MILANO UNICA AND INTERNATIONAL LAB OF MITTELMODA – THE FASHION AWARD

The metamorphosis of materials meets the talent of the new generations

Textile research, innovation, and the creativity of the new generations come together in the joint initiative of **Milano Unica and International Lab of Mittelmoda – The Fashion Award**, renewing their commitment to supporting young talent and fostering the skills that will shape the future of the fashion industry.

The 32nd edition of the International Lab of Mittelmoda, held on October 21 at Garage 21 as part of the Milano Unica's Tendenze presentation, showcased the collections of 24 finalists selected through the international competition dedicated to discovering and promoting emerging creative talent.

The event is part of the ongoing dialogue between industry, education, and research that Milano Unica, together with the **Italian Textile Foundation** and **Confindustria Moda**, promotes through initiatives aimed at introducing new generations to product culture, manufacturing excellence, and innovation.

This dialogue is also significantly reflected in **MU Metamorphosis**, Milano Unica's new creative concept for the **Spring-Summer 2028** textile and accessories collections.

At the heart of the concept is the idea of transformation: the ability to evolve, reinterpret materials and techniques, respond to emerging needs, and envision a future in which creativity and responsibility go hand in hand.

The three themes of MU Metamorphosis, **Lightwear, Handwear, and Techwear,** explore, respectively, lightness, the value of craftsmanship, and technological innovation, placing materials and their ability to adapt to change at the heart of the creative process.

It is precisely from this perspective that the collaboration with Mittelmoda takes on special significance: **research into materials meets the vision of younger generations, who are called upon to interpret and transform the wealth of knowledge and expertise embedded in the textile and fashion supply chain.**

"The future of our industry is built on the ability to connect industrial experience, research, and new creative skills. Milano Unica provides a unique platform for this dialogue, where the culture of product meets the innovation and vision of the younger generations. Our collaboration with the International Lab of Mittelmoda, supported by the Italian Textile Foundation, reflects our commitment to fostering this continuity. With MU Metamorphosis, we have chosen to interpret change as an opportunity for evolution, recognizing that the strength of our supply chain lies in its ability to renew itself while preserving its identity," said **Simone Canclini,** President of Milano Unica and the Italian Textile Foundation.

"The creative potential of young talents is limitless, and Mittelmoda's strength lies precisely in its ability to reinvent itself while continuing to serve as a significant showcase for international creativity. Once again this year, we were impressed by the great originality and diversity of the proposals submitted to the competition," commented **Matteo Marzotto, President of the International Lab of Mittelmoda**.

The awards ceremony celebrated the originality of the proposals, their experimental spirit, and the ability of young designers to interpret the transformations taking place in fashion through contemporary languages.

The **Grand Prize** for **Innovation** was awarded to **Caterina Giovannelli Neumair** of the Institut Français de la Mode, while the **Grand Prize** for **Creativity** was awarded to **Elia degli Innocenti** of the Politecnico di Milano.

The **Special Press Award**, sponsored by the Italian Textile Foundation and the International Lab of Mittelmoda, was awarded to **Davide Brüggisser** of the Institut Français de la Mode, highlighting the importance of dialogue between creativity, industry, and communication.

Of particular significance is the **Textile & Materials Award**, sponsored by **Milano Unica**, which was awarded to **Annachiara Rabito** of NABA. The award underscores the fundamental role of textiles in the creative process and their potential as a tool for research, experimentation, and innovation.

The collaboration between Milano Unica and the International Lab of Mittelmoda reinforces a shared vision: to build on the industry's wealth of knowledge, foster its transmission to new generations, and create concrete opportunities for young talents to contribute to its evolution.

Because the future of fashion also depends on our ability to transform what we know into what we can still imagine.

WINNERS OF THE 32nd EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LAB OF MITTELMODA – THE FASHION AWARD

OVERALL AWARDS

GRAND PRIZE FOR INNOVATION

sponsored by the **ITALIAN TEXTILE FOUNDATION**

CATERINA GIOVANNELLI NEUMAIR
Institut Français de la Mode

GRAND PRIZE FOR CREATIVITY

sponsored by the **NATIONAL CHAMBER OF ITALIAN FASHION**

ELIA DEGLI INNOCENTI
Politecnico di Milano

SPECIAL AWARD

PRESS JURY SPECIAL AWARD

sponsored by the **ITALIAN TEXTILE FOUNDATION** and the **INTERNATIONAL LAB OF MITTELMODA**

presented by: **Gianluca Bauzano**, *Corriere della Sera*, **Laura Asnaghi**, *La Repubblica*, **Antonio Mancinelli**, *QN*, **Tommaso Palazzi**, *MFFashion*, **Chiara Beghelli**, *Il Sole 24 Ore*, **Michele Ciavarella**, *Style Magazine*, **Bruna Rossi**, *Io Donna*, **Roberta Paolini**, *Il Mattino Padova*, **Letizia Schaetzinger**, *@letizianews*, **Gianluca Cantaro**, *@cantaro_san*, **Ida Galati**, *@lestanzedellamoda*, **Hydra**, *@hydramustdie*

DAVIDE BRÜGGISSER
Institut Français de la Mode

INTERNATIONAL LAB OF MITTELMODA

INDUSTRY AWARDS

MENSWEAR & WOMENSWEAR AWARD

sponsored by **CONFINDUSTRIA MODA – Fondazione Tessile e Moda**

ANNA MIGNOLLI
Carlo Secoli Institute

SHOES AWARD

sponsored by **MICAM**

LORENZO ANTONIO PETRONE
Costume and Fashion Academy

ITALIAN LEATHER: A WORLD OF CREATIVITY AND SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

sponsored by **LINEAPELLE**

BENEDETTA BOIDI
Costume and Fashion Academy

EYEWEAR AWARD

sponsored by **MIDO**

EMMA GERLIN
ITS Cosmo Academy

TEXTILE & MATERIALS AWARD

sponsored by **MILANO UNICA**

ANNACHIARA RABITO
NABA

PRATO CIRCULAR & SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

sponsored by **CONFINDUSTRIA TOSCANA NORD**

MATILDE GORI
Istituto Marangoni Florence

COMOON AWARD

sponsored by **CONFINDUSTRIA COMO**

ELLA GÖDECKEN
Institut Français de la Mode

INTERNATIONAL LAB OF MITTELMODA

IDEABIELLA YOUNG CREATIVENESS AWARD

sponsored by **IDEABIELLA**

ARIADNA JIMENEZ FLORIDA

LCI Barcelona

LINEN AWARD

sponsored by **CONFINDUSTRIA MODA – Textile and Fashion Foundation, Linen Section**

ELIA DEGLI INNOCENTI

Politecnico di Milano

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