

STORYLINE

Toronto Fashion Week kicks off with some Asian influences

[VOICEOVER] The 26th edition of Toronto Fashion Week kicked off in downtown Toronto on Monday with a splash of Asian goodness.

[VOICEOVER] The event, which will run through the week till Mar. 16, will showcase more than 40 designers and will give Toronto's fashion industry a taste of the upcoming fall styles and trends. Situated right by the CN Tower at the David Pecaut Square, the 30,000 square foot tent will seat more than 900 people per show.

[VOICEOVER] First designer up was Korhani Home, a Canadian home decor brand. The show kicked off with four models sporting make-shift capes covered with the face of a beautiful Asian girl.

[SOUNDBITE] 03: 43: 18 - 03: 58: 03, STACEY MCKENZIE, MODEL/RUNWAY COACH.

"I loved the whole Mongolian look, I thought it was great. I loved the diversity on the runway, I thought it was absolutely amazing when the four Mongolian/Asian looking models came out, I thought it was super cool."

[VOICEOVER] The collection, fashioned entirely of rugs, offered a bit of everything: From the theatrical to the whimsical. The designs not only channeled some very different themes, from punk rock chic to Victorian glamour, the show itself also offered up a bit of a surprise when models came strutting down the runway holding tiny live piglets.

[SOUNDBITE] 05: 43: 00 - 05: 54: 08, STACEY MCKENZIE, MODEL/RUNWAY COACH.

"Honestly the piglets threw me off. That was weird, you know, it's different. It's Korhani's time to shine right, so they ran with it."

[VOICEOVER] Besides Korhani, Holt Renfrew's runway show highlighting the fall collections of some Canadian designers like Dennis Merotto, Jeremy Laing, Mackage and Smythe, also added a touch of theatre as they opened with a male tap dancer dancing along the entire runway.

[VOICEOVER] The evening ended with a punch of glamour

featuring a series of elegant and luxurious gowns by Pavoni, a Montreal duo who have dressed international celebrities like Katy Perry, Lindsay Lohan and more.

[SOUNDBITE] 12: 18: 05 - 12: 26: 16, GIANNI FALCONE & MIKE DERDERIAN, CO-FOUNDERS OF PAVONI.

GIANNI FALCONE: "I think anyone wearing Pavoni definitely has to have the confidence, these dresses aren't for the faint of heart, you want to be looked at when you're in one of these dresses."

MIKE DERDERIAN: "Well, I mean, it definitely does bring you up to that level of sophistication, the workmanship is there, so there's a level of trust in the dress that you feel, a mood, sort of a feeling in general."

[VOICEOVER] The showstopping dresses left the audience wanting for more.

[SOUNDBITE] 13: 04: 02 - 13: 12: 20, KERRY LAIFATT, ATTENDEE.

"Pavoni just blew me away. I saw so many beautiful fabrics, I loved the beading, I loved the draping, it was just an evening of glamour tonight."

[SOUNDBITE] 13: 12: 20 - 13: 20: 20, LINDSAY GOODMAN, ATTENDEE.

"I just like that they're very form-fitting and flattering to the body, very glitzy and very glamorous."

[VOICEOVER] Pavoni, which is now found at retailers from the US to the Middle East says Asia is their next stop.

[SOUNDBITE] 15: 52: 12 - 16: 09: 17, MIKE DERDERIAN & GIANNI FALCONE, CO-FOUNDERS OF PAVONI.

MIKE DERDERIAN: "We might do a little Japan trip, I'm giving you a little scoop. We would love to do anywhere between Hong Kong and China, we definitely feel there is a market in Asia that is very important."

GIANNI FALCONE: "Waiting for Pavoni."

[STANDUP] 16: 09: 17 - 16: 21: 12, JACK CHENG, CNC CORRESPONDENT.

“Toronto's Fashion Week kicked off with a bit of glamour and some surprises on the runway. Now, it's been an absolutely glamorous night here with a lot of stylish people both on and off the runway, and there's a whole week to look forward to.”