

# Glamour fest in Dhaka

## TRESEMME Bangladesh Fashion Week 2019

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

### Day 3: THE FINALE

The razzle-dazzle had reached the penultimate hours, but not without a section of hair styling by the celebrated stylist Farzana Shakil. And one final walk down the ramp by the gorgeous Peya!

### EDRIC ONG

The audience got a feel of his outlandish line, which profusely fused elements of textiles, basketry, fibres, ceramics, wood, and stone. His work on eco-textiles like silk; ikkat; natural dye; backstrap loom weaving; wood block; hand printed scarves, stoles and wraps created ensembles that narrated a saga of the diverse cultures that is Malaysia, and essentially everything Sarawak.

The befitting entrée of the third evening was a showcase by the Malaysian designer, and his profuse use of capes, shrugs, ponchos, and downright whacky headdresses to top it all up, is what made him shine.

### KUHU

#### Fluid Movement

She is one of the most accomplished designers of the country, and known for her attires that can more aptly be described as wearable art, rather than ready-to-wear. This time her entire collection was built on the movements of fabrics, as they wave in the wind.

She had a unique approach to styling, a twist in the drapes creating a range that took hues from the thousands of female RMG workers we see commuting on the streets of Dhaka. The entire range was 'colour perfect' if there is any such term, as she skilfully created a line — street smart, perhaps street chic, but relaxed.

### EMDAD HAQUE

#### Life Cycle

It was an evening of prêt-à-porter, and an hour for the Bangladeshi designers. Haque's minimalist approach to fashion was evident in the line, which saw shalwar kameezes, and dresses in soothing whites, embellished with embroidery, and patchwork in colours of life — green, red, yellow. The subtle shades of grey, or ravishing black, also had their place, as that too is very part of life, and

none can do without black — when it comes to fashion.

### MARIA SULTANA

#### Herbs

The way to our hearts is through the stomach, and in a brilliant ensemble, Maria Sultana, spiked the runways with attires done on the theme of herbs. Often spicy and sexy, at times a little sweet, and at times somewhat sour — the entourage was a brilliant execution of a work done based on an intangible theme like taste and spice.

### CHANDANA DEWAN

#### Grow with Me

In the cycle of life, every organism grows around nature, an ecosphere that binds everything in perfect harmony. Fashion is possibly no different.

Using only 'deshi' products, natural dyes to recreate the luscious greenery of Bengal, the mustard yellow of Spring, the vibrant reds — these are what made Chandana Dewan's approach the highlight of a night were truly ready-to-wear was the dominating style.

Colours, cuts, and accessorising — all done in signature Dewan!

### RIFAT RAHMAN

#### Aura of Dusk

He is new, and so are his creations! With little attempt to blend East and West, or create fusion — he delved deep into the realms of the creation of denim, and made an excellent showcase by using the proverbial fabric to create dresses that one could seriously consider buying, and wearing in everyday life.

The coats, the coatees, the pants — this was an ode to the quintessential fashion fabric that has a humble beginning in the mines of California, and now has taken over the world.

### MERDI SIHOMBING

He is unabashedly Indonesian, and likes to present himself as a nationalist designer. Perhaps, he can more aptly be termed as a performer who's designs — ethnic in all its forms, colours, cuts and size, match his prowess as a singer! As the catwalk was underway, he moved up and down the ramp, lip-syncing of course, but the energy of the entire line and additional fun factor did much to enliven an evening that some found heavy on simplicity.

### FAIZA SAMEE

There was nothing simple about this! Pakistani fashion is known for heavy embellishments, bejewelled accessory, bright colours, grace, and elegance. Samee is a veteran designer who has the experience to produce a dazzling queue that would enchant even the harshest of critics.

Her luxury line was a display of brilliant craftsmanship and would certainly serve as perfect bridal wear, for those who prefer to step into the brighter, heavier end of wedding attires.

### KT BROWN

If there was any, KT Brown would certainly be it — urban chic! Perfect for cocktails, every dress was made from a single monochrome fabric, where the texture of the fabrics — the fall, its weight, and the suppleness, became the dominating factor. The focus here was simply on the cut and the drape, yet results were stunners.

### MAHEEN KHAN

#### Shahi Bangalah

As the concluding line of the entire event, Maheen Khan was retrospective, drawing inspiration from the glory days of medieval Bengal, the era of the Bengal Sultans. Her inspiration was primarily in the execution of the theme on fabrics through a finesse of needlework, but the colours that she used as the backdrop were truly en vogue, in pastel shades.

TRESEMME Bangladesh Fashion Week 2019 did not end with an outrageous bang, but on a soothing melody of colours — Prêt-à-Porter at their very best. The event started with Paromita Banerjee, essentially ready-to-wear, and ended on a high note through the works of Maheen Khan. The three-day event was chequered with an exchange of ideas amongst designers, and as for the audience, it was treat to see various cultures of Asia and their influence on fashion.

**By Mannan Mashhur Zarif and Ali Sakh Khan**

**Photo: TRESEMME Bangladesh Fashion Week 2019**

### FDCB Fashion Fair Spring 2019

Fashion Design Council of Bangladesh (FDCB) organised a Fashion Fair on the first and second of March, 2019. The event took place at Gardenia Grand Hall, Gulshan 2 (House 8, Road 51) from 11:00 am – 8:00 pm. The two-day event showcased the collections from the country's renowned fashion designers. The Fashion Fair title sponsor was The City Bank Ltd in association with IPAB. The event featured designers like Emdad Haque, Kuhu Plamondon, Chandana R Dewan, Maria Sultana, Rifat Rahman, Maheen Khan, Humaira Khan, Rifat Reza Raka, Sarah Karim, Sadiya Mishu, Ezmat Naz Rima, Mussarat Rahman, Lipi Khandker, Farah Anjum Bari, Shahrukh Amin, Afsana Ferdausi, Faiza Ahmed, Rupo Shams, Tasnia Ahmed, and Shaibal Shah.

The FDCB is a non-profit organisation engaged in activities for the advancement of the design industry of the country. The aim of FDCB is to put the designs of Bangladesh on a platform where they could learn from the experience and also share the rich and complex designs with the people of the nation.

FDCB advocates for not only the great looks but also to connect their ideas with both the folk and traditional designs of Bangladesh.

Through this Fashion Fair, FDCB wanted to create a bond of collaboration with the designers and the prolific creative industry.

