion design students and alumni of the School of Fashion the opportunity to impress the Selection Committee anywhere around the globe.



**SUCCESSFUL  
APPLICANTS ARE:**

**TALENTED  
ENTHUSIASTIC  
UNIQUE  
INFORMED**

## THE PROCESS



### **APPLICATION PACKAGE**

Step 1: Applicants submit a manifesto, portfolio and a resume.

### **INSTALLATION**

Step 2: Taking inspiration from the masters level, selected applicants are given physical space to showcase their work.

### **INTERVIEW**

Step 3: Selected applicants speak with the Selection Committee.

## THE SELECTION COMMITTEE

The Selection Committee offers their unique perspective on the business of fashion, fashion design, and design education. Their industry expertise is used to uncover current students and alumni fit to become a Fellow.

For the third search, the SRFI Selection Committee included Izzy Camilleri, Canadian fashion designer; P.Y. Chau, fashion design educator; Wayne Clark, womenswear designer; Angela Demontigny, Indigenous fashion designer; Dylan Kwacz, Program Coordinator, SRFI; Danielle Martin, fashion design educator; Nicholas Mellamphy, fashion retail expert; and Robert Ott, Associate Professor, School of Fashion, and Director, SRFI.





Photography: Ted Belton

# THE FELLOWS

Fellows of the SRFI are dedicated to fashion craftsmanship and design with a focus on tailoring and couture techniques, material manipulation and decoration, and the use of traditional and original textiles with Canadian and global viewpoints. The individuals selected to join the Institute demonstrate an unquenchable thirst for fashion and a need for support to take the next steps on their journey into the world of fashion.

AS OF 2019:

9

ACTIVE FELLOWS

**ON AUGUST 13, 2019** recent Ryerson Fashion graduates Adrian Arnieri, Michal Perelmuter and Julia Payton, and current student, Lynne Hey, joined the SRFI community. Fellows hone and develop their design practice through the support and mentorship provided by the Institute. The four new Fellows joined Alex Armata, Stephanie Moscall-Varey, Olivia Rubens, Jonah Solomon, and Matin Mithras.



# ADRIAN ARNIERI

 @arnieriofficial

Photography: Headshot by Ted Belton, ARNIERI by Quinton Cruickshanks

Adrian Arnieri is a womenswear designer inspired by music, film, and culture with a design aesthetic that references his childhood including his love for the Spice Girls and The Wizard of Oz.

Since graduating in 2017, Adrian has designed custom work most notably for Schwarzkopf Canada and ET Canada. His designs have been worn by ET Canada's Sangita Patel to the Golden Globe Awards, Canadian Arts & Fashion Awards, and most recently the Screen Actors Guild Awards.

In 2018, Adrian made his television debut as a contestant on the fashion design competition show STITCHED, which aired nationally on Slice TV. As Adrian continues to develop a niche for his label, he looks to gain experience by immersing himself in his passion for popular culture and using it to define his design aesthetic

## **AUGUST 2019**

Announced as Fellow of the SRFI

## **AUGUST 2019**

Travels to NYC for experiential learning trip with SRFI

## **AUGUST 2019**

Begins the Made for All Design Challenge for FASHION Magazine

## **SEPTEMBER 2019**

Shows "Spice Girls" inspired collection at Toronto Fashion Week

## **DECEMBER 2019**

Featured in FASHION Magazine and S/Volume Magazine

## **FEBRUARY 2020**

Shows AW 19 collection ahead London Fashion Week organized by Toronto Fashion Incubator and Canada House



# LYNNE HEY

Instagram icon @ntyidwa

Photography: Headshot by Ted Belton, Collection photo by Mary Chen

Lynne Hey was born in Durban, South Africa and moved to Canada at a young age with her family. Her childhood was spent exploring creativity through drawing and painting. In her early adolescence, Lynne began using fashion as her primary creative medium.

Lynne became fascinated with styles from alternative subcultures and films from the mid-60s and 70s like Roman Polanski's Apartment Trilogy, Deep Red, and The Exorcist. Her interest in the horror genre and depicting elements of the macabre have become key reference points to her design aesthetic. Having recently completed her undergraduate collection, she is ready to embark on a career in the fashion industry to develop further as both a professional and designer.

