

Fashion in Motion x CPHFW Talk Programme

Location: V&A South Kensington, Lydia and Manfred Gorvy Lecture Theatre

Doors open: 12:45pm BST.

These talks are all free and drop-in. Attendance is on a first come, first served basis.

As part of Copenhagen Fashion Week's (CPHFW) collaboration with Fashion in Motion, these series of four talks will act as a precursor to the shows on Friday 30 May. They will feature a variety of panellists from across the fashion world and cover topics relating to the industry's attitude to collaboration, inclusivity, sustainability and change.

1:00–1:45 PM | Accelerating Positive Change through Collaborations in the Creative Landscape

Moderator: Emily Chan (Senior Sustainability Editor & Acting Executive Fashion News and Features Editor, British Vogue)

Panellists:

1. Cecilie Thorsmark (CEO, CPHFW)
2. Yvie Hutton (Director of Membership & Designer Relations, British Fashion Council)
3. Omoyemi Akerere (Founder & CEO, Lagos Fashion Week & Style House Files)

2:00–2:45 PM | Supporting and Empowering the Next Generation of Creative Talent

Moderator: Mahoro Seward (Acting Fashion Features Editor, British Vogue)

Panellists:

1. Sarah Mower (Fashion Journalist and Critic)
2. Nicklas Skovgaard (Founder & Designer, Nicklas Skovgaard)
3. Tolu Coker (Fashion Designer and Multidisciplinary Artist, BFC NEWGEN talent)
4. Caroline Issa (CEO and Fashion Director, Tank Magazine)

3:00–3:45 PM | Impactful Education: Embodying Cultural Change and Environmental Awareness

Moderator: Dal Chodha (Editor)

Panellists:

1. Fabio Piras (MA Fashion Course Leader, Central Saint Martins)
2. Else Skjold (Associate Professor, PhD in Design and Sustainability, The Royal Danish Academy, Institute of Design, Products & Materials)
3. Orsola De Castro (Creative Director, Activist & Author, Estethica)
4. Zowie Broach (Head of Programme, Royal College of Art)

4:00–4:45 PM | The Face of Fashion: Model Representation and Diversity in the Workforce

Moderator: Veronica Dsouza (Founder & Advisor, Geist Agency)

Panellists:

1. Daniel Peters (Founder & Managing Director, The Minority Report Group)
2. Aram Ostadian-Binai (Founder, Social Entrepreneur, Talent Strategist, Creative Inclusion Advocate, The Soulfuls)
3. Ceval Omar (Model and Activist)

See more information on moderators and panellists on the next page and any questions, please contact courses@vam.ac.uk

FIM X CPHFW Panellists and Moderators

1:00 PM | Accelerating Positive Change through Collaborations in the Creative Landscape



Emily Chan: Emily Chan is the Senior Sustainability Editor & Acting Executive Fashion News and Features Editor, British Vogue and covers all things related to sustainability in fashion and beyond, from the designers pushing for change to the climate activists we should be paying attention to.



Cecilie Thorsmark: Following Thorsmark's appointment as CEO of Copenhagen Fashion Week in 2018, came her announcement to transition the event into a pioneering industry platform and organisation with the capacity to further the industry's sustainability potential. In January 2020, Thorsmark launched the ambitious three-year action plan "Reinventing Copenhagen Fashion Week" presenting an innovative system of minimum sustainability requirements for all brands on the official show schedule. The system successfully came into effect in 2023, making Copenhagen Fashion Week the first and only fashion week worldwide to introduce a mandatory set of sustainability requirements. In 2022, Thorsmark was inaugurated into The BoF 500, the definitive professional index of the people shaping the \$2.4 trillion fashion industry. Prior to joining Copenhagen Fashion Week, Thorsmark held the position of Global Fashion Agenda's Communication Director for two years, following a six-year tenure at the Danish Fashion Institute.



