

# Initiatives

in Art and Culture

# TRAILBLAZERS

17TH ANNUAL NEW YORK FASHION CONFERENCE

THURSDAY – SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12 – 14, 2015

Jean Paul Gaultier, *Gold Bustier* as worn by Madonna. Hair, Peter Savic; make-up, Joanne Gair; and styling, Freddie Leiba. Photo: Jean Baptiste Mondino, 1990.

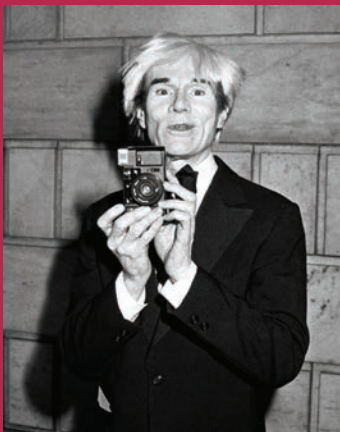


Chi Huynh, *Sutol Ring*, 10mm Galalca Pearl nucleated with turquoise and featuring the company's signature "Diamond in a Pearl" setting.



Rendering of *Manufacture New York* by Brooklyn-based Architecture Firm Ole Sondresen Architects. Image: courtesy, Manufacture New York.

Ron Galella, *Andy Warhol Attends the Annual Council of Fashion Designers of America Awards Dinner at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, January 13, 1985*; New York, NY: Photo: Ron Galella/Ron Galella, Ltd.



Junya Watanabe, *Dress*, spring 2002. Collection of The Museum at FIT. Photo: William Palmer.

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Guo Pei, *Evening Gown*, spring/summer 2007 haute couture. Gold lamé embroidered with gold and silver silk, metal, and sequins. Courtesy, Guo Pei. Image © The Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Trailblazers embark on a journey to astound when it seems that nothing dramatically new is possible. In the 2015 New York Fashion Conference, we focus on those who fearlessly set out to transform that which had been deemed immutable—be it a garment, material, jewel, or method of production—into the new, the truly innovative.

With supreme confidence, trailblazers do not care if we follow on their creative journey, but follow we do, ultimately appreciating the promise of their vision. Quick to recognize beauty and potential where others had not, they are agents of change, transcending real or socially defined constraints on what is considered art. They might break the shackles of traditional means of production,

transforming materials in previously unimagined ways, sometimes in locations formerly overlooked or deemed impenetrable but often in ways that minimize the adverse impact on the environment and on society. Some bring new or innovative approaches to media to shape how we view their work. Investing in the uncertain or unknown also takes courage, the ability to see potential value where others have not; visionary investors, therefore, are themselves trailblazers.

These pioneers lead us on a journey, of which the final destination is unknowable. What we can know, however, is that their achievements expand our vision, our conception of the possible, and transform our world.

The Lena and Louis Minkoff Foundation is gratefully acknowledged for its generosity.

We also express our sincere thanks to Dassault Systèmes, Kaltex North America, Inc., INVISTA, Platinum Guild International, BoomAgers, Hilldun Corporation, Lion Brothers Company, Inc., and Freeman's for their generous sponsorship.

We are deeply grateful to Featherstone Fine Jewelry, Leslie Hindman Auctioneers, and Staley-Wise Gallery for their support.



Roxanne Lowit, *YSL Opium Party 1978 NYC*. Photo, courtesy: Roxanne Lowit.

## The Louis and Lena Minkoff Foundation



# Thursday, November 12

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

**Viewing, Booksigning, and Reception**  
**RON GALELLA 55 YEARS A PAPARAZZI**  
**Staley-Wise Gallery**  
**560 Broadway, 3rd Floor**

Remarks by Mr. Galella and opportunities to purchase his new book *Sex in Fashion* and have it signed.



Ron Galella, Jackie Onassis departs Bonwit Teller Department Store in New York City on October 15, 1970. Photo: Ron Galella/Ron Galella, Ltd.

# Friday, November 13

*Formal sessions take place at The Graduate Center, City University of New York, 365 Fifth Avenue (between 34th and 35th Streets).*



Lashbrook, *Damascus*, platinum 9mm domed EuroSquare band with four Damascus steel segments and 12 .04 Diamonds.

8:15 – 9:00 a.m.

**Registration and continental breakfast**

9:00 – 9:15 a.m.

**Introduction.** Lisa Koenigsberg.

9:15 – 9:55 a.m.

**Transforming Fashion with Stars in the Designer's Seat.** Teri Agins and Lauren Indvik.

10:00 – 10:40 a.m.