## AUGUST 2019

Announced as Fellow of the SRFI

## AUGUST 2019

Travels to NYC for experiential learning trip with SRFI

## AUGUST 2019

Begins the Made for All Design Challenge for FASHION Magazine

## DECEMBER 2019

Featured in FASHION Magazine and S/Volume Magazine

## JANUARY 2020

Travels to NYC for a one-on-one mentorship session with Geri Gerard

## MARCH 2020

Completes final undergraduate collection

## AUGUST 2020

Becomes finalist for the i-D ArtsThread competition



Photography: Headshot by Ted Belton, Collection photo by Carlyle Routh

## MICHAL PERELMUTER & JULIA PAYTON

 @avrgbbs

Michal Perelmuter and Julia Payton are the queer multidisciplinary design duo who collaborate under the moniker 'avrgbbs'. They combine imagination, play, and nostalgia with fashion design and interactive imagery to develop a world that challenges the status quo. Their design work incorporates textiles made from latex and up-cycled materials, intricate embellishments, and cheeky motifs.

In the summer of 2017, Michal and Julia traveled to London, UK to intern and develop their collaborative undergraduate thesis. Inspired by childhood creativity, they created a 5-look collection titled "Won't you play with me?", and an interactive book meant to reignite adult creativity. After graduating, their second collection, "The tale of two average and nostalgic babies" opened Fashion Art Toronto in April 2019. Michal and Julia are currently based in London, UK.

### APRIL 2019

Debuts collection at Fashion Art Toronto

### AUGUST 2019

Announced as Fellow of the SRFI

### AUGUST 2019

Travels to NYC for experiential learning trip with SRFI

### AUGUST 2019

Begins the Made for All Design Challenge for FASHION Magazine

### SEPTEMBER 219

Michal and Julia move to London, England to further develop "avrgbbs"

### DECEMBER 2019

Featured in FASHION Magazine and S/Volume Magazine

### JANUARY 2020

Michal begins working with Alexandra Armata to produce Alex's MA collection at Central Saint Martins



# OLIVIA RUBENS

 @oliv.iarubens

Photography: Headshot and collection photo by Brian Rankin

Olivia Rubens is a positive women's knitwear designer based in London, England. She aims to create a positive impact through design and material innovation, and social justice initiatives. Through unorthodox forms of research rooted in human nature and pop culture, Olivia uses her dark sense of humor to create eccentric knitwear that is both eerie and playful.

After completing her degree in Fashion Design at Ryerson University in 2015, Olivia worked within the Canadian fashion industry until immigrating to England in 2018. Olivia moved to London to pursue an MA in Fashion Design Technology Womenswear at the London College of Fashion (LCF). Her MA collection debuted at the LCF Press Show at London Fashion Week AW 20. Olivia has been selected as a finalist for the prestigious ITS design competition, winners will be announced in October 2020.

## **JUNE 2019**

Begins developing MA collection

## **JULY 2019**

Shortlisted for the British Fashion Council MA Scholarship

## **NOVEMBER 2019**

Completes MA collection and thesis

## **DECEMBER 2019**

Showcases MA collection at internal LCF runway show

## **FEBRUARY 2020**

Showcases MA collection at LCF press show during London Fashion Week

## **APRIL 2020**

Featured in ELLE Canada Eco Issue

## **MAY 2020**

Featured in Vogue Greece, becomes a finalist for the ITS competition

## **MAY 2020**

Starts SS21 capsule collection



# MATIN MITHRAS

 @matin.mithras



Photography: Headshot by Ted Belton, Collection photo by Nick Merzetti

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 is in his fourth year at Ryerson and will present his graduating collection at Mass Exodus in April 2019.

## **APRIL 2019**

Presents his final collection at Ryerson Fashion year-end show, Mass Exodus

## **MAY 2019**

Accepted to the London College of Fashion Graduate Diploma Fashion Design Technology program

## **JUNE 2019**

Graduates from Ryerson Fashion Design program

## **SEPTEMBER 2019**

Designs a multi-functional TIFF dress for actor, Naomi Snieckus, and is featured on Etalk

## **OCTOBER 2019**

Moves to London, England to begin Graduate Diploma at London College of Fashion



# JONAH SOLOMON

 @jonah\_sol

Photography: Headshot by Ted Belton

Jonah Solomon is a designer and artist currently residing in Toronto. During his undergraduate studies at Ryerson University, Jonah was fortunate to have a semester to study abroad at Kingston University London in England, as well as internship at The Row in New York City.

Jonah's work is rooted in questioning, exploring, and reworking the familiar. The work combines modern updates with timeless perspectives. His garments exist without any notions of sex, gender, age, race or ethnicity. Jonah has become inspired to express his creative vision using a variety of media. He is spending his time painting, drawing, and draping to create clothes in a holistic process. Johan aims to create a new future of fashion, one that is inclusive and multi-faceted.

