



**PRESS RELEASE
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Fashion Fête: Art of the Runway

(Houston, TX, October 30, 2013) – On October 23, DiverseWorks and event Co-Chairs **Liz Gorman, Tiffany Halik, and Alton LaDay** presented a fundraising experience unlike any other in Houston. **Fashion Fête: Art of the Runway** combined live music, dance, fashion, and visual art into one multimedia extravaganza – perfectly reflecting DiverseWorks’ focus on commissioning and presenting cutting-edge, experimental, and interdisciplinary contemporary art. The event raised nearly \$65,000 in support of DiverseWorks’ programs – most of which are presented free to the general public.

Doors opened to the sounds of **DJ Dave Wrangler** and attendees immediately realized this was not an ordinary fashion show: the entire DiverseWorks gallery space had been transformed into a multi-level runway constructed of scaffolding, designed by British artist **Graham Hudson** (a close friend of DiverseWorks’ Executive Director **Elizabeth Dunbar**). At 7:30 the 25-minute show began with **The Manichean**, fronted by vocalist **Cory Sinclair**, taking the stage. Dancers **Jacquelyne Jay Boe, Laura Gutierrez, Lydia Hance, and Britt Wallis**, in costumes designed by **Ashley Horn**, performed amidst a parade of **Neil Hamil Agency** models styled by **Edward Sanchez/Vanity Lounge** and **Travis Player & Roi Alan**, and clad in high fashion looks from boutiques **Dryden Kreps, Laboratoria, Leap, Settlement Goods & Design, and Sloan/Hall**. Each look was accompanied by an original “wearable accessory” commissioned by DiverseWorks and created by ten Houston-based artists: **Elaine Bradford, Jillian Conrad, Sharon Engelstein, GONZO247, Rachel Hecker, Will Henry, Selven O’Keefe Jarmon, Rahul Mitra, Aaron Parazette, and Robert A. Pruitt**. Following the fashion show, each accessory was sold to the highest bidder via silent auction.

Fashion Fête guests were treated to bites generously provided by **Triniti, Ibiza Food & Wine Bar, and Phoenicia Specialty Foods/MKT Bar**; a prosecco and wine bar provided by **Zonin USA; Saint Arnolds** beer; and **Topo Chico**. VIP ticket holders enjoyed an outdoor **Ligne Roset** lounge with specialty cocktail bar provided **Proof Bar + Patio** along with appetizers served up by **The Eighteenth Cocktail Bar**, and tunes spun by Junior Contour.

Fashion Fête was made possible through the generosity of the following sponsors: **Frost Bank, Durotech, Randall Jamail & Victoria Goldstein, Lucinda Loya Interiors, Momentum Volvo, Anonymous, Jereann Chaney, Beauty Now, and White Space**.

Among the 200 guests in attendance were Adam Brackman, Peter Brown, Travis Buchanan, Diane Caplan, Ceron, Jason Fuller, Dawn & Richard Gervais, Lauren Harrison, Brian Kreps and Adrian White-Kreps, Susan and Craig Lindberg, Tatiana Massey, Judy Nyquist, Paul Pettie, Andrew Sarofim, Jeff Shell, Marcus Sloan and Shannon Hall, Delise Ward and Craig Lidji, and Fabené Welch.

(more)

About DiverseWorks

DiverseWorks is a non-profit art center in Houston, Texas dedicated to commissioning and presenting new visual, performing, and literary art. DiverseWorks is a place where the process of creating art is valued and where artists can test new ideas in the public arena. By encouraging the investigation of current artistic, cultural, and social issues, DiverseWorks builds, educates, and sustains audiences for contemporary art.

DiverseWorks

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Gallery Hours: Wednesdays, noon – 8 pm / Thursdays – Saturdays, noon – 6 pm / or by appointment

Admission is open to the public and FREE

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