**China: Through the Looking Glass.** Andrew Bolton.

10:40 – 11:00 a.m.

**Break and book signings**

11:00 – 11:50 a.m.

**Trailblazers in Platinum: Spanning the Decades.** Susan Chandler, Jose Hess, and Matt Isaacson; Teresa Frye, moderator.

11:55 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.

**Nanette Lepore in Conversation With Gary A. Wassner.**

12:35 – 1:40 p.m.

**Lunch (on your own) and book signings**

1:40 – 2:30 p.m.

**Trailblazers: Pearl Design, Sustainability and Availability.** Chi Huynh, Hisano Shepherd, and Jeremy Shepherd; Kathy Grenier, moderator.

2:35 – 3:15 p.m.

**Getting Better with Age: Improving Marketing in the Age of Aging.** Peter Hubbell.

3:15 – 3:35 p.m.

**Break and book signings**

3:35 – 4:25 p.m.

**Fashion Trailblazers: Structure, Vision, and Realization.** Patricia Figueroa, Susan J. Ganz, and Hebe Schecter; Walter T. Wilhelm, moderator.

4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

**Denim Trailblazers: From Fiber to Fashion, Style to Sustainability: New Visions for Denim—a Panel Discussion.**

François Girbaud, Adriano Goldschmied, Jean Hegedus, Emma McClendon, and Mark Messura; Jeffrey P. Silberman, moderator.

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

**Reception and Viewing**  
**Featherstone Fine Jewelry Atelier**

*17 Vestry Street*  
*(one block east of Hudson Street)*

*Transportation to the event to be provided.*

Remarks by Deirdre Featherstone.

The recipient of ten American Gem Trade Association Spectrum Awards, she is a master platinumsmith and the creative vision of Featherstone Design.



Featherstone Fine Jewelry, *Hand-fabricated Platinum Anemone Earrings*, 2015, with tanzanites accented with blue zircon, purple sapphire, tsavorite garnet, indigo tourmaline, Paraíba tourmaline and diamonds with Laguna agate, cornflower chalcedony and diamond drops.



# Saturday, November 14

Formal sessions take place at The Graduate Center, City University of New York, 365 Fifth Avenue (between 34th and 35th Streets).

9:15 – 9:30 a.m.

**Continental breakfast and book signing**

9:30 – 10:20 a.m.

**Incubation: New Models for the 21st Century.** Bob Bland, Ariele Elia, Timo Rissanen, Bradley Rothenberg, Gary A. Wassner, and Elizabeth Way; Susan S. Szenasy, moderator.

10:25 – 10:55 a.m.

**An Innovative Product Personalization Platform for the Consumer.** Igal Kaptsan.

11:00 – 11:45 a.m.

**Commerce and Content: Challenges, Risks and Rewards of Integrating E-commerce into the Publishing Business.** Ariel Foxman, Kate Davidson Hudson, Lindsey Unterberger, and Caitlin Weiskopf; Alexandra Steigrad, moderator.

11:50 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Almost There: E-Textiles, Wearable Technology & the Wild Wild West.** Randy Harward, Sarah L. Scaturro, and Despina Papadopoulos in conversation.



Timo Rissanen, *Alex Red 2*. Photo: Mariano Garcia of iloveshoot.com.



Hisano Shepherd "little h," *Ruby Pendant* from the little h Grotto Collection with a freshwater soufflé pearl carved with a freshwater soufflé pearl carved and lined with reclaimed rubies with diamond bale.

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

**Lunch (on your own) and book signings**

1:30 – 2:10 p.m.

**Style Forever: The Grown-Up Guide to Looking Fabulous.** Alyson Walsh.

2:15 – 2:55 p.m.

**Fashion + Fame: Roxanne Lowit Photographer.** Roxanne Lowit.

3:00 – 3:40 p.m.

**The Battle of Versailles: The Night American Fashion Stumbled into the Spotlight and Made History.** Robin Givhan and Pat Cleveland.

3:40 – 4:00 p.m.

**Break**

4:00 – 4:50 p.m.

**Magical Mystery Tour: The Life and Work of Freddie Leiba.** Freddie Leiba in conversation with Dennita Sewell.

4:55 – 5:35 p.m.

**The Cutting-Edge: PAPER Magazine's Perspective on Trailblazing Design.** Gabi Asfour, Maria Cornejo, and Rio Uribe; Mickey Boardman, moderator.



Studio 5050/Principled Design, *Soldering Components Onto Day-for-Night Dress* (Homage to Paco Rabanne), 2005.