## MAY 2019

Moves to NYC and begins internship at The Row

## SEPTEMBER 2019

Assists The Row at New York Fashion Week

## SEPTEMBER 2019

Begins final year at Ryerson Fashion

## OCTOBER 2019

Begins research for final collection

## APRIL 2020

Completes final undergraduate collection

## JUNE 2020

Graduates from Ryerson University



# STEPHANIE MOSCALL-VAREY

 @moskal\_designs

Photography: Headshot by Ted Belton, Collection photo by Aleksandra Modrzejewska

Stephanie Moscall-Varey's rural upbringing sparked interest in the natural world around her, influencing her to interpret aspects of nature in fabric form. After working in the United States as a technical designer, Stephanie decided to move back to Canada to focus on her own collection in 2017. Stephanie debuted her AW 18 collection, Rita, at Toronto Women's Fashion Week and participated in the ID Emerging Designer Competition in New Zealand.

Stephanie recently completed her MA in Fashion Design Technology Womenswear at the London College of Fashion (LCF). Stephanie and her collaborator in Denmark created a 100% biodegradable leather-like alternative comprised of cashew biomass with potential to filter air. This sustainable textile innovation formed the basis of her graduate collection titled Pit Brow. Her collection was selected to close the LCF Press Show at London Fashion Week AW 20. Stephanie currently resides in London and is eager to take on the British fashion scene.

## **MARCH 2019**

Begins developing Charcoal Foam Composite in collaboration with Natural Material Studio

## **DECEMBER 2019**

Featured in Conde Nast x Samsung presentation at Art Basel, Miami

## **JANUARY 2020**

Presents Charcoal Foam Composite at the Sustainable Angle Future Fabrics Expo

## **FEBRUARY 2020**

Featured in 10 Magazine article written by Sarah Mower

## **FEBRUARY 2020**

Showcases MA collection at LCF press show during London Fashion Week

## **FEB-JUNE 2020**

Collection mentioned in FASHION Magazine, LOVE Magazine, S/ Magazine and The Center for Sustainable Fashion



Photography: Headshot by Ted Belton, Collection photo by Jess Gianelli

# ALEXANDRA ARMATA

 @alexandraarmata

Alexandra Armata is a London-based fashion designer and recent graduate from the esteemed Masters of Fashion programme at Central Saint Martins in 2020.

Recently, Alexandra has worked for designers Vejas Kruszewski and Chopova Lowena. Her graduate collection for her MA Fashion degree centred on exploring her heritage through family photos and archival material to discover an off-beat sense of fashion and personal narrative. The collection focuses on Soviet-era Polish fashion, through the eyes of its foreign descendent. At the same time, her work explores the effects authoritarian governments have on fashion and its accessibility and how that can shape the views of the proletariat.

## **APRIL 2019**

Chloe x CSM design competition finalist

## **MAY 2019**

Nike E-leather x CSM design competition finalist

## **OCTOBER 2019**

Begins internship with Chopova Lowena

## **DECEMBER 2019**

Featured in Conde Nast x Samsung presentation at Art Basel, Miami

## **FEBRUARY 2020**

Presents MA collection at CSM press show at London Fashion Week

## **FEBRUARY 2020**

Assists Chopova Lowena at LVMH prize finals in Paris

## **MARCH 2020**

Presents MA collection at MA Exhibition in London

## **APRIL 2020**

Invited to join Igranary Showroom



# NEW YORK NEW YORK

**EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING TRIPS**  
allow Fellows to make meaningful  
connections in fashion capitals.

**IN AUGUST 2019**, the SRFI visited New York City with the newest Fellows with the goal of research and inspiration.

The trip started with a private tour of Oscar de la Renta by design director, Chad Bell, followed by an impromptu stop at Geri Gerard Studio. Fellows received a behind-the-curtain look of the fashion system from building a collection at Oscar de la Renta to producing one at Geri Gerard.

Following these tours, the Fellows visited the Whitney, Camp: Notes on Fashion at the Met, and the Pierre Cardin exhibit at the Brooklyn Museum joined by Jonah Solomon, who spent the summer in NYC interning with The Row.



ADRIAN ARNIERE, MICHAL PERELMUTER, JULIA PAYTON, AND LYNNE HEY AT MOOD FABRIC, NYC.



