

FALL 2009



# Fashion Focus

official newsletter of

**FGI**  
THE **fashion** GROUP INTERNATIONAL<sup>®</sup>  
of COLUMBUS, Inc.

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One of the world's top felters comes to Columbus for FGI's annual Fall Fashion Show Fundraiser! Details Inside.

**December 9, 2009**

**Holiday Party and Jewelry Show!**

Celebrate the Season with FGI! Come out and party with us at the home of

Lisa Welch,  
5784 Glendavon Loop,  
Dublin, OH 43016.

No cover!

RSVP to  
Kathleen Busche,  
614-237-1787

or send an  
e-mail to

[FGIColumbus@gmail.com](mailto:FGIColumbus@gmail.com)



An elite, global, non-profit association of dynamic professionals of achievement and influence from all areas of the fashion industry - apparel, accessories, beauty and home.

If fashion is your passion, and you're in Advertising, Beauty, Design, Manufacturing, Marketing, Media or Retail, it's time you joined The Fashion Group International of Columbus, Inc. **FGI.ORG**

**WE HELP YOU CONNECT** - Via Ready-to-Wear Event- our twice annual seasonal presentation of the Paris, Milan, London and New York RTW collections; Via FGI Members Bulletin - quarterly news, previews and trends, plus articles on industry issues to help you market and manage your business; Via the International Membership Directory, an invaluable resource; Via FGI Events and Symposiums - get business information and meet your peers in related industries - executives, industry leaders and entrepreneurs who drive our world.

(l-r) Designer and curator, Charles Kleibacker, known world-wide as the 'master of the bias,' provided a personal tour of the Columbus Museum of Art



Exhibition, "Class Act: Storied Designers/Women of Note." FGI members, Gayle Strege, Norma Pitts and Heather Hannon outside The Ohio State University's first LEED-certified (green) building where FGI Columbus is on permanent display. Interior Designer, Cary DeLuca of Darrons of Arlington with Norma Pitts and Nancy Ewing during a 2008 FGI "Trends in Home Furnishings" presentation.





## Scenes from the 2009 Regional Director's Conference in NYC

Highlights of the conference included a trip to the Fashion Institute of Technology, and a tour of the current exhibition, "Seduction" lead by Dr. Valerie Steele, chief curator and creative director of The Museum at FIT. (photos, top left and middle from FIT)



Seattle Regional Director Monir Zandghoreishi and Columbus Co-Regional Directors, Kathleen Busche and Janel Perry.



The annual meeting of regional directors kicked off at the

historic Gracie Mansion in NYC. Mayor Bloomberg declared May 7, 2009, Fashion Group International, Inc. Day in an official proclamation presented to FGI President, Margaret Hayes. (left, center)

Pictured with Hayes: FGI members, Audrey Smaltz, Founder, The Ground Crew and Gracie Mansion decorator, Jamie Drake, ASID, Drake Design Association Inc.

Jewelry designed by Ariane Zurcher, (ArianeZurcher.com - necklace \$40,000) FGI Rising Star award winner, seated below, second from right.



The panel of NYC Rising Stars awards winners, above, provided a lively discussion on entrepreneurship. Seated (l-r) Cathy Gins, Beauty/Fragrance, Carlos Campos, Men's Apparel, Ariane Zurcher, Fine Jewelry and Christian Cota, Women's Apparel. All photos by ConscienceMedia.com

I am more than excited to bring you this edition of Fashion Focus, the official newsletter of The Fashion Group International of Columbus, Inc. (FGI) I am also humbled to have this opportunity to serve as co-regional director, alongside one of this region's founding members, Kathleen Busche. We hope to reintroduce this wonderful organization to our city and make known the hard work of our board of directors, in supporting fashion industry professionals.

I had the opportunity to attend the annual Regional Director's Conference in New York City. Always an exciting event, this year, we visited the Cosmopolitan Club, Conde Nast, Movado, and Ports 1961. Yet in the midst of the 'fun', organizers included time to take a serious look at the economic downturn and address its impact on the fashion industry. "And the Good News is... We Will Survive" was the apropos theme; the workshops were thus geared toward navigating the recession. Gwen Morrison, CEO, The Americas and Australasia, The Store, presented "Finding the Silver Lining in the Retail Storm." She looked at ways in which businesses are dealing with the economic downturn and resulting 'consumer spending diet.' "It is a time for new ideas," she said. "It is a time of change." And indeed it is! Many companies are finding success through collaborations (LG with Prada, H&M with Lagerfeld). Others are engaging the consumer through entertainment. Morrison's top 4 business keys to implement right now: **1. Practice Optimism 2. Embrace Responsibility 3. Help People Cope and 4. Innovate, Innovate, Innovate!** Yes, we will survive! FGI Columbus is currently planning an exciting array of trend events and business symposia for 2010. If you would like to find out more, send an e-mail to [fgicolumbus@gmail.com](mailto:fgicolumbus@gmail.com), to be added to our list. *You can read more about Morrison's entire presentation in an article called "Retailing the Recession," online at [TheConsciousVoice.com](http://TheConsciousVoice.com). Enjoy!*



Janel Perry



# Cocktails & Catwalk



Designs by TJ Horst; models (l-r) FGI members, Susan Master and Esther Weisman; right: Akilah West; photos by ConscienceMedia.com



Annual Fashion Show Fundraiser  
featuring designer, **TJ Horst**,  
benefitting the  
FGI Scholarship Foundation

**October 8, 2009**  
6PM

**BoMA**

*Columbus' Premiere Event Venue*  
583 E. Broad Street

\$75. Dinner & Show  
*Fall Fashion Trends during Cocktail Hour, Silent  
Auction, Scholarship Awards*

[www.Columbus.FGI.org](http://www.Columbus.FGI.org)

The avant-garde felter, comes to Columbus for one-night only! You don't want to miss Cleveland fashion designer, TJ Horst! One of the world's top felters, his one-of-a-kind garments, made of 100-percent Falkland Wool, are featured in galleries and museums across the country. October 8, Horst will debut his brand new line.



