

# CALIFORNIA Apparel News

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MAY 15-21, 2009

## STUDENT SHOWCASE

### FCI: Elegant Edge At FCI Show

Who: FCI The Fashion School

What: The Art of Fashion Fall '09 Collections

Where: Celebrity Centre, Hollywood

When: May 7, 2009

The scene: FCI Students took a sophisticated turn with their Fall '09 collections, shown May 7 at the Celebrity Centre International in Hollywood. The show featured the work of students in both the beginning and intermediate fashion design programs, as well as the collection of 2006 graduate Eva Mejl.

Simran Khalsa blended natural fabrics with rich brocades, and Dami Ogundipe used African textiles for a sophisticated collection of day dresses and eveningwear. Kerry Flanagan's blue brocade strapless bubble dress was cute and flirty, and Rachelle Brand's edgy asymmetrical mini-dress took inspiration from the "fast-paced L.A. lifestyle."

Andrea Fagan's conceptual collection included a heavily embellished gold mini dress.

Intermediate fashion design student Michelle Liu showed a broad-ranging collection that included youthful cocktail dresses as well as maxi styles in turquoise and gold, and

beginning design student Katie Cusumano showed a deft hand at print placement with her black-and-white ombre' swing dress. Bangkok glamour got a Western update by Kay Nilthamrong, whose collection included black lace cheongsam with a purple lining and cinched with a obi-style belt. Women of class and power inspired Zsa Zsa Bodizs' collection which included a dramatic black satin jacket with oversize lantern sleeves and bow closure worn with a gravity-defying strapless dress with a plunging neckline. A costume designer and stylist who transferred to FCI from the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York. Bodizs also showed a dramatic strap-less bridal gown worn with a voluminous ruffled wrap. Jesus Ruiz also an intermediate fashion design student, likewise showed a large collection that included a sophisticated cocktail dress in layers of sequins. Ruiz's bridal look was straight out of a 1930's Hollywood movie, with layers of black-edged ruffles and a hood that folded down into a dramatic ruffled collar. Graduate Mejl showed a versatile knit collection in pale shades of gray, lilac, and blue. Embellished with silver, jewelry-like zippers, the pieces featured well-placed ruching for a flattering fit. The designer's looks, which are carried in the Les Winner and Associates showroom in the California Market Center, were accessorized with jewelry by Raquel B. -Alison A. Nieder