# IN THE NEWS

## IN THE NEWS

### SPICE UP YOUR LIFE

**IN SEPTEMBER 2020**, the SRFI debuted Adrian Arnieri's SS20 collection at Toronto Fashion Week.

The high energy presentation, inspired by his childhood love for the Spice Girls, featured his signature fur and leather outerwear and introduced an exaggerated puffer jacket silhouette.

Photography: George Pimentel



## IN THE NEWS

### SRFI X FASHION X MAYBELLINE MADE FOR ALL DESIGN CHALLENGE

FASHION Magazine and the SRFI teamed up for a third design challenge with beauty giant Maybelline to introduce the new Fellows in a national campaign inspired by Maybelline New York's Made for All lipstick shade "Red for Me".

Each Fellow received \$1500 to design and construct Five Sensational Separates using colour-matched fabric to the lipstick shade. The Made for All Design Challenge was featured in the December 2019 issue of FASHION Magazine.

READ THE FULL ARTICLE ONLINE  
AT [SRFI.CA/NEWS](https://www.srfi.ca/news)



Photography: Carliye Routh

**IN THE NEWS**



Michal Perelmutter & Julia Payton

**READ THE FULL ARTICLE ONLINE  
AT [SRFI.CA/NEWS](https://www.srfi.ca/news)**

Photography: Carlyle Routh



IN THE NEWS



Adrian Arneri

READ THE FULL ARTICLE ONLINE  
AT [SRFI.CA/NEWS](https://www.srfi.ca/news)

Photography: Carlyle Routh



**IN THE NEWS**



Lynne Hey

**READ THE FULL ARTICLE ONLINE  
AT [SRFI.CA/NEWS](https://srfi.ca/news)**

Photography: Carlyle Routh



**SINCE 2017**  
the design challenge  
has been an anticipated  
milestone for those  
looking to join the SRFI.

# IN CONVERSATION WITH...

**ON NOVEMBER 4**, the SRFI launched its “In Conversation With...” series with Business of Fashion’s Editor-at-large, Tim Blanks, moderated by Zoomer Magazine’s Editor-in-chief, Suzanne Boyd. The theme, Fashion Accountability, focused on diversity and sustainability. Tim Blanks’ shared his industry insight to an audience of first-year Fashion and Creative Industries students.

Following the talk, Tim Blanks and Suzanne Boyd accompanied the SRFI and the Toronto based Fellows to celebrate the inaugural “In Conversation With...” event.

**“HOW THE HELL DO YOU  
RECONCILE SOMETHING  
AS BASIC AS DESIRE WITH  
SOMETHING AS ELEVATED  
AS PRINCIPLE? ”**

**-TIM BLANKS ON FASHION ACCOUNTABILITY**



**SUZANNE BOYD WITH TIM BLANKS**

# THE SUZANNE ROGERS UNDERGRADUATE AWARD

ON NOVEMBER 18, the SRFI and Ryerson Fashion celebrated a night of student achievements. Lynne Hey received the fourth annual Suzanne Rogers Undergraduate Award for their excellence in craftsmanship and design.

Photography: Courtesy of Ryerson Fashion



LYNNE HEY & SUZANNE ROGERS



# SRFI *AT* LONDON FASHION WEEK

Since entering master's programs at renowned fashion schools in London, England, Alexandra Armata, Stephanie Mocal-Varey, and Olivia Rubens, have anticipated the debut of their graduate collections.

**IN FEBRUARY 2020**, their hard work paid off as each Fellow showcased their MA collection to international press during London Fashion Week.

FOLD OUT THE FOLLOWING PAGES  
TO SEE THE COLLECTIONS



# ALEXANDRA ARMATA

CENTRAL SAINT MARTINS

*Soviet-era Polish fashion through the eyes  
of its foreign descendent.*

Alexandra's MA collection is a collage of memories that capture the nostalgia of immigrant culture, emphasizing the odd and ridiculous nature of clothing at the time. Alexandra plays with subdued colours and skewed hemlines in suits, dresses and blouses to create off-kilter silhouettes.

Photography: Collection image by Jess Gianelli, Runway images courtesy of Central Saint Martins





# STEPHANIE MOSCALL-VAREY

LONDON COLLEGE OF FASHION

*Exploring a melancholic past to create a  
forward-thinking future.*

Stephanie's MA collection titled "Pit Brow, A Spatial Ghost" draws inspiration from the British coal-mining industry of the 1900s and the overlooked work of the female miner. The garments display grit and beauty with shapes mimicking mine shafts and archival mining equipment. Stephanie partnered with the National Coal Mining Museum for England to pay homage to the industrial heritage while recognizing the need for a forward-thinking future. As a result, the collection features a leather-like charcoal textile made in collaboration with the Natural Design Studio in Denmark. This charcoal textile can be fully decomposed in 1 year if buried and irrigated.

