

VOL.2





Images from the studios and a research trip to the Bishopsgate Institute near by.

"It's been a roller coaster, but knowing you all care, it helps a lot and nothing can compare the inspirational presence of all the amazing instructors who have been involved in my journey. You have no idea how important the role each and every one of you has played in my life.

My instinct was right in choosing London Met, something struck me from the very first opening day, the interview, the welcoming nature of the staff, and my overall experience has been exhilarating. Thank you for making me feel like not just another student, that I am unique and that my work matters.

Throughout the course you allowed us to freely express our experiences, thought and opinions, which helped me gain insight into many of the concepts we developed."

Caroline Gallagher

"Thank you for the valuable lessons and helping me grow. I appreciate your honesty whether it's pretty or not and my work wouldn't have developed without it.

If it wasn't tough it wouldn't even be worth the outcome and the progress is the reward, I understand and appreciate all the effort you have all put in for us and I'm proud to be part of a team lead by such strong and successful women so thank you all very much for pushing me towards a better future I appreciate you all."

Ana Patronilho Tavares



Photography by Michael Wellington, dress by Sofia Stroudley.



View of the city from the pattern cutting studio.



View of the city from the sewing studio.

WELCOME

The arts have always been a place of resistance and anarchy, challenging the status quo. In the same way that Fashion is an art form it provokes emotions on so many levels; it can be provocative, nostalgic, it can be radical, from the sublime to the ridiculous. A successful designer need to dig deep to find their inspiration to create. The journey that the students take to achieve their vision requires immense dedication, drive and ambition.

However, It is important to remind ourselves at times that it's Fashion - Its meant to be fun, its not life or death, however it does bring people a lot of contentment. Buying and wearing clothes can lift the mood and give you confidence, as an aspiring designer you can bring a lot of pleasure to people. It is also worth £62 billion annually to the UK economy and employment for so many.

I have been course leader for BA Fashion at London Met since 2017, in this time we have nurtured a diverse and talented group of students through their three years of studies. When I took on this role I had a clear vision for the BA fashion course and a focus on Keeping Traditional Skills Alive - to be a good designer you need to learn the fundamentals sewing and pattern cutting, educating the next generation to not only be resourceful but to be sustainable designers, which means designing and making garments that will last a life time and that can be worn season after season. Sustainability is not only about the materials we choose to use, it is also about making sure that the garments we make with these materials are well made and the manufacturing stands the test of time. Educating the appreciation of fine craftsmanship and the skill that goes into making something well, knowing your suppliers and sourcing quality materials that have been ethically produced, thats what sustainability means to me!

In the pages that follow I hope to give some depth and insight to what it feels like to study here and some of the experiences and opportunities that our students encounter. Our locations are in the heart of Shoreditch and on Petticoat Lane, central to where London's fashion scene and creation begins. We attract rich diversity amongst our cohort and staff, enabling us to offer a multifaceted environment in which to research, challenge, design and create.

Importantly, what makes our fashion course here at London Met a stand alone experience in education unlike any other design course in London or the UK, is that we work with every student as an individual and set our students up so they are ready for current industry practices and are equipped with the skills, knowledge and stamina to have successful careers.

This is aided by our incredibly dedicated teaching course team who are all working practitioners in industry. Our students also have access to a wide range of facilities





1st Year Sewing Skills lesson with Jolanta Cerniauskiene.



relating to the creative industries, such as photography, textiles, laser cutting and 3D printing. With all this combined and ensuring small class sizes we can tailor to the student's individual needs.

One of our great assets is the support received from the The Drapers Company, whom we have built a wonderful but also inspiring relationship with, and who sponsor integral aspects of our course that gives us the ability to be unique and superior to many others. It is the continued support of the artisan workshops and the teaching of traditional skills that are not only fundamental but at the heart of the design industry (yet often neglected within current day design education), such as Bespoke tailoring, Corsetry and Leather design.

It is vital that we continue introducing new skills and techniques to our students. What other way are you going to discover your specialism or skill set, unless we show you . You may love it or hate it, but you may also spend the rest of your life doing it.

Our students are at the start of their career, this will be the only time in your career where everyone - tutors, lecturers and students are all on the same side because we all want the same results: Successful degrees and confident graduates.

