



FASHION OPEN STUDIO is the first international fashion showcase to produce an entirely digital schedule, with a packed programme of events from designers in the UK as well as across 12 countries joining Fashion Revolution's showcasing initiative for Fashion Revolution Week 2020 (20 – 26 April 2020).

In response to the Coronavirus pandemic, FASHION OPEN STUDIO 2020 has worked with 25 designers in the UK and across a global network of 24 designers in 12 countries to bring intimate studio experiences to a global audience allowing a bigger audience than ever to have direct access to the designers leading the way to find innovative and meaningful solutions to some of the biggest social and environmental challenges facing the fashion industry. Designers and brands taking part include **Phoebe English, Ssone, Raeburn, Kevin Germanier, Bianca Saunders, Vivienne Westwood, Elvis & Kresse, Bethany Williams** and emerging talents **Matthew Needham, Paolo Carzana, and Joshua James Small**.

Now in its fourth year, Fashion Open Studio's purpose is to celebrate best practice and innovation led by a carefully chosen selection of fashion and textile designers, biotech start-ups and retail disruptors. We believe that responsibility and transparency begins with the designer and there is no better way of being accountable and then opening up your studio to the public.

While many designers are self-isolating and do not have access to their studios, or are working with social distancing measures, they are using the FASHION OPEN STUDIO digital platform to continue to connect with audiences through workshops and tutorials. We invite audiences to join from home, with conversations and discussions around sustainability and innovation, with practical solutions you can share, and ways to engage creatively with one another at a time when it is important not to feel isolated.

The focus of the week-long series of Fashion Open Studio events is to work with designers to engage citizens with who makes their clothes - and to involve them in some of the hands-on processes along the way. We want to enable designers to explore more deeply the social and environmental impacts of fashion and open up those conversations to create new role models and systems. Fashion Open Studio allows designers to share every aspect of their work and offers tangible solutions and steps towards a more responsible industry.

The week's content will include frank and open conversations with designers, demonstrations, workshops you can follow at home, inspiration and ways to connect with this most progressive and creative of communities.

The week of events will kick off with a Denim Day in partnership with **ISKO**™ * and ends with a unique collaboration between FASHION OPEN STUDIO and **Somerset House**.

The deep dive into denim begins with an open session with denim design specialist and historian, Mohsin Sajid of **Endrime** who will be offering a virtual tour of his studio complete with a glimpse at some of the treasures of his rare denim collection. **Patrick McDowell** will invite you to a workshop on customising denim while Sophie Hawkins of cult utility brand **S.Hawkins** will give a tutorial on mending denim (bring your ripped and holey jeans for a makeover session). **Bianca Saunders** will also give insight on her denim sourcing. **Michelle Lowe-Holder** has a new upcycling project to share. We will also be introducing Anna Foster of **E.L.V Denim** who will be talking about how she started her denim brand using recycled garments to make premium jeans.

The day will culminate in a discussion on the future of denim led by Susie Lau of Style Bubble investigating how this most durable and timeless of materials can form the foundation of the sustainable wardrobe and how ISKO and the denim industry is harnessing technology to minimise waste and promote best practice. Panellists will include Bianca Saunders, Keith O'Brien Marketing & Business Development Manager from ISKO, Orsola de Castro, creative director and co-founder, Fashion Revolution, Anna Foster of E.L.V. Denim, young designer Patrick McDowell and Mohsin Sajid, founder of Endrime.

With our cultural partner, **Somerset House**, we will be bringing together four designers with very different perspectives and a universal goal of rethinking the fashion system. CSM MA graduate **Paolo Carzana** will be sharing the research and narrative behind his degree collection *The Boy Who Came Back to Life* and discussing his ongoing collaboration with Ceri Rees of Pinatex; **Katie Jones** will be sharing the secrets of her crochet practice; **Congregation** will be giving a rare glimpse into the playful processes of their anonymous collective; and award-winning **Bethany Williams** will be presenting her latest project launching as part of Somerset House's Earth Day 2020 programme.

