

NYFW ART HEARTS FASHION SHOW IMMERSES AUDIENCE WITH LOOKS FROM DIVERSE DESIGNERS

By Tiffany Del Valle

The largest and longest running art and fashion platform in the United States, Art Hearts Fashion, produced its 11th year of New York Fashion Week shows running from February 7th through February 11th. The Fashion Odyssey show on Friday, February 9th, highlighted designers that are innovative and their up and coming brands – [Selenee](#), [London School of Trends + INFID](#), [Priya Chhabria](#), [David Tupaz](#), [Sergio Tirado](#), [Bad Pink](#), and [Willfredo Gerardo](#).

Dozens dressed in sequins, feathers, and leather lined up outside of a gothic architectural style building in Lower Manhattan on Friday night. Security guards ushered people into what appeared to be a synagogue, but walking up the stairs and through the corridor the sound of house music blaring got progressively louder. The once abandoned synagogue, now an arts and performance space: the Angel Orensanz Foundation, is hosting the annual Art Hearts NYFW shows.



“Lovers and Friends”, a painting curated by Six Summit Gallery

Tripods and cameras hugged the end of the runway. The Art Hearts Fashion team continued to set up and offered champagne to attendees next to the red carpet. Six Summit Gallery curated art pieces to display on the walls and were also for sale.

The show kicked off with Selenee’s Pulse collection paired with breathy house music and it paired perfectly with the countless breathless designs. The collection consisted of intense black clothing and challenged elegance with cutouts and longer silhouettes. The models marched the runway with eye-catching intricate eyeliner looks which illustrated the designer’s theme of liberation and empowerment. Founders MT Yang and Claire Yao aim to challenge the status quo and embrace unconventionality in fashion with their work.



Selenee “Pulse” Runway Show

The London School of Trends + INFID’s Indian Fashion Trunk collection showed the power of layering prints and playing around with different cuts and hems— a trend seen throughout the show.

The crowd oohed and ahed at the punchy Parisian music and jetsetter designs of the David Tupaz collection. The collection stood out with its black and white stripes, pops of bright reds, greens, and yellows, and the funky accessories.



Model sports David Tupaz collection including car handbag

To continue with the representation of South Asia, Priya Chhabria's models took over the runway with dainty sequined dresses that blend Indian wear with American elements. The collection consisted of bright metallics and sequins and dresses with wraps.



Priya Chhabria's Sequin Gown

Mexican designer, Sergio Tirado, displayed designs reminiscent of old Hollywood glamor: featuring clothing that were in a classic red, black, and white. The red feather dress was showstopping and was on trend. The collection included pieces with silver metallics, sequins, and leather.

Bad Pink, designed by Chilean Maria Jose Ramirez Mella, put on a good show with upcycled and sustainable clothing as usual. The looks were uniquely styled and had an alternative street style look. Pieces predominantly had earthy tones and distressed studded denim. The star of their show is always the teddy bear accessories that create a juxtaposition of the grunginess of their clothing designs.

The grand finale of the show showcased the designs of Willfredo Gerardo- a Los Angeles native of Chilean/Mexican descent who also drew inspiration from old Hollywood Glamor. Videos of wild animals played on the screens and models commenced their catwalk sporting animal print dresses and outerwear. The male models wore cowboy hats— carrying on the equestrian trend post-rise in cowboy in the media.

The show challenges other fashion powerhouses with the inclusion of multi-ethnic designers and models and blends the many different styles of clothing and brands. This

show sets a standard for racial and ethnic diversity and in the future, the addition of different bodies on the Art Hearts Fashion shows would solidify their mission of inclusivity.



Willfredo Gerardo tiger gown