

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**BFC ANNOUNCES FASHION MA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

The British Fashion Council (BFC) Education Foundation is a registered charity that offers scholarships to talented young people to study BAs and MAs. The BFC has been supporting MA Scholarships since 1998 and the recipients are now seen as the next generation of talented designers. The Fashion Awards 2016 will have a core aim - to raise significant funds over the next ten years to continue this work and help the best talent attend leading fashion colleges. The Fashion Awards will be an annual fundraiser gala for the BFC Education Foundation.

The four recipients of the 2016 BFC Education Foundation MA Scholarship are promising students who have already excelled in their BA degrees. We are delighted to congratulate:

**Cassandra Verity Green** from Central Saint Martins (CSM) will study the MA Fashion Womenswear (Accessories) course at Royal College of Art (RCA)

**Cavan McPherson** from CSM will study the MA Fashion Womenswear (Knitwear) course at RCA

**Geraint Brian Lewis** from University of South Wales will study the Menswear MA course at University of Westminster

**Yasemin Cakli** from University of Westminster will study the Menswear MA course at University of Westminster



*Cassandra Verity Green*



*Cavan McPherson*



*Geraint Brian Lewis*



*Yasemin Cakli*

The British Fashion Council Education Foundation was set up to establish pathways through education and into employment for exceptionally talented people studying BA and MA fashion courses.

This year's judging panel consisted of Emma Farrow, Head of Design, Finery; Nabil Nayal, designer and former scholarship recipient; and Sarah Mower MBE, American Vogue journalist and BFC Ambassador for Emerging Talent.

For the first time this year, previous scholarship winner Erdem joins the scheme's funders: Coach, Marks & Spencer, Net-a-Porter and Eiesha Bharti Pasricha. This project has also been partly supported by HM Government with Employer Ownership funding through Creative Skillset.

**Erdem Moralioglu** commented: *'I was lucky enough to win the scholarship whilst studying at the Royal College of Art. Looking back I understand how important that was for me then and what's important to me now is that others can benefit at a similar stage in their development.'*

**Sarah Mower MBE**, who is co-president of the BFC Education Pillar with **Meribeth Parker**, said: *'The British fashion industry is fuelled by the originality and drive of people from every background who emerge from our world-beating fashion education system. As the costs of further education continue to rise, The British Fashion Council Education Foundation is dedicated to ensuring that the doors remain open to excellent students to whom expense is a barrier. We are grateful to every donor who joins with us to guarantee that brilliant young people continue to strengthen the future of our unique industry.'*

With two of the recipients joining the newly created two-year Menswear MA at University of Westminster, the Course Director, **Ike Rust** said *'The BFC Education Foundation Scholarships awarded to Yasemin Cakli and Geraint Lewis enabled both to undertake their place on the MA Menswear Course, which in itself is a life changer. As well as helping to enable the students it is also an important endorsement for a brand new course.'*

Applications were open to graduating students from member colleges of the BFC's Colleges Council.

**- ENDS -**

For more information please visit [www.britishfashioncouncil.com/education](http://www.britishfashioncouncil.com/education)

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## **Editor's Notes**

### **British Fashion Council**

The British Fashion Council (BFC) was set up in 1983 to promote British fashion internationally and co-ordinate this promotion through fashion weeks, exhibitions and showcasing events. The BFC now supports designers beginning at college level and extending to talent identification, business support and showcasing schemes to help British designer businesses develop their profiles and business globally and promote British

fashion and its influential role in Britain and London. The BFC Colleges Council offers support to students through its Foundation, BA and MA scholarships, links with industry through design competitions and Graduate Preview Day. Talent identification and business support schemes include the BFC Fashion Film sponsored by River Island; BFC Rock Vault; BFC Headonism; BFC/GQ Designer Menswear Fund supported by Vertu; BFC/Vogue Designer Fashion Fund; NEWGEN sponsored by TOPSHOP. The British Fashion Council supports Boden's Future British initiative. Showcasing initiatives and events include London Fashion Week, London Fashion Week Men's, LONDON show ROOMS, the BFC Fashion Arts Foundation, International Fashion Showcase, London Fashion Weekend and the annual celebration of excellence in the fashion industry: The Fashion Awards.

