



PRESS RELEASE

Sympatex Sponsorship ‘Couture in Orbit’: ESA design project celebrating its first great fashion show at London's Science Museum

Leading European fashion schools present space inspired designs made out of high-quality functional materials by Sympatex Technologies

London / Munich, 27 May 2016 – The highlight of ‘Couture in orbit’ was witnessed by about 1.000 fashion and technology enthusiasts. The project for young designers by the European Space Agency (ESA) in cooperation with five leading European fashion schools has celebrated a first fashion show last Wednesday night. This first major fashion show was staged as a part of the museum’s ‘LATES’ program by the Science Museum in London and ESA. Along its material sponsorship the ecological alternative among functional textile specialists Sympatex Technologies had provided high-quality functional laminates for the innovative project. The evening was led by the famous British radio and TV moderator George Lamb ("Football Tonight", BT Sport). Jordan Gray performed as show act after closing the British edition of the talent show "The Voice" as finalist.

A total of 30 highly creative designs were presented by young designers from various European fashion schools at the specially built runway in the heart of the Science Museum. Interested visitors could even enjoy the professional fashion show ‘Couture in Orbit’ twice during that evening. The participating schools (ESMOD Berlin, ESMOD Paris, Fashion Design Akademiet in Copenhagen, Politecnico di Milano and Ravensbourne in London) had been given the task to find inspiration by space technologies and missions and develop futuristic fashion for daily life. Issues such as earth observation, climate change, health technology and innovation should also be reflected in the designs, too. One of many highlights of the evening was a video message by the British ESA-astronaut Tim Peake greeting the audience directly from space.

ESA Project Coordinator Rosita Suenson was delighted: ‘The evening was such a great success – with so many visitors showing positive reactions. Thanks to our collaboration with the Science

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Museum, we were able to show the students' impressive creations in the academic atmosphere of the open museum night' Suenson continues. Director Apparel at Sympatex Haymo Strubel adds: 'We are absolutely amazed to see what the students have created from our materials. It was a pleasure to join the project as a partner – especially since sponsoring new talents with projects like 'Couture in Orbit' is an integral part of our mission statement.'

Image material of the final show at London's Science Museum can be accessed by the following link: <http://www.sympatex.com/information/39/presse>

For the video message by ESA astronaut Tim Peake visit the ESA YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/c/europeanspaceagency>

Please click on the following links for further information about the 'Couture in Orbit' project: <http://couture-in-orbit.tumblr.com> and <http://www.esa.int/ESA>.

The following video offers a detailed presentation of the project: [http://www.esa.int/spaceinvideos/Videos/2016/05/Couture in orbit from spacewalk to catwalk](http://www.esa.int/spaceinvideos/Videos/2016/05/Couture_in_orbit_from_spacewalk_to_catwalk)

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