# Presenters

**Lisa Koenigsberg**, conference director and President and Founder, Initiatives in Art and Culture; formerly, she served as advisor to the dean for arts initiatives, and Director, Programs in the Arts and adjunct professor of arts, NYU School of Continuing and Professional Studies. She established the series of fashion conferences which explores fashion, materials, and process. Former positions include: Assistant Director for Project Funding, Museum of the City of New York; Executive Assistant, Office of the President, American Museum of Natural History; architectural historian, New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission; and guest curator, Worcester Art Museum and Yale University Art Gallery. Her writings have appeared in books and journals, and she has organized symposia and special sessions at universities, museums, and professional organizations.

**Teri Agins**, author; having covered fashion for almost thirty years, she developed the fashion beat for *The Wall Street Journal* and continues to write the weekly "Ask Teri" column. The author of *The End of Fashion: How Marketing Changed the Clothing Business Forever* (1999), her newest publication is *Hijacking the Runway: How Celebrities Are Stealing the Spotlight from Fashion Designers* (2014). Agins has won many awards, including a CFDA award for her fashion writing. She has written for *Vogue*, *Town & Country*, and *Harper's Bazaar*, among numerous other publications. She lives in New York City.

**Gabi Asfour**, Creative Director at and Founder of fashion/art collective threeASFOUR; threeASFOUR shows collections twice a year during New York Fashion Week and exhibits fine art and performance pieces worldwide. With 20 years' experience in design, production, and distribution, Asfour established the label in 2005, in partnership with Adi Gil and Angela Donhauser; together, they are known for their visionary creations and collaborative approach. Started in 1998 originally as AsFOUR, threeASFOUR's designs are informed by fashion, art, and technology, and are driven by the patterns found in sacred geometry and universal science, which also inspire their distinctive shows. The team is recognized for its synthesis of cutting-edge technology and classic craftsmanship. threeASFOUR's works are in the permanent collections of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The V & A, and the Musée Galliera, and are sold internationally in specialty boutiques and department stores. The trio has collaborated with such artists as Matthew Barney, Yoko Ono, Björk, and brands like The Gap, Kate Spade, Hello Kitty, Mattel, and Sony. Winners of the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Award (2015) and the Ecco Domani Fashion Foundation Award (2001), they were also CFDA Vogue Fashion Fund finalists (2008). A member of the adjunct faculty at Parsons The New School for Design, Asfour teaches Final Thesis Class and in the Design Strategies and Integrated Design.

**Bob Bland**, CEO and Founder, Manufacture New York (MNY); MNY is a social enterprise that is rethinking the fashion ecosystem (design, development, distribution) and creating a new, vertically-integrated business model that will transform apparel & textile production for the 21st century. MNY's mission is to reawaken and rebuild America's fashion industry, foster the next wave of businesses, and create a transparent, sustainable global supply chain. Bland founded MNY in 2012 based on her decade of experience in the New York City industry as a corporate fashion designer for Ralph Lauren, Tommy Hilfiger, Marc Jacobs & Triple 5 Soul and as the founder of independent streetwear label Brooklyn Royalty. After seven years of working with local manufacturers to produce her collection, she conceived of MNY as a comprehensive response to the needs of post-recession fashion entrepreneurs and urban manufacturers dedicated to domestic ethical production. An international speaker and advocate for domestic manufacturing, ethical supply chains and design entrepreneurship education, Bland has presented MNY as a case study in Copenhagen, Seoul, Los Angeles, Raleigh, Las Vegas, Washington D.C. and NYC. She has also been featured in two books, *Sustainable Fashion: Past, Present & Future* (2015), *We Own the City* (2014), as well as in the film "Making It In America: Empowering Global Fashion," and multiple TV interviews including CNBC & CBS Evening News.

**Mickey Boardman**, Editorial Director, *PAPER*; raised in Hanover Park, Illinois, Boardman graduated from Purdue University in 1989 with a degree in Spanish. He then spent a year in Madrid teaching before moving to NYC to study fashion design at The Parsons School of Design. Since 1993, he has written the advice column "Ask Mr. Mickey" in *PAPER*, where he first started working as a intern. His writing has also appeared in *T: The New York Times Style Magazine*, *Out* and *German Vogue*. He is a constant presence on the NYC social / fashion scene and often appears as a cultural commentator, lifestyle expert and fashion guru on networks like VH-1, A & E, CNN, E! and Fox News. Recognized by *New York* magazine as one of the "Most Photographed Faces in New York" Boardman was voted by Fashion Week Daily as one of the "most invited people in the city." He has been featured in books like *Smile i-D: Fashion & Style, 20 Years of i-D Magazine*, Simon Doonan's *Eccentric Glamour*, and Timothy Greenfield-Sanders' *Look: Portraits Backstage at Olympus Fashion Week*. Also a philanthropist, Boardman has been active in many charitable efforts, including Mr. Mickey's Sidewalk Sale, Doctors Without Borders, Coalition for the Homeless and Red Cross Earthquake Relief for Haiti and Chile. He is a dedicated supporter of Citta, a charity that builds schools, clinics and women's cooperatives in India and Nepal.