We are also excited to be sharing exclusive films as part of **Sarabande Foundation's** Sarabande Sessions featuring **Roberts Wood** and **Leo Carlton**.

For our first full international programme, we are connecting designers across the world, working in collaboration with Fashion Revolution's country coordinators and local partners to provide behind the scenes access to designers in 12 countries from Fashion Revolution's far-reaching global network including **Kowtow** in New Zealand, **Bodice** in India, **Sona Asemani** in Iran, **Emmy Kasbit** in Nigeria and **Soup Archive** in Germany. Other countries taking part include **Czech Republic, France, Japan, Mexico, Switzerland, Vietnam** and **Zimbabwe** to share how they are rising to the challenges of making fashion with the lightest social and environmental impact. The events will celebrate the people and processes behind their work as well as promoting industry transparency and authentic narratives that resonate with citizens, consumers and creatives alike.

Fashion Revolution said: *"We believe that the way fashion is showcased, including fashion weeks in their current format, needs to be urgently redesigned and upgraded. Covid-19 has pushed us to accelerate new and innovative ways of showcasing fashion which we hope to*

build on in the coming year. Solutions to the global challenges designers and supply chains face can be found within the industry itself through the dedication and commitment of industry insiders striving to explore new ways of working.

Fashion Open Studio proposes a whole new industry agenda. When designers open up their studios to the public, press and industry alike, and talk about the people who make their clothes, their production processes and solutions to particular challenges, they are each contributing towards a crucial shift across the industry. By opening up their practice to questions and welcoming a level of transparency that holds designers accountable every step of the way.

Through internationalising Fashion Open Studio and moving the events to a digital space, we hope to invite dialogue and collaboration with international fashion weeks to look at ways to minimise their collective burdensome impact.”

Tamsin Blanchard, Curator Fashion Open Studio said: *“We are witnessing a growing appetite from a generation of designers to showcase their work in a space where conversations about supply chains, waste reduction, 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 around the world 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.”*

Orsola De Castro, Creative Director Fashion Revolution and Fashion Open Studio said: *“Fashion Open Studio 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.”*

-Ends-

Notes to Editors

www.fashionopenstudio.com

[@fashionopenstudio](#)

#FashionOpenStudio #fashionrevolution #whomademyclothes #imadeyourclothes

Press and media enquiries about Fashion Open Studio

For more information please contact press@fashionrevolution.org/roxy@fashionrevolution.org

Images

For high resolution images visit:

UK designers

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1bVTDDYfxoMM9wj9WKoz-_AtsZcOEwDz

International designer

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/10RQTUTGhyXIDGTF75sqh2NDalJncfLji>

Listings information

A programme of digital events will take place during Fashion Revolution Week 2020 (20-26 April). Events are listed on fashionopenstudio.com and are open to a public and industry audience alike. For booking, ticketing and contact details please visit each individual event listing.

Fashion Open Studio UK designers and brands:

Alice Potts
Bethany Williams
Bianca Saunders
Congregation
Davide Carrano
Elliss
E.L.V Denim
Elvis & Kresse
Helen Kirkum
Jo Miller
Joshua Small
Katie Jones
Kirsty McDougall
Kevin Germanier
Leo Carlton
Matthew Needham
Michelle Lowe-Holder
Mohsin Sajid, Endrime
Paolo Carzana
Phoebe English
Raeburn
Roberts-Wood
Sophie Hawkins, S.Hawkins
Ssone
Vivienne Westwood
XYZ Exchange

Fashion Open Studio international schedule designers and brands:

Czech Republic – Odivi
Germany - Soup Archive
India – BODICE, Ka-Sha, Iro Iro
Iran – Azadeh Yasaman, Foje, Sona Asemani, Sanaz Nattaj
Japan – Atelier MA
Mexico – Caralarga
New Zealand – Kowtow
Nigeria – Awa Meite, Emmy Kasbit, Iamigo
Switzerland – Estelle Krattinger, QWSTION, Rafael Kuoto
Vietnam – Moi-Dien, Tamay & Me
Zimbabwe – Guyllelujah, Haus of Stone

About Fashion Open Studio

Now in its fourth year, Fashion Open Studio is a Fashion Revolution initiative. Our purpose is to shine a spotlight on best practice and innovation being led by fashion and textile designers, biotech start-ups and retail disruptors. We believe that responsibility and transparency begins with the designer and there is no better way of being accountable for your actions than opening up your studio to the public.

