



MEDIA RELEASE

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Fashion grad takes London prize

Raffles College of Design and Commerce graduate, Solomon Harris-Light has collected third place in the prestigious international Hand & Lock embroidery competition announced in London.

The talented fashion design student, who graduated in July, is currently completing an internship with Akira Isogawa in Surry Hills.

The prize attracts students of embroidery, design, arts, surface textiles, costume, fibres, interiors, fashion and textiles throughout the world. The aim of the prize is to promote the use of hand embroidered surface embellishment within fashion, costume and interiors industries.

Solomon wins \$1000 (US); a free trip to London for the prize giving in early November and entry to the 2008 Hand & Lock embroidery conference; a commemorative framed embroidered plaque produced by Hand & Lock's craftsmen in central London; mentoring and work experience. Solomon's work will also be paraded on the catwalk as part of the conference, along with other second stage entrants in the prize.

Solomon's award-winning entry was a striking wool, charcoal grey evening dress featuring silver metallic thread sewn through the sequins nine-times over to create a starburst effect flowing down over a highly sculptured peplum.

"My work was influenced by medieval armoury and emblems. The starburst creates a magical effect, like stars glistening. Embroidery is my passion so I am very excited to have won this award," Solomon says.

"I am applying to study further in Paris next year and in the meantime I hope to secure as much work as I can in fashion design here in Sydney."

First place in the prize went to Maria Lavigina from Shenkar College of Engineering and Design (Israel), while second place was awarded to Victoria Ann Relph from the University of Cumbria (UK).

Program Director of Fashion at Raffles College, Robert de Giovanni, who mentored Solomon through the completion of the project, says, "The talent pool in such an international competition is fiercely competitive, as many of the traditional entrants in Hand & Lock hail from countries with long and established textile traditions or from colleges which focus more exclusively on embroidery and the applied arts. This makes Solomon's win all the more resonant and benchmarks our innovative program favourably against the rest of the world."

Raffles College of Design and Commerce in North Sydney specialises in programs in Design, Visual Communication and Commerce (from Certificate to Masters level). Study specialisations include: Fashion Design, Fashion Marketing, Games Design, Animation, Moving Image (TV & Film), Graphic Design, Interior Design, Multimedia Design, Photography, Design Management, Marketing, Tourism, Finance, Hospitality and Management.

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