**Andrew Bolton**, Curator, The Costume Institute at The Metropolitan Museum of Art; he has worked closely with Harold Koda, Curator in Charge, The Costume Institute, and alone, on exhibitions among them "Dangerous Liaisons: Fashion and Furniture in the 18th Century" (2004), "Chanel" (2005), "AngloMania: Tradition and Transgression in British Fashion" (2006), "Poiret: King of Fashion" (2007), "Superheroes: Fashion and Fantasy" (2008), "Alexander McQueen: Savage Beauty" (2011), "Schiaparelli and Prada: Impossible Conversations" (2012), and "China: Through the Looking Glass" (2015), which with 815,992 visitors is The Costume Institute's most attended exhibition ever. A frequent lecturer and contributor to many publications, Bolton has authored and co-authored more than 12 books. Previously, Bolton worked at the Victoria & Albert Museum (V & A) in London for nine years, while curating exhibitions at the London College of Fashion (LCF), among them "Men in Skirts" (V & A 2001). Born in Great Britain, Bolton earned a BA and an MA in Non-Western Art from the University of East Anglia. In 2007, he became a Visiting Professor at the University of the Arts in London. Among the awards he has received are: the 2015 Vilcek Prize in Fashion; the Best Design Show from the International Association of Art Critics for "Poiret" (with H. Koda) and for "Alexander McQueen: Savage Beauty"; and for

the "Superheroes" catalogue, the AIGA Design Award and the Independent Publisher Book Award (both 2009).

**Susan Chandler**, Chief Merchandising Officer, Scott Kay; she is responsible for developing and implementing the Scott Kay brand design and merchandising strategy. Chandler has been with Scott Kay for over a year and initially worked closely with Kay to learn the brand DNA and design inspiration. She experienced first-hand his passion for jewelry, his unique design approach and his commitment to the bridal industry. True to the Scott Kay design ethos, Chandler's main focus is on the bridal category and re-launching the wedding collections, with the same passion that made Scott Kay a leader in the bridal industry. With over 20 years of experience working with luxury goods and fine jewelry, Chandler came to Scott Kay from David Yurman where she was Senior Vice President, General Merchandise Manager overseeing Women's and Men's product assortments. Prior to David Yurman, Chandler was Senior Vice President, Brand Management & Merchandising at Frederick Goldman, Inc., where she launched two new independent bridal programs, mass account brands, and initiated contemporary material development and innovation.

**Maria Cornejo**, designer; born in Chile, Cornejo moved to England with her family as a child. She now lives with her husband, the photographer Mark Borthwick and their two children in Brooklyn, New York. Cornejo's varied career spans London, Paris, Milan and Tokyo where she was part of the ground-breaking design partnership, Richmond Cornejo; developed her own signature "Maria Cornejo" collection; and worked as a creative consultant for major retailers like Joseph, Tehen and Jigsaw. In 1996, Maria and her family moved to New York where in 1997, she transformed a raw space in Nolita into a creative atelier and store. Her uncompromising and very personal approach has gained her a loyal following and high praise from clients such as Tilda Swinton, Christy Turlington, Cindy Sherman and First Lady Michelle Obama. It has been said of her work: "In Maria Cornejo's hands, minimalism is not a bland word...her clothes have a sleek sophistication and always a sense of surprise." A finalist for the Fashion Prize of the 2005 Smithsonian Cooper-Hewitt National Design Awards, Cornejo was the award's recipient in 2006. In May 2006 Zero + Maria Cornejo opened its second store in New York's far-West Village neighborhood and in February 2009 moved to its flagship store/showroom/atelier at 33 Bleecker Street, New York. In Fall 2010 Zero + Maria Cornejo opened its first store outside the New York area in Los Angeles on Melrose Place. The Zero + Maria Cornejo collection is presented bi-annually in New York, during Fashion Week and Paris. The line is sold in leading stores around the world such as Barneys New York, Ikram Chicago, Holt Renfrew in Canada, Browns UK, Harvey Nichols Dubai, and net-a-porter.com.