Yvie Hutton: Yvie is currently Director of Membership & Designer Relations at the British Fashion Council, responsible for the Membership programme, curation of London Fashion Week and supporting designers through initiatives funded by the BFC Foundation; NewGen, Fashion Trust, Vogue Designer Fashion Fund, and the GQ Designer Fashion Fund. Prior to this she ran her consultancy which included working for the world-renowned award-winning session stylist Sam McKnight on brand, distribution, and product devolvment. Launching ranges in 10 countries and winning 6 awards all in the first year of trading. Before that she spent 11 years as Managing Director of Jonathan Saunders, a luxury fashion brand where she was responsible for growth strategy and partnerships. Showing in both London and New York fashion weeks, winning many accolades including the Vogue Designer Fashion Fund in 2012.



Omoyemi Akerele: Akerele is the founder and CEO of Lagos Fashion Week and Style House Files, playing a pivotal role in shaping the African fashion industry for over two decades. Her work focuses on strengthening the textile and apparel ecosystem by creating opportunities for brands, businesses, and communities to grow sustainably. Through Lagos Fashion Week, she has built more than just a platform for showcasing talent; she has driven industry wide advocacy, created capacity-building programs, and facilitated access to new markets. Initiatives like SHF Trains, Woven Threads, and Green Access support emerging talent, promote sustainability, and foster innovation across the value chain. A strong advocate for sustainability and the circular economy, she works to embed responsible business practices into fashion's future, championing solutions that prioritise environmental stewardship, ethical production, and economic inclusion.

2:00 PM | Supporting and Empowering the Next Generation of Creative Talent



Mahoro Seward: A London-based writer and editor, working between fine art, fashion and pop culture. They are currently acting fashion features editor at British Vogue, previously holding the same title at i-D, and have contributed to titles including Wallpaper*, Art Basel, Frieze, Crosscurrent and Vogue Business.



Sarah Mower MBE: Fashion journalist and critic for US Vogue and an advocate for young designers. She is the British Fashion Council's Ambassador for Emerging Talent and Chair of the NEWGEN committee, the scheme responsible for the rise of a constellation of design stars who show in London Fashion Week, including Christopher Kane, Mary Katrantzou, JW Anderson, Jonathan Saunders, Roksanda Ilincic, Nicholas Kirkwood, Peter Pilotto and Simone Rocha.



Nicklas Skovgaard: Eponymous founder and designer of the womenswear brand. Founded in 2020, the Copenhagen-based brand aims to explore the relationship textiles can hold in expressing narrative through the marriage of unexpected material and classical form. Constructing two collections a year, each body of work for Nicklas Skovgaard builds upon the last, acting with an evolutionary purpose and building an ever-evolving vocabulary. Orchestrating these classical and strange symphonies within his eponymous textiles and recognisable design, Nicklas Skovgaard is a brand cultivated on the edge of romanticism and realism.



Caroline Issa: Originally a retail and consumer goods consultant with an undergraduate business degree from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, she joined TANK Magazine in 2002 and has since become CEO and fashion director of London-based quarterly title TANK and editor of BecauseLondon.com. She is the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees at Artangel and is a Non-Executive Director of the British Fashion Council, both not-for-profit organisations committed to championing and developing excellence in the art and fashion worlds respectively.



Tolu Coker: British-Nigerian fashion designer and multidisciplinary artist known for her storytelling through sustainable design. A Central Saint Martins graduate, she launched her eponymous label in 2021 after working with brands like Maison Margiela and Celine. Her work fuses Yoruba heritage with contemporary tailoring, often exploring identity, culture, and community. Celebrated for her innovative approach, Coker is a finalist for the 2025 LVMH Prize.

3:00 PM | Impactful Education: Embodying Cultural Change and Environmental Awareness



Dal Chodha: London-based writer and consultant Dal Chodha is Editor-in-chief of Archivist Addendum— a publishing project that explores the gap between fashion editorial and academe. He is a Contributing Editor at Wallpaper* and Pathway Leader of the BA Fashion Communication: Image & Promotion course at Central Saint Martins. This book was first released in 2020 and a second, *You gotta keep your head straight about clothes*, was published by Tenderbooks in 2023.



Fabio Piras: Italian-born Fabio studied Fashion Design at Central Saint Martins. He launched his label at London Fashion Week (1994–2001) and built a successful career in creative direction and consultancy across Europe and Asia. In 2014, Fabio became Course Director of CSM's MA Fashion.