We have strong links with industry brands and all our students are guided to secure internships with recognised design houses, fashion specialists and professionals. Recently, students have worked for brands such as Bruce Oldfield, David Koma, Victorian Beckham, Roland Mouret, Harris Reed to name but a very few, encouraging them to network and build their own relationships with industry while studying.

Finally, to mention our graduates who are fast becoming successful designers, whether working for brands or establishing their own design houses. To further support our alumni, we recently launched the Met Showroom, a professional platform for our graduates to help bridge the gap into industry. This is an initiative that I feel passionate about, supporting our graduates as they take those early steps, it is a daunting world once you leave. With this initiative we help our graduates build contacts, creating an environment for press, stylists, agents and buyers to make contact and to launch their careers. Proudly we are the first fashion course to have set up a Graduate Showroom of this sort.

I am incredibly proud of the achievements we set out. Every year we educate and guide elite and diverse groups of students and are proud to have taken this journey with them, to see them exceed our expectations and push the boundaries of creativity is our driving force. Ultimately their successes are testimony to the magic that goes on in the hard working studio spaces!

We look forward to welcoming you to our world of undiscovered talent and captivating minds, rich with ambition.

Steph Aman,
FASHION BA (Hons) Course Leader



Styling & behind-the-scenes shots for fashion film SEX by Emma Christopher.



The course helped me to find myself as a designer, the colours, shapes, and textures I like. My tutors guided me into the first steps of self-exploration. Working in the studios with your classmates helped me to improve everyday, seeing things that sometimes you are not able to see. The easy access to different workshops helped me to explore different techniques and get to know people who I collaborated with creating beautiful stories together."

Claudia Vargas

"This fashion degree was everything I expected it to be and more; demanding, exciting and nurturing to the artistic soul".