**Pat Cleveland**, legendary model; of black, Cherokee and Irish descent, Cleveland went on to become one of the most legendary African-American models. At 15 she was spotted by *Vogue* editor Carrie Donovan who invited her to *Vogue*'s studio for a trial shoot which was published. Next, Eunice Johnson of *Ebony Magazine* asked Cleveland to be a part of the iconic *Ebony* Fashion Fair. With great support from her mother, Cleveland went on the road. Given that the American market was still not very inviting for women of color, Cleveland took her show to Paris alongside the renowned artist Antonio Lopez and his crew. Soon, Cleveland's signature style graced the catwalk for such important designers as Valentino, Oscar de la Renta, Yves Saint Laurent, Thierry Mugler, Karl Lagerfeld and Christian Dior. Along with Angelica Huston and Karen Bjornson, she became one of Halston's favorite models joining in the troupe nicknamed "The Halstonettes." In 1973 she was invited to participate in the legendary "Battle of Versailles." Cleveland's unique features and brilliant personality made her a favorite of some of the most influential people, among them Diana Vreeland, Andy Warhol and Irving Penn; the result was covers for magazines such as *Interview*, *Vanity Fair* and *L'Officiel*. She still enjoys great media attention and has recently been seen alongside her daughter Anna, walking the Chanel runway in Paris. A guest on *America's Next Top Model*, in 2012 Cleveland was featured in HBO's documentary "About Face" in which several legendary models discussed their careers and life.

**Ariele Elia**, Assistant Curator of Costume and Textiles, The Museum at the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT), has curated or co-curated a number of exhibits including, "Faking It: Originals, Copies, and Counterfeits," "Fashion and Technology," and most recently "Global Fashion Capitals." Elia has lectured at Oxford, NYU, Eyebeam, and the University of Rhode Island. Her essay, "The Wardrobe of the Modern Athlete: Activewear in the 1930s" was published in the book *Elegance in an Age of Crisis: Fashion of the 1930s*. She holds an MA in Fashion and Textile: History, Theory, Museum Practice from FIT, as well as a BA in Art History from Saint Mary's College of California.

**Patricia Figueroa**, Executive Director, CAMTEX (Cámara de la Industria Textil, Confección y Zonas Francas de El Salvador), a position she previously held in 2010 – 2011; in this capacity she directs the Association that represents one of the highest growing sectors of the Salvadorian Economy and accounts for over 45% of the country's total exports acting as main spokesperson. Among her key achievements are leading the successful negotiations between the government and private sector to implement Free Zone legislation that complied with WTO requirements; implementing a joint strategy between Government and private and international trade, Figueroa previously acted as International Trade Deputy Chief of Party for USAID SME Development Program, a four-year program to support SMEs competitiveness which generated \$60 million in sales and created 8,000 job, served as El Salvador's first ambassador to India; as Executive Director of the National Exports and Investment agency, PROESA and as Head of the National Competitiveness Program at the Ministry of the Economy.

**Ariel Foxman**, Editorial Director, *InStyle* and *StyleWatch*, since 2015; he also continues to serve as Editor in Chief of *InStyle*, a role he assumed in 2008. *InStyle* has a multi-platform reach of 23 million. Under Foxman, *InStyle* has earned numerous awards: *Daily Front Row's* Fashion Media Brand of the Year (2015); *Advertising Age's* A-List as one of the year's top five media brands (2012, 2013); and *Time Inc.'s* Luce Award for Magazine of the Year (2010). *StyleWatch*, recognized as a leading fashion media brand for millennials, was twice on *Adweek's* Hot List and honored as Magazine of the Year by *Advertising Age*. A Harvard College graduate, Foxman has been included in the "Business of Fashion 500" three years in a row. In November, Foxman will receive the Marylou Luther Journalism Award from the Accessories Council. In 2014, he was honored at Live

Out Loud's 13th annual Trailblazers Gala. Named by *Crain's* in 2013 as one of the "40 Under 40," and by *The Advocate* as one of the "50 Most Influential LGBT People in Media," Foxman has also appeared on *Out's* annual Power List. Foxman serves on the board of the AIDS Community Research Initiative of America (ACRIA) and works frequently with GLAAD. Foxman was a permanent judge on Lifetime's Project Accessory (2011), has appeared on Bravo's *The Rachel Zoe Project* (2013), *It's a Brad, Brad World* (2012), and on CW's *Gossip Girl* (2008).