### **2015 MA Recipients**

Benny Andaloo (MA Fashion Menswear at CSM), Gabriella Sardena (MA Fashion Textiles at CSM), Shaun Harris (MA Fashion Womenswear at RCA)

### **2014 MA Recipients**

Emmeline Kellett (Knitted Textiles MA at RCA), Grace Weller (Fashion Womenswear MA at CSM) and Taja Bokek (Fashion Womenswear MA at RCA)

### **BFC Education Foundation**

The BFC Education Foundation, previously named the Princess of Wales Charitable Trust, was originally set up to provide MA scholarships for British graduate fashion design students and has now been extended to include support to students on foundation and BA degree courses.

### **Colleges Council**

The BFC Colleges Council was founded by the BFC in 1993 to create an interface between education and industry. The BFC Colleges Council is a membership programme that represents the leading fashion departments in universities and colleges throughout the UK. The purpose of the BFC Colleges Council is to provide opportunities for students to become involved in the industry through various activities including events, seminars and competitions.

**Member Colleges:** Arts University Bournemouth; Bath Spa University; Birmingham City University; Buckinghamshire New University; Carmarthen School of Art; Central Saint Martins; De Montfort University; Edinburgh College of Art; Glasgow School of Art; Kingston University; London College of Fashion; Manchester Metropolitan University; Manchester School of Art; Middlesex University; Northbrook College; Norwich University of the Arts; Nottingham Trent University; Ravensbourne College of Design & Communications; Royal College of Art; Sheffield Hallam University; University for the Creative Arts Epsom; University for the Creative Arts Rochester; University of Brighton; University of East London; University of Huddersfield; University of Leeds; Northumbria University; University of Salford; University of South Wales; University of Westminster; Winchester School of Art

### **Cassandra Verity Green**

- Cassandra is currently working for Walt Disney UK on The Lion King theatre production as part of their wardrobe department, specialising in leather
- *'Cassandra has a creative outlook and someone we very much wish to be a part of the Footwear, Accessories, Millinery section of the Fashion Programme. Her open attitude to new experimentation in material and silhouette is exciting.'* Zowie Broach, Head of Fashion, RCA

### **Cavan McPherson**

- Cavan was a recipient of the BFC Education Foundation BA Final Year Scholarship and winner of the Artstread and Levi's Denim Design Challenge 2020 in San Francisco
- *'When we interviewed Cavan for an MA in Knitwear we could all see a wonderful designer, she has such great potential and to add to that her energy and excitement about her work which will be genius to have in the studio.'* Zowie Broach, Head of Fashion, RCA

### **Geraint Brian Lewis**

- Geraint, who was raised and studied in South Wales, explores perceptions of behavior and awkwardness and how they are becoming more recognized within society in his work
- *'Geraint's creative work demonstrates a sophisticated application of practical technical skills, which produce a range of highly effective creative outcomes. Geraint desire to further his studies at Westminster is clear; his academic work is strong and complimented by his creative practitioner's skills. Geraint is clearly a very talented creative individual not only as a designer, but also in the*

*critical and contextual aspects of the course.*’ Irene Dee, Programme Director, Cardiff School of Art & Design, Cardiff Metropolitan University

#### **Yasemin Cakli**

- The judges were particularly taken with Yasemin’s illustrations and [Instagram account](#)
- *‘As a designer, Yasemin is a reflective practitioner, with strong critical faculties and the ability to contextualise her work within the broader discourse of contemporary menswear practice. Her design work is both focused and creative, yet addresses the real needs of menswear.’* Andrew Groves, Course Director, BA Fashion Design, University of Westminster