

Kuhu Plamondon dazzles with her collection, Summer Breeze



Kuhu Plamondon was a student of the Faculty of Fine Arts in Dhaka University with an acute interest in fashion. "Since fashion schools were not widely available back in the day, I was put into art school instead. And it helped me tremendously," she said.

According to the artist, her drawing always had a fashion edge to it, often noted by her teachers.

"My professor, Shahid Kabir, whom I admire greatly, often said that the models in my drawing looked like fashion models with statuette Bengali eyes," said Plamondon. Surely enough, as she immersed herself into the world of fashion, Kuhu succeeded in building a career by blending her art into fashion.

"I enjoyed everything about art. I still continue my live model drawing. But when I was introduced to drapes and the draping of a sari in particular, I was absolutely fascinated. Whenever I picture a Bengali girl, I always think of her draped beautifully in a typical white sari with red borders. This eventually inspired me and I began mixing the skill of art into drapes," stated the designer.

The Aspara Fashion Week 2021 exhibited the works of renowned designers of Europe and Central Asia. Here, Kuhu introduced her series, Summer Breeze. Kuhu's collection always comes with a message and she is known to tell stories through the clothes. So, what is the story behind Summer Breeze?

"You can neither see breeze, nor touch it. It is only to be felt," she explained. "I could have chosen summer 'colours' for instance, but the focus had to be on the flow."

White dominated the series this time. With our all-time favourite polka dots and tie n' dye prints, the clothes perfectly brought forth the comfort and breeziness that we crave so badly in summer.

"When working with patterns, it is crucial to not go overboard. Your clothes are to enhance your beauty, not overshadow it," said Plamondon. "I love working with bright colours, but at the same time, I tend to break it up with white or sometimes black."

The fabric bought from textile firms is the only commercial element in Kuhu's work. She poetically refers to them as her empty canvas. Each of the dresses and saris are hand-dyed and printed in her studio, ensuring their individuality.

Designers like Kuhu Plamondon are artists who transform imagination into reality right before our eyes. Each comes with a surprise element of its own, and leaves us awaiting the next almost impatiently.

By Nusrath Jahan
Photo: Uturn Production
Model: Maria, Hira, Mili, Tania, Efa, Nazia
Wardrobe: Kuhu Plamondon
Make-up: Orko
Co-ordination: Sonia Yeasmin Isha