**Teresa Frye**, President and CEO, TechForm Advanced Casting Technology; in the 1990s, the firm introduced high-temperature casting methods from the aerospace industry to jewelry manufacturing. A leading expert on jewelry casting and a prolific researcher, she has published technical papers and articles worldwide, and speaks frequently at industry conferences in the United States and Europe. Her pioneering research on hot isostatic pressing, a novel densification process for platinum alloys, led to a process now used by jewelry manufacturers nationally. She co-founded TechForm in 1994 when a range of newly popular platinum alloys were being introduced to the jewelry industry. Today, TechForm provides platinum castings to a broad national customer base, including many top jewelry brands. Her publications have appeared in *Platinum Metals Review*, *The Santa Fe Symposium on Jewelry Manufacturing Technology*, *MJSA Journal*, and *JCK Magazine*, among others. She has also presented at the Jewelry Technology Forum in Vicenza, MJSA Expo New York, and the Annual Santa Fe Symposium; she is a two-time recipient of the Santa Fe Symposium Ambassador Award and a three-time recipient of the Collaborative Research Award. To further the sharing of technical information, in 2007 she founded the annual Portland Jewelry Symposium.

**Susan J. Ganz**, principal shareholder and CEO, Lion Brothers Company, a global designer and manufacturer of apparel identity for leading sports, lifestyle, fashion and uniform brands. Founded in 1899 in Baltimore, Maryland, the company has been—under Ganz's leadership—repositioned from being a commodity producer to becoming a recognized innovator within the apparel industry. Her passion has been to bring strategies that incorporate innovation, economic development and sustainability to life. Ganz serves as a Director of the Federal Reserve of Baltimore, which is part of the Federal Reserve of Richmond, and is a member of Governor Hogan's (R-Maryland) Regulatory Reform Commission. A recent past Chair of the Maryland Economic Development Commission under Governor O'Malley (D-Maryland), which oversaw the business strategy for the State of Maryland, Ganz also serves on Towson University's Board of Visitors, on the Board of the Maryland-Israel Development Center and Venture Fund, is Vice Chair of Maryland's Regional Manufacturing Institute and is a member of the Trustees Council of Penn Women, where she chairs Advancement of Women Faculty. Ganz also serves as a trustee of St. Timothy's School and on the Board of Sustainable Health Enterprises, a social enterprise based in Rwanda. The recipient of an MBA from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and a BA in Economics from the University of Florida, Ganz is a member of Young President's Organization/World President's Organization and the Committee of 200, the preeminent organization for leading women corporate executives and entrepreneurs.

**François Girbaud**, Founder and owner, Marithé+François Girbaud; since meeting in 1967, rebels and out-of-the-box thinkers, Marithé Bachelier and François Girbaud have been at the forefront of denim innovation in their experimentation with materials, treatments and shapes. From stone-washing to engraving with light, they have transformed and revolutionized the world of jeans and created a global brand that transcends time. Since 1989, they have focused their research on ecologically and ethically conscious techniques, perfecting the use of lasers and ozone to treat denim and removing hazardous chemicals and processes. Their eco-friendly Wattwash™ method, named after the unit of measurement for energy and heat, creates a targeted faded effect on denim. Girbaud is currently based in Los Angeles, where he continues to reinvent denim, applying the innovations and principles of Wattwash™ at an industrial level and advancing the cause of sustainability within the denim industry. In November 2015, Marithé Bachelier and François Girbaud will return under the guise of «MAD LANE» (Madeleine), with a selective commercial approach centered on their legions of fans.

**Robin Givhan**, fashion critic for the *Washington Post* and author of *The Battle of Versailles: The Night American Fashion Stumbled Into The Spotlight And Made History*, a cultural history of a game-changing 1973 Franco-American fashion show (2015); the recipient of a BA in English from Princeton University and a MSc in journalism from the University of Michigan, she arrived at the *Washington Post* in 1995. In 2009, she began covering Michelle Obama and the cultural and social shifts stirred by the first African-American family in the White House. From 2010 - 2012, she was special correspondent for style and culture at *Newsweek Daily Beast*. Givhan's work has appeared in *Harper's Bazaar*, *Vogue*, *Vogue Italia*, *British Vogue*, *Essence*, *ELLE UK*, *New York* and the *New Yorker*. She has contributed to several books including *Runway Madness*, *No Sweat: Fashion, Free Trade and the Rights of Garment Workers*, and *Thirty Ways of Looking at Hillary: Reflections by Women Writers*. She is the author, along with the *Washington Post* photo staff, of *Michelle: Her First Year as First Lady*. In 2006, she won the Pulitzer Prize in criticism for her fashion coverage.