This is an alternative to the conventional fashion showcase which does little to address many of the concerns citizens have about the social and environmental impacts of fashion. Fashion Open Studio allows designers to share every aspect of their work and offers tangible solutions and steps towards a more responsible industry.

*** About ISKO™**

ISKO is part of SANKO TEKSTIL, the textile division of the SANKO Group. As the premium denim ingredient brand behind people's most favorite jeans, it has a strong global presence in 35 countries with 60 international locations.

By virtue of its Responsible Innovation™ approach, founded on creativity, competence and citizenship, ISKO works to make the world a better place bringing awareness to environmental as

well as social aspects. As a result of its R-TWO™ program made with certified reused cotton and certified recycled polyester, the company's denim offer is fully responsible.

Committed to an approach of continuous improvement, ISKO relies on external stakeholder engagement, striving for third-party certifications and partnerships. This has led to many achievements, including: Nordic Swan Ecolabel, EU Ecolabel, STeP by OEKO-TEX® certifications and Textile Exchange, ZDHC, SAC, and Sedex memberships.

The ISKO world is a full-power denim force from the ground up, it includes R&D, Creative Room, Iskoteca, ISKO Creative Room Services, Visionary Minds – all working to create a complete network of excellence, creativity and innovation. The company's advanced expertise on woven technologies has extended to the world of sportswear and performance. This has led to the development of two top ISKO™ innovations – Arquas™ and ISKO Vital™ – which have changed the game by introducing the benefits of woven fabrics, i.e. durability and recovery power, into the activewear segment. As a result, they have become the go-to solutions to a wide spectrum of needs, from high-performance to lifestyle brands that cater also for sportswear.

ISKO is a trademark of SANKO TEKSTIL.

To find out more visit iskodenim.com

About Fashion Revolution

Who we are

We are Fashion Revolution. We are people from all around the world who make the fashion industry work. We are the people who wear clothes. And we are the people who make them.

We are 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. We are you.

Our vision

We believe in a fashion industry that values people, the environment, creativity and profit in equal measure.

Our mission

We want to unite people and organisations to work together towards radically changing the way our clothes are sourced, produced and consumed, so that our clothing is made in a safe, clean and fair way.

We believe that collaborating across the whole value chain — from farmer to consumer — is the only way to transform the industry.

Our mission is to bring everyone together to make that happen.

We are a Global Movement

Fashion Revolution is a global movement that runs all year long. We celebrate fashion as a positive influence while also scrutinising industry practices and raising awareness of the fashion industry's most pressing issues. We aim to show that change is possible and encourage those who are on a journey to create a more ethical and sustainable future for fashion.

Fashion Revolution strives to be action-oriented and solution focused. Rather than making people feel guilty, we help them recognise that they have the power to do something to make a positive change.

We often call ourselves “pro-fashion protesters” because we love fashion and want to see it become a force for good.

We try to always be bold, provocative, inquisitive, accessible and inclusive. We tend to avoid negative protesting, victimising and naming and shaming. We do not target specific individual companies because we believe that the industry’s problems are bigger than any one company’s actions. We do not advocate boycotting simply because we don’t see it as an effective way to achieve systemic change.

About Fashion Revolution Week

20th – 26th April 2020

Fashion Revolution Week is our #whomademyclothes campaign in April, which falls on the anniversary of the Rana Plaza factory collapse, which killed 1138 people and injured many more on 24th April 2013. That is the day Fashion Revolution was born. During this week, brands and producers are encouraged to respond with the hashtag #imadeyourclothes and to demonstrate transparency in their supply chain. We will also invite a deeper understanding of the materials we use to make our clothes with the hashtag #Whatsinmyclothes.