FASHION REVOLUTION OPEN STUDIO 2019

Fashion Open Studio 2019 announces a powerful line up of designers and brands leading the way to a more sustainable industry with a week of events, workshops and talks during Fashion Revolution Week.

A diverse range of designers including Christopher Raeburn, Katharine Hamnett, Phoebe English, Katie Jones, Elvis & Kresse, and Vivienne Westwood will be sharing best practice and how they are rising to the challenges of making fashion with the lightest social and environmental impact. For the first time, BFC Positive Fashion ambassadors Teatum Jones, LVMH short-listed designer Duran Lantink, Elliss, Wool and the Gang, Nelly Rose, Patrick McDowell, Norton & Sons, and H&M Award winner Priya Ahluwalia join the lineup in the UK, with designers in Amsterdam, Paris, Milan, Berlin, Athens and Hanoi adding their voices. In Australia, we are really excited to support A.BCH with their NATURAL workshop as well as Simetrie and Lois Hazel.

Fashion Open Studio is committed to deepening engagement on sustainable solutions so we are proud to launch a partnership with Common Objective. CO will be creating a Fashion Open Studio hub on its sourcing and networking platform, providing essential advice, information and tools for designers to continue to explore how to make positive change in their businesses – and measure their progress..

Now in its third year, Fashion Open Studio is a Fashion Revolution initiative whose purpose is to shine a spotlight on best practice at the designer end of the industry including events with Sardin, Circular Vision and Higher Studio on alternatives to the current retail system.

The focus of the week-long series of Fashion Open Studio events is to work with designers to engage citizens further about who makes their clothes - and to involve them in some of the hands-on processes along the way. As well as studio events, this year, we are proud to partner with Study Hall – the first time the conference will be held in London, bringing brands Mara Hoffman, G-Star and Adidas into the conversation.

In support of our colleagues at Extinction Rebellion who are calling for urgent action around the Climate Emergency, Fashion Open Studio is proud to announce that XR will be our transport partner, providing walking routes – and lively discussion – between key events.

While Fashion Open Studio is an international platform, we have partnered with the experimental concept store 50M in Victoria to create a hub for some of the capital’s most exciting emerging talent to share their work. During the week, designers including Kepler London, Congregation, Priya Ahluwalia and Queen Elizabeth II Award for British Design holder Bethany Williams will be discussing their business models and innovations. Next door, Wool and the Gang will be popping up and hosting workshops with Katie Jones, Black Girl Knit Club and PlayWool the cult brand from Korea.

We are grateful for the support of the British Council who are sponsoring the first Fashion Open Studio residency for LVMH finalist Duran Lantink. Duran will be available by appointment at 50M for consultations on bespoke upcycling. Just bring your unworn items and he will use them to create a unique piece just for you.

For the third year running, we are proud to include a workshop with Raeburn where participants will have a chance to see the workings of RaeburnLab which has been built on principles of recycling and minimal waste, and to make their own Raeburn Tote bag out of upcycled parachute silk.

Another pioneer in turning trash into treasure is Elvis & Kresse whose luxury accessories are made entirely from waste. As well as saving the entire London Fire Brigade’s old firehose from landfill, they have made a specialty of finding solutions from waste whether it is making packaging from tea sacks or wallets from Burberry’s surplus leather in collaboration with the Burberry Foundation. Kresse Wesling will be in attendance to demonstrate and talk about their work at Harvey Nichols.

In an ongoing partnership with Sarabande: The Lee Alexander McQueen Foundation, milliner Leo Carlton will be unveiling his experiments with craft and technology, showcasing a new model of on-demand production for headwear. His 3-D printed accessories are made using plant-based material as part of his continued explorations into satisfying people’s appetites for beauty and novelty, whilst knowing that his products are ultimately biodegradable (in the right conditions, of course).

Fashion Open Studio events provide a great way to learn new skills from some of the industry’s most exciting talent. A highlight will be Phoebe English’s quilting from waste workshop at her Deptford Creek studio. She is looking forward to sharing skills and will be on hand to talk more about the compelling evidence she submitted to the Government’s Environmental Audit Committee on the sustainability of the fashion industry last year.

And this year, we introduce our first Fashion Open Studio Family Day in collaboration with Know The Origin’s London pop-up for Fashion Revolution Week. Michelle Lowe-Holder will be showing how to weave rescued ribbon into jewellery; The Autonomous Collection will host a personalised repair patch workshop; and Mary Benson will give a 'Make Your Own MARY' up-cycling/customising pre-loved clothing workshop. Fashion Revolution will also be hosting a DIY Revolutionary waste paper Zine workshop.

*“I can’t wait for FOS during Fashion Revolution Week 2019. Judging by last year’s success and our exciting series of conversations in partnership with Maiyet throughout the year, it looks like April will be exceptional. FOS engages with young and established brands, with the people who make our clothes, for irreverent and forward thinking debates and workshops that stimulate different viewpoints - we come together to celebrate or critique, but always to push boundaries.”*

Orsola de Castro, Creative Director, Fashion Revolution and Fashion Open Studio.

*“We are witnessing a growing appetite from a generation of designers to showcase their work in a space where conversations about supply chains, waste, overproduction and materials, as well as a more respectful approach to the artisans, craftspeople and garment makers who make our clothes are taken seriously. These designers are urgently trying to change the industry and its systems to decrease the shocking impact our industry has on the environment. Fashion Open Studio is the platform for designers to share information, find solutions, and value transparent lines of communication with their customers who have a powerful role to play in demanding and driving change.”* Tamsin Blanchard, curator, Fashion Open Studio

Fashion Revolution Week April 22-29 is a global campaign sparking a wider public conversation about the impacts of our clothes on the people who make them. #WhoMadeMyClothes

Fashion Revolution is designers, academics, writers, business leaders, policymakers, brands, retailers, marketers, producers, makers, workers and fashion lovers. We are the industry and we are the public, we are world citizens. Get involved:<http://fashionrevolution.org/get-involved/brands/>

For the full list of events, go to<https://www.fashionrevolution.org/about/fashion-open-studio/>

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#FashionOpenStudio #whomademyclothes #imadeyourclothes #fashionrevolution