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## **SAIC Fashion Show 2009 — Celebrating 75 Years April 23 and 24 in the Sullivan Galleries**



Madeleine Sywulak, BFA 2009, Sage Scholarship Winner 2008

January 13 -- The School of the Art Institute of Chicago will celebrate the 75th anniversary of its annual Fashion Show on April 23 and 24, in the School's recently opened and acclaimed Sullivan Galleries (entrance for these events at 36 S. Wabash Avenue). For the first time in its storied history, the Fashion Show will be presented within the installed space of SAIC's annual Graduate Exhibition, moving the "runway" away from the catwalk and into the Galleries' open spaces, and creating a vibrant relationship between the work of the School's graduating artists and designers and fashion students. Over 200 innovative garments will be showcased during this multimedia celebration of creative clothing and contemporary art, which will also feature specially commissioned works by students and faculty from the School's Performance department.

A special preview fundraiser, *The Walk 2009*, will be held the evening of April 23, honoring designer and alumna Maria Pinto (BFA 1990), known widely as a favorite of First Lady-to-be Michelle Obama's. Guests will be the first to see this year's show and enjoy conversation with the designers, cocktails, and hors d'oeuvres.

The success of the School's Fashion Design program and SAIC's trans-disciplinary approach to education is reflected in a list of alumni that includes such notable designers as Halston, Cynthia Rowley, Laurence Steele, J. Morgan Puett, Eunwha Kim, Maria Pinto, Gary Graham, and Matthew Ames. SAIC graduates hold senior design positions in firms as varied as Yeolee, Jones New York, Levis, Nike, Charles Chang Lima, and Tommy Hilfiger, and design for Anna Sui, Calvin Klein, Zac Posen, Betsey Johnson, Triple5Soul, and Moschino. Upon graduating, many have chosen to intern for international houses such as Victor & Rolf, Alexander McQueen, Wendy & Jim, Castelbajac, Zac Posen, Threesfour, and William Ivey Long, or to launch their own fashion lines.

### **SAIC Fashion Show 2009**

April 23 and 24

Sullivan Galleries, entrance at 36 S. Wabash Avenue, 7th Floor

*The Walk 2009* Preview Fundraiser, Thursday, April 23 5:30pm

Tickets for *The Walk 2009* start at \$500; please contact 312.899.7404 for tickets and sponsorship opportunities

*Fashion Show 2009* Friday, April 24 2pm and 7pm

Tickets \$75 through the Art Institute ticket office, on sale March 23

For more information, call 312.899.5168

**For photos and videos of the Fashion Design department**, please go to [www.saic.edu/fashion\\_press](http://www.saic.edu/fashion_press) for the online fashion press kit.

### **A Glance at Recent SAIC Fashion Design Graduates**

Meredith Hill (BFA 2005)

Assistant Designer, Anna Sui, New York

Lara Miller (BFA 2003)

Owner and Designer, Lara Miller, Chicago, [www.laramiller.net](http://www.laramiller.net)

Profiled in *Lucky*, *Ten by Ten*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *The Chicago Tribune*

Melissa Serpico Kamhout (BFA 2006)

Owner and Designer, SERPICO, Chicago, [www.serpico-collection.com](http://www.serpico-collection.com)

Profiled in *Women's Wear Daily*, *Lucky*, and *Chicago Magazine*

Abby Sturges (BFA 2005)

Head Designer, Maggie Ward, Los Angeles

Shoshana Tuszer (BFA 2005)

Senior Associate Designer, Laundry by Design, New York

Miri Uhm (BFA 2008)

Profiled in *I.D. Magazine* (January 2009)

Second place in the 2008 Japan Fashion Week New Designer Fashion Grand Prix

Judy Yang (BFA 2005)

Assistant Designer, Anna Sui, New York

**About the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC)**

Educating artists, designers, and scholars since 1866, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago's reputation as one of the most distinguished training grounds in these disciplines is reflected in the 2008 edition of "America's Best Graduate Schools" published by *U.S. News & World Report*, which ranked its Master of Fine Arts program as the 3rd best graduate art program in the nation. In a survey conducted by the National Arts Journalism Program at Columbia University, SAIC was named the "most influential art school" by art critics at general interest news publications from across the United States. As one of the two bodies that make up the Art Institute of Chicago, SAIC's unparalleled transdisciplinary approach to art and design education is seen in the twenty-seven areas of study it offers through a range of graduate, undergraduate, and post-baccalaureate programs, and its world-class status is attested to in the over forty countries represented in its 2,900 degree-seeking students. Notable alumni of the School include Paul Chan, Richard Hunt, Halston, Joan Mitchell, Elizabeth Murray, LeRoy Neiman, Georgia O'Keeffe, Claes Oldenburg, David Sedaris, Robert Storr, and Rirkrit Tiravanija.

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