Carlota Von Rein

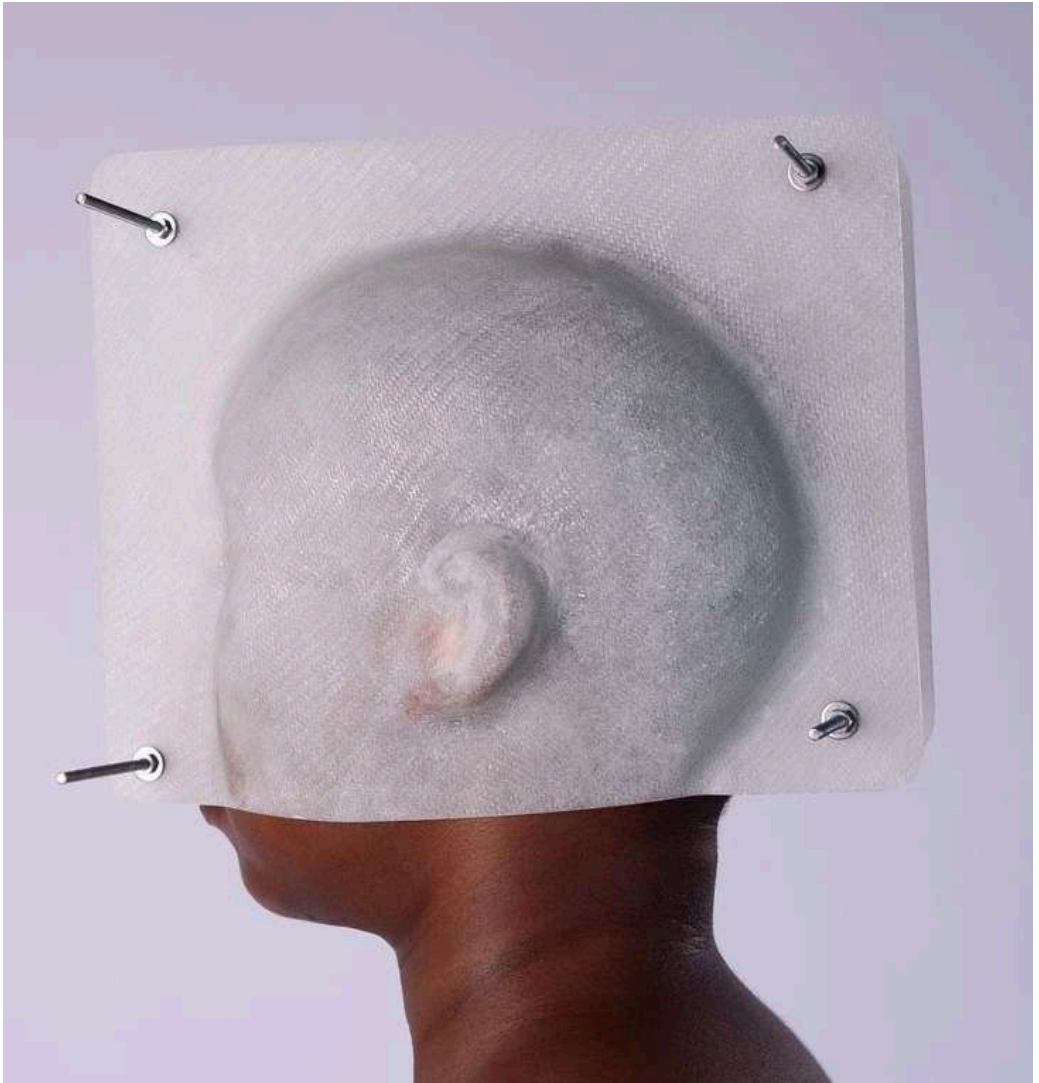


Research moodboard by Ellen Kinder.



'The tutors really gave me the freedom to fully express myself, allowing me to find my own design style and influences. With each of the tutors aiding with their different specialisms, I have developed all round and graduated with numerous skills. I feel confident going into the industry.'

Dolsie Pyman



Moulded fiberglass headpiece by Oliver Selic.

"My experience has been great, I feel really comfortable with myself being surrounded in a friendly and positive environment. That was the most important thing I was looking for before I made a decision on universities. The course has been really enjoyable as I am learning new skills and techniques in each of my projects. I love the teaching system, I always thought that for fashion, there's no right or wrong way to create fashion. As long as each of my projects tell a story from a starting point and has a meaning, I believe creativity does not have a limit.

My tutors have been really supportive at all times, they guided me in the correct way of what I have been creating with my ideas in all of my projects. This is so important to me. I value it because it gives me confidence and courage as a designer to keep working hard and helps me to not be afraid to show my ideas."

Gloria Alcoba Poiqui



Fibre glass corset being constructed by Oliver Selic.

This project was inspired
by the photographs from
Sholeh Ghahviri -
The identity and contradiction in Iran -
Confusion about the era 14
which women belong to -



زمان

گرفته



Photograph of final look & design development illustrations by Claudia Lerario.





ARTISAN WORKSHOPS

Keeping Traditional Skills Alive

Sponsored by The Drapers Company



L5 student working on their tailoring project.

TAILORING & THE DRAPERS COMPANY

Alongside the core studio workshops in pattern cutting and technical sewing skills, we deliver "Artisan Workshops", supported by The Drapers Company. These are focused classes and incorporated within a design brief in specialisms such as corsetry, tailoring and leather design. These workshops are delivered by outside industry professionals, all bringing with them valuable key knowledge and insight into the industry.

We often collaborate on live projects with the company, who's members are actively involved in the fashion and textile industries. The Drapers hosted their first exhibition in one hundred years, for which, our students won the opportunity to have their work displayed in the halls.

"Having taken the tailoring workshop in my second year, I have been able to push my own work forward in a way I didn't expect. The time and precision needed when producing tailored garments has given me the understanding that good things take time to produce. The tailoring workshop has also given me a sense of purpose in producing my own work as this is something I have come to enjoy immensely and was the driving force in my graduate collection."

Jay Williams



Tailoring Workshop with Moira Owusu.



Gathering inspiration, research visit to The Drapers Hall.



Final tailoring project presentations to panel from The Drapers Company.



Fully tailored wool coat by Adolfo Moldonado.



Tailored looks on display at The Drapers Company.



Images of leather jackets made from the leather workshops and the making process.



Paul Seville demonstrating machine sewing seamlines on leather.

