Fair Report

CENTRESTAGE 2023

- Asia's premier fashion event which serves as a promotional and launch pad for fashion brands and designer labels, featuring over 240 brands from 19 countries and regions
- Close to 25 runway shows, stunning parades and industry seminars were held during the event, offering a full vision of the latest collections and trends of the upcoming seasons
- A month-long citywide campaign with 2 fashion-themed activities staged across the city
- Held concurrently with the world's largest timepiece event HKTDC Hong Kong Watch & Clock Fair and Salon de TE

Asia's Fashion Spotlight

Organised by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), the eighth edition of CENTRESTAGE took place at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre from 6 to 9 September 2023.

CENTRESTAGE is an ideal promotional and launch platform for Asian fashion brands and designers. The four-day event continued to be the centre of attention of Asia's fashion industry, attracting participation from many international fashion brands and designers, particularly those keen on tapping into the Asian market. The 2023 edition featured more than 240 fashion brands and designers from 19 countries and regions. In addition to Hong Kong, they include Australia, Mainland China, France, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Korea, Macau, Thailand, the United Kingdom, the United States and Vietnam. Key elements including sustainable fashion, art and culture, and fashion tech—like digital fashion and AI—were also highlighted. The School of Fashion and Textiles of Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU SFT), Hong Kong Design Institute (HKDI), Fashion Farm Foundation (FFF), the Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia, and Redress, among others, also participated in CENTRESTAGE 2023.

Buyer attendance was enthusiastic, attracting more than 7,700 buyers from 78 countries and regions, including notable fashion department stores and multi-brand stores such as Galeries Lafayette and Tom Greyhound from France, VooStore from Germany, Browns Fashion from United Kingdom, Seoul Showroom from Korea, Restir Inc from Japan, as well as boutique shops HUG and S.N.D from Mainland China, along with local representatives from Club 21, Harvey Nichols, Hypebeast, JOYCE, Lane Crawford, Novelty Lane and SWANK.

Stage Time Abounds

Close to 25 runway shows, stunning parades and industry seminars were held during the event, offering a full vision of the latest collections and trends of the upcoming seasons.

<u>Highlighted fashion shows</u>

- CENTRESTAGE ELITES The opening gala fashion show invited two top-notch Asian fashion design units, namely FETICO (Designer: Emi Funayama) from Japan and REDEMPTIVE (Founder & Designer: Wilson Choi) from Hong Kong to showcase their latest Spring/Summer 2024 collections down the runway and in front of a star-studded audience included Alfred Hui (許廷鏗), Carlos Chan (陳家樂), Rosita Kwok (郭柏妍), Regina Ho (何依婷), Phoebus Ng (吳啟洋), Adam Pak (柏天男), Ali Lee (李佳芯) Kathy Yuen (湯怡), Sammy Sum (沈震軒), Shirley Sham (沈殷怡) and Kevin Chu (朱鑑然). Top models including Hong Kong women's high-jump record holder Cecilia Yeung (楊文蔚), artist Hanna Chan (陳漢娜) and Peter (仲佳佳) paraded the designers' collections of these Asian fashion masters, which was attended by over 700 industry professionals and fashionistas. This was also the first time that FETICO staging fashion show in Hong Kong. A cocktail reception was added before the show so as to spice up the atmosphere before the event and allowed a chance of networking between buyers, exhibitors and fashionistas.
- Hong Kong designers were in the spotlight in the FASHION HONG KONG RUNWAY SHOW. Four Hong Kong designer brands that have participated in international fashion weeks, including 112 mountainyam, ANGUS TSUI, DORISKATH and SUN=SEN, presented their latest Spring/Summer 2024 collections and received critical acclaim from an enthusiastic audience.
- HONG KONG YOUNG FASHION DESIGNERS' CONTEST (YDC) has long been serving as an incumbent to nurture and identify emerging talents in the local fashion industry. This year, 10 Hong Kong designers showcased inspiration and creativity in their collections, adopting a variety of styles. Their performance highlighted the infinite possibilities Hong Kong's fashion-design industry presents. Celebrities Kay Tse, Ansonbean, Lagchun, Jamie Zhang, Indie band The Hertz, Sabrina Ng, Michael Chu, Rachel Leung, Natalie Ho, Wyllis Lam and CK Wong from STRAYZ, Carmina Lo, model Pete, rope skipper Pak Hung Cheung, stylist Ivan Lui and host Brian Chan attended the event. The panel of professional judges selected winners from shortlisted entries, and Jason Ying emerged as champion and Best Visual Presentation Award winner, receiving a cash prize and one-month internship at self-portrait studio, sponsored by Fang Brothers Knitting Ltd.

YDC video is available at:

http://www.fashionally.com

Fashion Experts to Explore Trends and Share Industry Insights

A series of seminars were hosted by international style masters and fashion experts to share their perspectives on industry trends and the future of fashion, attracting enthusiastic participation from both industry professionals and the general public. It was the first time HKRITA taking the CENTRESTAGE platform to stage its fashion forum, "Partners for Progress". The forum explores how cross-sector collaboration can drive innovation in the textile and garment industry, featuring insights from leading global clothing companies, such as TAL Apparel, ISKO, Fast Fish and the H&M Foundation. Also, the annual fashion summit organised by Jiemian News, a subsidiary of Shanghai Media Group, discussed the trends, challenges and opportunities for fashion, beauty and personal care brands in the new era of consumerism at CENTRESTAGE. Apart from the two new seminars, some important partners and industry players such as REDRESS, Novetex, OnTheList presented the latest fashion trend, change of consumer behaviors, digital fashion and sustainability in the forum during CENTRESTAGE period.

Fashion Meets the City

OPENSTAGE – public visitors were welcome to visit CENTRESTAGE on the last two days on 8-9 September 2023 to experience the magic of the fashion industry and check out the latest design from leading brands. Onsite events including designer and fashionista sharing sessions and make-up demonstrations were organised.

Citywide Promotion (mid-August – 30 September 2023) - The CENTRESTAGE in Town Citywide Campaign organised a month-long citywide promotion from mid-August to September, featured prominent fashion and design related events in collaboration with Harbour City and D2 Place, allowing the public to enjoy the fashion vibes around the city.

For more information about CENTRESTAGE 2023 and the pictures of the spectacular happenings, please visit the official website at http://www.centrestage.com.hk

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