

**PRESS RELEASE**

Global leaders in Fashion and Sustainability converge on London to ask 'What's Going On?'

31<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER – 1<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER

#GFC2018 @sustfash @LCFLondon

The fashion industry, worth £28bn a year to the UK economy, and around 3 trillion USD worldwide, stands at the brink of a precipice in terms of its ability to continue in its present state. British shoppers alone now buy twice as many clothes as they did a decade ago; but value them less than ever. UK consumers are buying clothes at the highest rate in Europe – meanwhile the destruction of our planet for the sake of cheap disposable fashion is causing misery for thousands of people worldwide.

By changing the course of the fashion industry, we change the course of the planet, which is why the Global Fashion Conference project led by Professor Isabel Cantista started to promote ten years ago an international conference that aims at promoting sustainability in the Fashion Business. This conference has a pluridisciplinary approach and brings together academia and industry fostering innovation for sustainability.

In the 2018 edition GFC partnered with the Centre for Sustainable Fashion at London College of Fashion also on the anniversary of their tenth year the question opened for debate is 'What's Going On? A Discourse on Fashion, Design and Sustainability' which will explore the dynamics, challenges and propositions of fashion and sustainability through the lens of design thinking and practice.

Some of the Keynote Speakers and contributors include Designer Katharine Hamnett, Professor Kate Fletcher (CSF) Claire Bergkamp (Stella McCartney) and Orsola de Castro (Fashion Revolution), to talk about some of fashion's most vital questions. The conference will open with a key note address from Mary Creagh MP, chair of the Environmental Audit Committee, who have just embarked on a landmark inquiry into fast fashion. The committee has written to the chief executives of the UK's ten leading fashion retailers to find out what steps they are taking to reduce the environmental and social impact of the clothes and shoes they sell. In light of the recent IPCC report warning of the effects of catastrophic climate change, this conference, the next edition of the Global Fashion Conference, held in London for the first time, couldn't come at a more pivotal moment.

The conference will explore the power, economy, society and environment dynamics at play in fashion through the presentation of 100 brand new academic papers and key note addresses.

The plenary sessions are streamlined and may be seen in Youtube (UAL):

**DAY ONE:**

**Session One: What's Going On CSF Conference 31/10/2018**

am <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=li9cvU93ERg>

**9.30am WELCOME** / DILYS WILLIAMS \_ Professor Fashion Design for Sustainability, Centre for Sustainable Fashion, featuring a musical performance by HEIDI VOGEL

**9.45am OPENING** / MARY CREAGH MP \_ Member of UK Parliament

**9:55 - 11:00am SPEAKERS** / KATE FLETCHER \_ Professor of Sustainability, Design, Fashion, Centre for Sustainable

Fashion & HELEN CROWLEY \_ Head of Sustainable Sourcing Innovation, Kering / **CHAIR** \_ DILYS WILLIAMS

**11.00 - 11.20am BREAK**

**11.20 - 12.00pm IN CONVERSATION** / KATHARINE HAMNETT \_ Fashion Designer WITH DANA THOMAS \_ Fashion and Culture journalist

**Session Two: What's Going On CSF Conference 31/10/2018**

pm <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HTmZalnqAjl>

**4.30 - 6.00pm SPEAKERS** / STEPHEN STERLING \_ Emeritus Professor, University of Plymouth, EDWINA EHRMAN \_ Senior

Exhibition Curator, Victoria & Albert Museum, PRAVEEN NAHAR \_ Senior Faculty Member in Industrial Design, National Institute of Design

– India / **CHAIR** \_ DEEPA PATEL

**DAY TWO:**

**Session One: What's Going On CSF Conference 1/11/2018**

am <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0rnghY-9sIE>

**9.30am DAY TWO OPENING** / DILYS WILLIAMS \_ Professor Fashion Design for Sustainability, Centre for Sustainable Fashion

**9.35am WELCOME** / ISABEL CANTISTA \_ Global Fashion Conference & DAMIEN DELILLE \_ Invitation to GFC2020 University of Lyon

**9:45 - 10:45am SPEAKERS** / OTTO VON BUSCH \_ Associate Professor of Integrated Design, Parsons New School of Design AND

LYNDA GROSE \_ Associate Professor, California College of the Arts / **CHAIR** \_ DILYS WILLIAMS

**10:45 - 11:05am BREAK**

**11.05 - 12:00pm PANEL DISCUSSION** / SOPHIE SLATER \_ Brand Director, Birdsong, CLAIRE BERGKAMP \_ Global Director of

Sustainability & Innovation, Stella McCartney, ORSOLA DE CASTRO \_ Founder and Creative Director, Fashion Revolution & HETA

# GLOBAL FASHION 2018

DOBROWOLSKI \_ Co-Founder, Raw Power Movement / **CHAIR** \_ SANDY BLACK \_ Professor of Fashion and Textile Design and Technology, Centre for Sustainable Fashion

## Session Two: What's Going On CSF Conference 1/11/2018

pm <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fTQjzTRW8zo>

**REFLECTIONS FROM HAROLD TILLMAN CBE** \_ Fashion Retailer Entrepreneur

**4.40 - 5.40pm IN CONVERSATION** / FRANCES CORNER \_ Head of London College of Fashion, Pro-Vice Chancellor of University

of the Arts London, LOLA YOUNG OBE \_ Baroness Young of Hornsey AND ANIA ZOLTKOWSKI \_ Designer and London College of

Fashion Alumna / **CHAIR** \_ ANGELA MCROBBIE \_ Professor of Communications, Goldsmiths University of London

Venue: Rootstein Hopkins Space, 20 John Princes Street, W1G 0BJ Date: Wednesday 31 October and Thursday 1 November Schedule: Provisional schedule here Live Stream: Key notes available to press only – private feed – for links please contact press office

### Notes to Editors

#### GLOBAL FASHION CONFERENCE

The Global Fashion Conference is a project that aims at bringing together, on an international basis, academia and the fashion filière contributing in an active way to the building of knowledge and the sharing of positive experiences promoting a sustainable model of development.

This conference is organized on a bi-annual basis in collaboration with a university that carries out research on fashion studies. This project started in 2008 and is now celebrating its tenth anniversary.

#### London College of Fashion: Shaping Lives Through Fashion

London College of Fashion, UAL is a world leader in fashion design, media and business education. In boundary-pushing research where fashion intersects with science, engineering, and technology, and in enterprise, where it partners with top brands and helps launch new businesses. It has been nurturing creative talent for over a century, offering courses in all things fashion. Across every subject, it encourages students to examine the past and challenge the present. To have inventive, assertive ideas that challenge social and political agendas. It gives them the skills, opportunities – and above all, the freedom – to put those ideas into practice.

**GLOBAL  
FASHION  
2018**

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