Else Skjold: Founder of the MA Fashion, Clothing & Textiles; New Landscapes for Change and Head of Klothung – Center for Apparel, Textiles & Ecology Research at the Royal Danish Academy in Copenhagen. Skjold is also workstream leader for textiles in the national Danish partnership for circular economy of plastics and textiles, TRACE (trace.dk). In her research, she is typically focusing on ways that textile knowledge- and heritage might inform and stimulate sustainability work.



Orsola De Castro: An opinion leader in sustainable fashion, a mentor, curator and author. Her award-winning brand From Somewhere (1997–2014) was pioneering in the field of upcycling and sold in some of the world's best boutiques - collaborations include collections for Topshop and Speedo. In 2006 she started Estethica, the highly acclaimed Sustainable Fashion Showcase at London Fashion Week, and in 2013 she co-founded Fashion Revolution, now the world's largest fashion activism movement, with teams in over 80 countries. Her first book, *Loved Clothes Last* was published by Penguin life in 2021 and translated into Italian (Corbaccio Editori) French (Edition Marabou) and German (Doerlemann Verlag).



Zowie Broach: As an educator, Broach has radically changed the paradigm of what it means today, to consider how we might design, act and think about FASHION. Broach previously co-founded the label BOUDICCA who were the first independent British Label to show on the Haute Couture calendar in Paris. Broach supports a new disruption to the industry from graduates across high luxury to research, questioning and impacting a fashion future. For this, she has been voted into the top 500 Fashion Leaders, Business of FASHION for the last 8 years. Broach is the recipient of the prestigious 2024 Sir Mischa Black award for Innovation in Design Education. This is the first time honouring fashion education in its history.

4:00 PM | The Face of Fashion: Model Representation and Diversity in the Workforce



Veronica D'Souza: A trailblazing social entrepreneur and global advisor known for building ventures that challenge inequality through business, design, and storytelling. She co-founded Ruby Cup, which has provided sustainable menstrual health solutions to over 150,000 girls in East Africa, and CARCEL, a fashion label employing incarcerated women in Peru and Thailand to create garments from natural materials. With over 15 years of experience across five continents, she brings radical imagination and systems thinking to organizations navigating sustainability, inclusion, and impact. Dsouza is the founder of GEIST Agency and serves on the board of The Danish Design Council and The Soulfuls, as well as on the juries of the INDEX Award, the world's leading prize for design to improve life, and Ars Electronica, a global platform for art, technology, and society. Her work has been featured in *The New York Times*, *Vogue*, *Forbes*, and *The Guardian*, and she is recognised as an EY Social Entrepreneur of the Year, a World Economic Forum Global Shaper, and a Humanity in Action Senior Fellow.



Daniel Peters: Launched in 2020 by brand and marketing specialist, Daniel Peters, the Minority Report Group exists to create inclusive workplace culture for diverse voices. The organisation anchored by their work in the fashion industry and creative sector, as the (Fashion) Minority Report CIC, which is a career and learning development resource to team launched The Big D(EI) podcast. Peters was a board trustee for the charity Relate until December 2024 and also sits as an industry advisor for the Fashion Retail Academy and Manchester Fashion Institute, helping to bring about systemic change relating to inclusion and diversity in higher education. He previously sat on the Diversity and Inclusion Steering Committee at the British Fashion Council, which led to the collaborative launch of the British fashion industry DEI Census report in 2024 alongside the BFC and The Outsiders Perspective.



Aram Ostadian-Binai: Founder & CEO of The Soulfuls, an award-winning platform empowering the next generation of diverse female talent. Ostadian-Binai is a social entrepreneur and consultant working at the intersection of inclusion, leadership, and creative industries. She leads programs in mentoring, talent development, and cross-cultural collaboration. Ostadian-Binai is recognised as *ELLE Denmark's* Voice of the Year and board member of the Danish Fashion Ethical Charter. She holds an MA from London College of Fashion and executive training from Harvard Business School.



Ceval Omar: Ceval is a trailblazing model and activist based in Paris, recognized as one of the first Black trans models to collaborate with high-end brands such as YSL Beauty and British Vogue. Passionate about human rights, she advocates for greater diversity and inclusivity in the fashion industry.