

Bjorn Does Mercedes Benz Fashion Week-Part 3

Of course no fashion week in New York would be complete without checking in on some of our favorites from "Project Runway". I had the pleasure of taking in Christian Siriano, Irina Shabayeva and Malan Breton's shows. There is a sneak peek video for each as well!



At Christian Siriano, I ran into former contestants from Seasons 7 and 8 respectively, Jordana and Jesus, who were great about posing for a picture and dishing the show a little!! Mr. Siriano definitely toned down his looks from past seasons, and gave us more of a sophisticated collection.



Black leather cropped jackets with pencil skirts started the show and then he progressed to strapless cocktail dresses made of silk charmeuse in muted tones.



He finished strong with one of his signature gowns in hot pink with ruches and ruffled treatment. I caught up with him later in the week at the Bowery Hotel Terrace and asked for a photo op. He was very nice. Women's Wear Daily gave his collection a strong endorsement and I congratulated him on that. He is still one to watch in the future.



Season 7 winner Irina Shabayeva had an inspiration of wings for her collection presented at a Chelsea studio space. Believe it or not, her sponsor was Tupperware, so there were elements of plastics used in both accessories, as well as, embellishments on some of the dresses. The feather theme was carried through on many of the garments including one dress completely covered in pheasant feathers! Other looks showed a strong sleek influence in tailored pants, leggings, pencil skirts and sheath dresses. They were paired with furs; fur trimmed collars and gigantic hoods to complete her almost ethnic look. The event was crowded but I was able to get some video of the scene as well as a few pictures of some of the looks. I really liked it, but don't tell PETA!



Malan Breton from Season 3 of Project Runway had a show in the Chelsea studio space as well. When I arrived I was pleasantly surprised that I had been assigned a front row seat! Nearby for the festivities were celebrities like Alex McCord from "Real Housewives of New York City" and former American Idol alum Constantine Maroulis. I had a picture taken with him and he asked me to plug his show "Rock of Ages" on Broadway. Mr. Breton's show was completely influenced by Bollywood and the Indian aesthetic.



He even had Bollywood dancers open the show and at the end American Idol finalist from Season 8 Anoop Desai sang his new single for the finale of the models. Check out the video! The show had a little of everything in it, but focused primarily on this designer's love for dupioni silk, which he transformed into dresses, separates and men's suiting. To his credit it was a simple and stunning show with well-tailored silhouettes on the male and female models. It was fun to see that he has done so well after being eliminated early on in that season.



Make sure to come back next time and read my round up of top trends from the catwalk and on the people attending Mercedes Benz Fashion Week. Remember that good style and fashion comes from the excitement and thought we put into it, not the dollar amount that we spend. So take some inspiration from what you've seen here and head over to the Goodwill Retail Store & Donation Center near you, and fashion yourself a new outlook for a fraction of the cost of retail!