**Fashion Designer, TJ Horst**

This events allows the FGI foundation to award two annual scholarships to students and professionals, to assist them in achieving their goals in the fashion industry. The awards are given to a fashion/design student from an Ohio school and a mature woman looking to re-renter the marketplace and/or further her skills in the fashion and design-related industry.

**FASHION SHOW DIRECTOR**  
**Danielle Revish**

## Show us your STYLE!

Are you Classic, Vintage, Elegant, Exotic or Original? A panel of judges including Charles Kleibacker, and Rita Wolf will choose 5 of the best-dressed attendees for their 'total look' in the categories above, for the first annual **STYLE STAR AWARDS**.

**So dress to impress!**

## EVENT CHAIRS



**Fran Luckoff**



**Kathleen Busche**



## How Did It All Begin? The History of FGI Columbus, by Kathleen Busche



It was the beginning of 1976 and June Wells Dill, who was the Fashion Editor of *The Columbus Dispatch Newspaper*, called me and asked if I would help her gather executive fashion professionals in Columbus. The goal was to sign a charter to form a local Fashion Group of Columbus and become a part of the parent organization, The Fashion Group International, Inc. headquartered in New York City. I said 'of course.' We worked in tandem, with June writing articles in the *Dispatch* and me calling fashion executives with the required 3-years experience. We needed 35 people to sign the charter. By mid-1976, we had 35 willing to join. We met in my business headquarters, which was an old mansion that I owned on East Broad Street. The charter was signed, accepted, and we were off and running to produce programs and panel discussions to inform and educate fashion industry professionals. Our standing events included Career Days, in which we partnered with The Ohio

State University; tours and programs with the Columbus Museum of Art and a trip to Kent State University Museum to view designer collections. Mr. Marcus Neiman was our special guest for a gala dinner party. He 'wowed' the audience with his speech at the event which was sold out. It was extremely memorable! We also organized and showed the inaugural gowns of all the governor's wives of Ohio. This was a huge success - it was covered by most of the Ohio newspapers.

We've seen many changes in the fashion industry since 1976. But FGI Columbus is still here and proud to be 51 members strong! FGI, Inc. which started in 1930 in New York City, is now an international organization, 5,000 members strong. Only women were involved in the beginning, now FGI equally accepts men and women. Eighty-percent of our members were from retail in the beginning; today 80-percent of our members are business owners. FGI Columbus also started a foundation to award scholarships to fashion design students from schools in Ohio. The two annual scholarship honor June Wells Dill, who wrote for the *Dispatch* for 30 years, and Lola Hasson, who was a buyer of designer clothing for Lazarus for forty years. Danielle Revish, our immediate past, regional director, originated Cocktails & Catwalk, four years ago, as our main scholarship fundraiser. We hope you can attend. It will be an extra-galactic affair! If you work in any area of the fashion and design-related industry - apparel, accessories, beauty, home, please explore becoming a member of this prestigious organization.

# RTW TREND WATCH

## FALL 2009

- Red
- Ruching
- Accordion Pleating
- One Shoulder
- Fur/Faux Fur/Leather
- Peplum Jackets
- Big Shoulder Jackets
- Neon Colors
- Lacy, Fishnet and patterned stockings



THE FASHION GROUP INTERNATIONAL® PRESENTS

## The Storytellers

*Save the Date!*

**SUPER STAR**  
OSCAR DE LA RENTA

**STAR HONOREES**

**FASHION**  
VICTOIRE DE CASTELLANE    FRIDA GIANNINI  
STEPHEN JONES    MICHAEL KORS

**CORPORATE LEADERSHIP**    **BEAUTY**  
RENZO ROSSO / DIESEL    CATHERINE WALSH

**ARCHITECTURE**    **HUMANITARIAN AWARD**  
CLODAGH    KENNETH COLE

**LORD & TAYLOR FASHION ORACLE AWARD**  
BRAVO

**MORE TO COME**  
OCTOBER 22ND, 2009  
CIPRIANI  
55 MALL STREET  
6:15PM COCKTAILS  
7:30PM BLACK TIE DINNER & AWARDS

ILLUSTRATION BY RUBEN TOLEDO  
DESIGN BY HENRY LEE

**HOST: SIMON DOONAN**

FOR TICKET INFORMATION CALL 212.302.5511

## SPRING 2010

- Combinations of Colors
- Draping, Twisting & Ruching
- Artist-Influenced Prints
- Bohemian-Inspired Looks
- Structured Jackets and Hourglass Shapes
- Silhouette & Tailoring
- take center stage

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[www.FGI.org](http://www.FGI.org)

Welcome  
New  
Members!

Allison Kennedy, Nordstrom's/Bowling Green State University  
Michelle Greenlee, Greenlee Personal Fitness  
Jennifer Salopek, Charlotte Russe  
Esther Weisman, Sparkly Scrubs



Layout and Design by



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