**Adriano Goldschmied**, otherwise known as the "Godfather of Denim"; he earned this title from working for nearly 50 years in the denim industry, not only pioneering new techniques and styles, but revolutionizing how the world looks at and wears this fabric. From his humble beginnings in Cortina d'Ampezzo, where Goldschmied set up his first shop, the groundbreaking King's Shop, he is now responsible for the creation of some of the most successful and innovative denim brands from the 1970s to today, from Goldie, Diesel, Replay, Gap 1969, AG, and Goldsign. Some of his revolutionary achievements include the creation of the stonewash technique, the use of tencel fire, and super stretch denim, just to name a few. Goldschmied says, "I like to push the envelope because sometimes you don't know what the limits are until you have passed them." Always the pioneer, Goldschmied is currently developing a new activewear denim line,  Acynetic which uses new weaving technologies and unprecedented stretchability and comfort for denim. Goldschmied is a member of The Council of Fashion Designers of America (CFDA).

**Kathy Grenier**, Public Relations/Marketing Director, The Cultured Pearl Association of America (CPAA), Inc.; a seasoned jewelry executive with over 25 years experience in luxury goods; in her role with the CPAA, she develops educational tools and marketing materials, and conducts educational seminars. Additionally, she curates exhibitions of pearl jewelry collections, and attends and co-manages trade show exhibits while serving as an ambassador for the promotion and awareness of cultured pearls in the United States and for CPAA internationally. She also serves as a liaison between the Association and benefactors and works with 50 individual association members.

**Randy Harward**, Vice President of Material Innovation, Under Armour; an industry veteran with over 35 years of experience in the apparel and outdoor industries, including 26 years with Patagonia, Inc. as Quality Director and Vice President of Advanced R&D. He builds management systems that are capable, systemic, and process-centered, and is fluent in the processes and systems that form the backbone of development and production. He is also a recognized textile, hardware and technology R&D expert having developed countless products, new construction techniques, factory equipment, technologies and materials. A frequent speaker, Harward is known and respected throughout the industry; he has taught numerous management seminars, and served on several industry boards including, currently, the boards of the American Apparel Producers Network, Operation Warm, Innovators International, and [re]Make.

**Jean Hegedus**, Global Director, INVISTA's Denim and Wovens business; Hegedus has over 30 years of experience in the apparel industry, working first with DuPont de Nemours and then INVISTA. She has held a variety of positions in public affairs, marketing, and licensing related to the LYCRA® brand and was instrumental in driving its growth into a variety of ready-to-wear categories from tops and sweaters to wovens and denim. More recently, she has been involved in bringing new innovations to market such as dualFX® technology which has brought about a step change in fabric shape retention and LYCRA® BEAUTY branded jeans which comfortably sculpt and shape the body.

**Jose Hess**, jewelry designer, artist and craftsman; a driving force on the international design circuit, Hess possesses a talent for creating original, contemporary jewelry that dazzles with diamonds. Master goldsmith, designer and gemologist, Hess' roots and career path portray an artist and entrepreneur whose vision, sense of style and quality standards continue to keep him in the forefront of American jewelry design of which he is an active proponent. Mentor and educator, Hess has taught jewelry design and model making at the Fashion Institute of Technology, and often addresses student groups on goldsmithing and jewelry design. Highly respected and actively involved, Hess was the first American president of CIBJO, an international trade association whose mission is to establish uniform standards for the jewelry industry worldwide. He is a past president of the 24K Club of New York, the Manufacturing Jewelers and Suppliers of America, the Plumb Club, and a founding member of the American Jewelry Design Council.

**Peter Hubbell**, Founder and CEO, BoomAgers, the pioneering advertising and marketing company focusing on "Baby Boomers"; he launched BoomAgers in 2012 after nearly three decades in leadership roles at global advertising agencies. Hubbell is the author of *The Old Rush: Marketing for Gold in the Age of Aging* (2014), and was named a 2014 Global Agency Innovator by *The Internationalist* for the groundbreaking work BoomAgers does with some of the world's leading marketers. Hubbell is a widely sought after marketing expert and speaker, and is a regular contributor to the *Huffington Post*, *Media Post*, and *Broadcasting & Cable*, among others. His second book, *Getting Better With Age*, will be published this fall.