LEATHER DESIGN & MODELLING ON THE STAND

"I loved the opportunity I had working in both the Leather and Tailoring workshops. They have given me greater knowledge in how to work with different materials, especially leather, and an appreciation of quality and the history of silk and wool materials. The things that you can create with these skills is incredible."

Adolf Maldonado

"The small class sizes provides a unique advantage previously unheard of in creative courses, as it allows for significant one-on-one time with tutors. This intimate learning environment, coupled with a practical approach, stimulated my personal growth and creativity. "

Oliver Haus





Students experimenting with draping in the modelling on the stand workshops.





SHOWS

The fashion department produce three spectacular live showcases a year alongside public exhibitions and displays at local venues. Each year every student has the opportunity to showcase their work at these events attracting large audiences including luminaries from industry, press and VIPs.

Dress made from printed silk scarves. Print design by Carlota Von Rein.



Performance based design by Ellen Kinder.



Images from L4 fashion shows.



Images from L5 workwear fashion show, "Trade".



Double Denim look by Emma Lammy for a workwear project.



Look from graduate collection by Oliver Selic.



L6 fashion show, clockwise: top two looks by Ellen Kinder; Eliza Wilkinson; Emeka Collins.



L6 graduate fashion shows. Clockwise top left: Claudia Vargas; Willow Stone; Claudia Lerario.



Behind-the-scenes mages from L6 graduate fashion shows.



MET SHOWROOM

We launched an initiative in 2023 to further support our graduates, it is the first fashion alumni showroom of its kind, called Met Showroom. It is a platform for our graduates and alumni to bridge the gap into industry. A professional showroom environment for press, buyers and agents to make contacts and develop business.

Our graduates have captured a unique cross-section of genres and identities, which can only be admired. Blurring the lines of social constructs, they have taken design inspiration from many different market segments within the fashion industry, covering streetwear, tailoring, corsetry and more. Traditional hand craft skills executed with meticulous art can be witnessed within the leather work, the draping, stitching, print and embroidery, all skills each student has learned, adopted and made their own during their three-year fashion course at London Met.

This is what London fashion is all about; individuality, uniqueness and classic style, and being part of something that we, London Met are proud to own. This is what we call "True Fashion DNA" of London.





Charlie in his studio, featured in the New York Times.

GRADUATES

Our graduates are year after year going into successful careers in industry, as well as some choosing to continue their studies further onto prestigious MA programmes, such as Central Saint Martins and The Royal College of Art. We feature two of our recent graduates.

CHARLIE CONSTANTINOU

Charlie graduated in 2019 going on to attend the MA Fashion Design at Central Saint Martins, where he graduated in 2022, only to go on to achieve not only collaborations with the likes of Levis, & 66 North but also he was awarded the prestigious ITS Academy Award for emerging designers, held annually in Trieste, Italy, and was a semifinalist for the LVMH Prize in 2023. He has just shown his 4th collection at London Fashion Week and is currently stocking in top international boutiques such as LN-CC, HLorenzo, SSense, and Dover Street Market. Looking back at his BA graduate collection you can see his ingredients and core of his style was already forming. It has been fantastic to see him grow and succeed.



Charlie's FW24 collection featured on Hype Beast and HLorenzo.

OLIVER HAUS

Oliver graduated in 2023 with his collection "Metamodern Condition", featuring garments constructed from wood, fibre glass, 3D printing, and natural materials, such as latex, cotton and silk. Throughout the year since, Oliver has been working at London Metropolitan as an Artist In Residence, giving him access to facilities, whilst also having the opportunity to support tutors in teaching. He has produced a new collection whilst also working on commission for Designer Edward Crutchley, having his pieces shown at London Fashion Week for both SS24 and FW24. He has recently been awarded full scholarship for the MA Fashion Design at the Royal College of Art.



Left: look from Oliver's graduate collection; right: latex dress shown at London Fashion Week for Edward Crutchley.

"The BA fashion program at London Metropolitan University has had a profound influence on my personal and professional growth. It provided me with the freedom to explore my unique identity, while encouraging me to critically examine my work and motivations. The project guidelines are flexible, promoting creative exploration and unconventional approaches."

