



## Press Release

### Fashion Open Studio highlights inclusivity and accessibility at London Fashion Week February 2021

Fashion Open Studio, the showcasing initiative by Fashion Revolution, will showcase the work of two pioneering brands this London Fashion Week. We are proud to support the emerging adaptive fashion brand, **R E S E T**, and the experimental community design collective **CONGREGATIONdesign** for two very different events to promote the need for greater inclusivity and accessibility in fashion.

**R E S E T** is inspired by the concept of Visual Control of Locomotion in Parkinson's disease. Designer Monika Dugar started to research the condition after her father was diagnosed with Parkinson's six years ago.

Since her graduate collection from LCF in 2020, Monika has worked with her sister Usha Baid, the brand's Finance and Operation director expanding beyond Parkinson's creating innovative solutions for people with varying abilities and needs'. It was important to Monika to show the collection in the context of London Fashion Week. She said: "Designing for differently abled people is not a trend, it's a necessity. Balancing fashion through functional clothing will empower people and advocate for inclusiveness – that's the aim."

The **R E S E T** launch event focuses on the creation of the brand's new lookbook featuring poet and songwriter Miss Jacqui; producer and presenter, Moeed Majeed; dancer, Kat Hawkins; founder of More Human, Emma Lawton and Candoco dancer Joel Brown.

Monika and Usha, will be in conversation to talk about her research and the world of adaptive clothing, alongside Aja Barber, writer and campaigner; Emma Lawton, founder of More Human and digital strategist at Parkinson's UK, Samanta Bullock inclusion campaigner and CEO of retail platform Imperfection. You can join to preview the lookbook and be part of the conversation on Tuesday February 23rd at 5pm.

**CONGREGATIONdesign** is also creating a more inclusive fashion space. Under the shape of an anonymous collective, CONGREGATIONdesign gathers designers and makers of all horizons around one brief, the team is fluid and changes from one project to another. Sustainability is core to the project, valorising social and natural resources at every stage.

Non seasonal, CONGREGATIONdesign releases projects only when it's got something to say, while designing explorative and experimental processes of creation. As a result, the outcome and delivery consistently involve craft and artisan skills mixed with responsive improvisation, art and live performance embracing fashion design.

The experimental brand will be inviting the audience to join its creative collective through a unique and multidisciplinary digital platform. Join them to explore and get creative on a Zoom workshop on Saturday 20th of February at 12pm in collaboration with retail concept store 50m London. "Designer, knitter, artist, illustrator, dancer, stylist, ... what is your skill? Join us, we are recruiting and would love to feature your talent!"

Orsola de Castro, creative director of Fashion Open Studio said: "We are super excited about the upcoming FOS x LSF initiatives during LFW. Something old and something new! FOS cohort congregation will continue to surprise in their inimitable way and newcomer Reset will inspire and inform you with their brilliant collection of adaptive clothing. Don't miss it!"

PRESS IMAGES [HERE](#)

To register for both events, go to [www.fashionopenstudio.com](http://www.fashionopenstudio.com)

These two events are kindly supported by London Fashion Showcasing Fund.

#### **Notes to Editors:**

For interviews and images please contact [Tamsin@fashionrevolution.org](mailto:Tamsin@fashionrevolution.org)

#### **About R E S E T**

Where design is inspired by the unique experiences that differently-abled people have. Launched in 2019 by LCF fashion graduate Monika Dugar, the collection reinvents conservative adaptive clothing by providing a sense of freedom and a new vision. Guided by momentum to solve problems, our innovative human-centred design with a combination of wearable technology and fashion are the ways through which [R E S E T] will provide solutions. The initial adoption of wearable technology, which is aimed at improving individual quality of life will not only provide new possibilities and interaction methods in the wearable environment but also enable wearable-based user-aid services, which can be more adaptable and natural.

<https://www.resetadaptive.com/>

@reset\_adaptive

#### **About Congregation Design**

An anonymous art and design collective who experiment and play outside of regular roles to challenge fashion convention and deliver collections that are about collaboration, support and community.

For the last collection 23 designers, from 9 cities in the world created each a prototype.

Made in total independence, the one rule was that the outcome should be 100% up-cycled.

After being gathered to form an un-curated collection, a handful number of one of a kind pieces have been reproduced and will be available in exclusivity from @50mlondon Saturday February 20. Along with the launch of an unique & multidisciplinary digital platform built with the support of Fashion Open Studio.

<https://www.congregationdesign.com/>

@congregationdesign

### **About Fashion Open Studio**

Now in its fifth year, Fashion Open Studio is a Fashion Revolution initiative. As a showcasing platform, the purpose is to shine a spotlight on best practice and innovation being led by fashion and textile designers, biotech start-ups and retail disruptors. As well as radical new start-ups, FOS has attracted some of the industry's biggest names to collaborate, including Vivienne Westwood, Bethany Williams and Christopher Raeburn. The designers are selected for their commitment to a clearly defined criteria of responsible design and systemic innovation. During Fashion Revolution Week, 19-25 April 2021, designers share best practice in a transparent and open manner, in a way that offers access and stimulates discussion and questions.

<https://www.fashionopenstudio.com/>

@fashionopenstudio

### **About Fashion Revolution**

Fashion Revolution is the world's largest fashion activism movement, formed after the Rana Plaza factory collapse in Bangladesh in 2013 which killed over 1,100 people. Fashion Revolution believes in a global fashion industry that conserves and restores the environment and values people over growth and profit. In order to achieve this goal, the organisation conducts research that shines a light on the fashion industry's practices and impacts, highlights where brands and retailers are moving too slowly and incentivises and promotes transparency and accountability across the supply chain.

The theme for 2021 is Rights, Relationships and Revolution. Human rights and the rights of nature are interconnected and interdependent; we need a revolution in our relationships with each other, within fashion supply chains, and with the natural world, for our own prosperity and wellbeing, and the health of our earth and our oceans.

Fashion Revolution Week 2021 will take place 19-25 April 2021.

<https://www.fashionrevolution.org/>

@fash\_rev

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