Photography: Collection image by Aleksandra Modrzejewska, Runway images by Roger Dean





# OLIVIA RUBENS

LONDON COLLEGE OF FASHION

*A blurring of identity and an  
embodiment of personas.*

Olivia's MA collection titled "Duplicitous Lives" explores the concept of women as shapeshifters, taking inspiration from the works of Cindy Sherman, Nadia Lee Cohen, and Juno Calypso. Olivia's collection uses eco-conscious materials and processes. Natural dyed organic wools, hand-painted organic peace silks, jersey made from recycled water bottles, and artisan-made recycled glass beads work together to create Olivia's signature eccentric knitwear.

Photography: Collection image by Brian Rankin, Runway images by Roger Dean





IN THE NEWS

THE MASTERS COLLECTIONS GARNERED MEDIA ATTENTION FROM LEADING OUTLETS ACROSS THE GLOBE:

VOGUE  
RUNWAY

WWD

THE WARDROBE CRISIS

FASHION

LOVE

##  
NOT JUST A LABEL

10

S/MAGAZINE

ELLE VOGUE  
CANADA GREECE



BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

# MCQUEEN CREATORS

MCQUEEN CREATORS is designed to inspire and initiate creativity and support education and craft with emerging generations of designers.

On a monthly basis, Alexander McQueen announces a new design brief on social media and submissions are handpicked by Sarah Burton and the McQueen design team.

The SRFI has committed to collaborate with McQueen and contribute to the McQueen Creators initiative. Fellows share their work on their social media accounts, using the hashtag:

**#AMQCreatorsRyersonSRFI**

@alexandermcqueen | @srfi\_ru



# SRFI PARTNERSHIPS

## THE SCHOOL OF FASHION

at FCAD

The home of the SRFI, 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

## FASHION

In 2017 FASHION Magazine established a two-year partnership valued at \$12,500 that gives newly admitted Fellows the chance to create a complete look that will be featured on the pages of FASHION Magazine.



URBANI\_T launched in May 2018. The SRFI has partnered with the Montreal production to showcase the Fellows and increase the national awareness of the Institute.

## FASHION ZONE

The Fashion Zone promotes entrepreneurship as a career path for students and budding entrepreneurs with an interest in fashion, design, and technology. The Fashion Zone provides Fellows with additional opportunities for mentorship in order to thrive in the fashion ecosystem.

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The Institute aims to seek future partnerships as a way to enhance the benefits of the Fellows in the program.



## A MESSAGE FROM THE FELLOWS

As Fellows of The Suzanne Rogers Fashion Institute, we have the responsibility to initiate meaningful change in the global fashion system. Each of us are navigating this system at various educational and professional levels and face a precarious future with many questions about what lies ahead:

*-What type of world do we want to be a part of?*

*-What should the future of the fashion industry look like?*

*-How do our practices shape this future?*

After the events of the past year we now know - more than ever – that these questions need urgent responses. As next-gen designers, we cannot continue to create and produce as before. We cannot remain idle and ignore the vast socio-economic inequalities and decades of careless environmental destruction that the system is built upon. The fashion industry needs change, and we choose to be at the forefront.

It is our obligation to be actively anti-racist, to fight against discrimination, develop sustainable design practices, and to create radical new business models that challenge the

status quo. We need to be open to learning from each other, believing in new ideas, and using our imagination to execute create change. We are inspired by the inevitable challenge before us and encourage each other to make the necessary steps in creating a fairer and more just world.

We are committed to working together to design in a better future. A future of strong values and accountability. Through our community, we can build a more compassionate, conscious, and transparent industry.

We recognize our privilege as Fellows of the SRFI. In turn, we hold the Institute accountable to make informed and equitable decisions that will positively impact the world and the people that inhabit it.

*Alexandra Armata  
Stephanie Moscall-Varey  
Sara He  
Lynne Hey  
Julia Payton  
Michal Perelmuter  
Jonah Solomon*



**INSPIRE THE ASPIRING**

**Ryerson  
University**

**Faculty of  
Communication  
& Design**

[www.srfi.ca](http://www.srfi.ca)  
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