Oliver Haus

"London Met gave me a new freedom within the realm of creativity. I adored every minute of BA Fashion at London Met and I wouldn't change a second of it."

Neve Carter

THE TEAM

STEPH AMAN Head of Course

Steph Aman has been Course Leader of BA Fashion since 2017/18 academic year. Her passion is to teach the next generation the hands on skills and knowledge required to be the fashion leaders, innovators and creators of tomorrow and to achieve a successful career within the fashion industry.

Award-winning fashion and textile designer with an MA in fashion from the Royal College of Art, Steph Aman launched her fashion and lingerie label in 2006 in London, Paris and Milan, wholesaling her collections worldwide to boutiques and department stores. Having gained an international reputation for her unique embroidered silakwear and a loyal following of collectors and buyers over the following years, she launched Gallery58 London in 2011, with Paul Seville, accessory designer. Increasingly there was a demand for these couture skills and luxury goods from sculptured leather to embroidery silk work and they began cross collaborating on projects both within fashion and further afield in film, music, theatre and interiors. Gallery58 London is a platform to showcase and sell their creations and has now become a central focus to Steph's business.



JOLANTA CERNIAUSKIENE

Technical Demonstrator



Jolanta is a professional fashion technical demonstrator and tutor with thirty years of experience in the fashion industry and further education. She has worked for over twelve years with top couture designers, including Zandra Rhodes, Eley Kishimoto, and Kitty Joseph, among others. Prior to this, she spent 10 years working for major high street brands. In addition to her role at London Metropolitan University, she also teaches Couture Techniques at the Fashion and Textile Museum in London.

With an advanced knowledge of all sewing techniques and adaptability to a variety of fabrics, from high-performance materials to luxury silks, she has a meticulous understanding of garment cut, construction and finish. Throughout her thirty year career working in the fashion industry, Jolanta has acquired invaluable experience, which she is passionate about sharing with her students.

ROISIN DUNNE

Senior Lecturer



Roisin has been working in various different capacities in the fashion and creative industries for almost twenty years. She studied Fashion Design Womenswear at Central Saint Martins, and then went on to achieve a Masters in Communication Art & Design at the Royal College of Art. On top of maintaining her own creative practice, she has accumulated a wealth of knowledge on running an independent brand, managing e-commerce and wholesale, visual merchandising, marketing, visual research, styling, exhibiting both as a fashion brand at London and Paris Fashion Week, but also as an independent artist / illustrator.

Roisin is passionate about sharing her experiences and current knowledge of working in a broad range of different areas of the fashion and creative landscapes. She feels very strongly about guiding and encouraging her students to have the confidence to carve out their own path in the industry.

THERESA HEWLETT

Senior Lecturer



Having worked as a freelance pattern cutter and studio manager for over thirty years, Theresa has gained a wealth of knowledge in the fashion and costume industries.

Her CV lists working with a variety of fashion brands including Zandra Rhodes, Emmanuel, Benny Ong, Wallis and River Island amongst others. Since 1993, alongside her fashion contracts, she has worked with dance / performance manufacturers leading to working on many TV and theatre shows including Strictly Come Dancing, and Dancing on Ice, The Voice and more. Theresa enjoys being an associate lecturer at AAD London Metropolitan. She has also taught at University of the Arts London and The Fashion and Textile Museum since 1991.

PAUL SEVILLE

Visiting Lecturer



Paul Seville is a visiting tutor on the BA Fashion Course, he believes in supporting every student and giving them the opportunity to discover who they are as a creative. His own experiences have taught him that there is no formula to how this happens! However trusting in the process and having a good skill set is fundamental to design success.

With a passion for corsetry and tailoring and an acute eye for silhouette, Paul's expertise and specialist material is leather, he has become internationally recognized as master of his craft. With over 30 years experience of design commissions working with some of fashions greatest from Karl Lagerfeld, Alexander McQueen, Vivienne Westwood and Givenchy to name a few. Paul has also been creative director of his own brand since 1990 selling his leather accessory collections to department stores and boutiques across the globe and gained a celebrity following dressing artists from Madonna to Beyonce and Rhianna. In 2011 Paul joined forces launching Gallery58 London which has now become the platform to his work and business.