**Kate Davidson Hudson**, Co-Founder *Editorialist*; *Editorialist* is the first true content-meets-commerce company, and has become the directional disruptive model for the modern e-tail and media landscapes, reflecting the shift in traditional retail and media archetypes, and was named first among top luxury e-commerce sites by *Wall Street Journal* (August 2014). Hudson also oversaw the launch of *Editorialist's* print iteration to complete the brand's omnichannel presence. A graduate of the Honors Program at The George Washington University, her work experience includes: tenures at *Surface* magazine, five years as a fashion accessories editor at *Harper's Bazaar*, and as Accessories Director at *ELLE*. During her editorial career, she specifically covered the luxury designer accessories market in London, Milan, Paris, and New York, along with watch and jewelry markets in Geneva and in Basel, Switzerland. During her tenure as Accessories Director at *ELLE* she oversaw the launch and directed content for *ELLE Accessories* online in March of 2010, launched the *ELLE accessories* blog *Accessories File* in April 2010, and in 2012, oversaw and directed content for the relaunch of the print edition of *ELLE Accessories*. In addition, Hudson provides her extensive styling experience for editorial publications and luxury brands, and contributes as an industry expert to broadcast and print media outlets, including NBC and E!

**Chi Huynh**, the creative force behind Galatea Jewelry By Artist located in San Dimas, California, founded the company in 1994; a painter, poet, and humanitarian, Huynh learned the jewelry trade by apprenticing for his father, Tong Huynh, one of Vietnam's most respected jewelers. Huynh uses the beauty of nature to take precious materials to unimagined heights. Art is equally important to him, although he observes, "No one will take you seriously unless you create your own ground." Huynh holds multiple U.S. patents for jewelry including the Galatea Pearl, DavinChi Cut, Illusia, Levitating Queen Beads and Memento Pearls. Known throughout the world for transforming the art of pearl sculpture, Huynh's designs have won accolades from the Cultured Pearl Association of America's International Pearl Design Competition, JCK Magazine's Jewelers' Choice Awards, the Platinum Guild International Design Competition and the Tahitian Pearl Trophy Competition. His paintings, sometimes the inspiration for new pieces of jewelry, have been exhibited at the Museum of History and Art in Ontario, California. Galatea manufactures both in the U.S. and Vietnam and sells to approximately 1500 retail jewelers throughout the United States.

**Lauren Indvik**, Editor in Chief, Fashionista.com since 2013; previously, she served as a business editor at *Mashable* for nearly four years, covering the intersection of technology, retail and media. Her work has also been published by *InStyle*, *Forbes*, *Fast Company*, *CNN.com* and *Fashion Theory*, a peer-reviewed



academic journal. A regular moderator at conferences, Indvik has appeared on NBC, NPR, APM and Bloomberg TV as a commentator, and was recently named one of the Top Women in Media by Folio magazine.

**Matt Isaacson**, Director of Product Development, Lashbrook, which he joined in 2008; in his current position, he is responsible for the development of the award-winning line of men's rings. Due to his insistent need for the perfection of each ring that came from his machine, he was tapped to be Lashbrook's trainer and then shop manager. Noticing a gap in Lashbrook's team, he stepped into his present role. Isaacson combines his natural eye for design, attention to detail, and his willingness to be on the cutting edge to create rings that are unique and beautiful using Lashbrook's state-of-the-art facility. The rings that Isaacson creates are the culmination of the forging together of many different materials through a refining process, which makes them stronger. Isaacson has been instrumental in the development of the award-winning line of men's rings that has catapulted Lashbrook forward in the jewelry industry. Having developed and overseen the manufacturing of nine JCK Jewelers' Choice Award winning rings and two finalist rings, he is also responsible for the 2014 and 2015 Platinum Innovation Award Winners in the Men's Wedding Band category.

**Igal Kaptsan**, VP Product Management, 3DVIA Make, Dassault Systèmes; Kaptsan has over 20 years of experience building software products to serve large and growing markets. The Co-founder and CEO of myCustom3D which was acquired by Dassault Systèmes late 2014, Kaptsan joined Dassault to continue and work on the consumer personalization offering as the VP of Product Management, 3DVIA Make. Prior to myCustom3D, he was the VP of Product Definition at PTC, overseeing the design of the CAD product suite; in this position with PTC and with Bentley before, he led the definition of two of the leading design tools in the market. He holds a B. Sc in Mechanical Engineering from Ben-Gurion University, Israel.

**Freddie Leiba**, fashion authority; beginning his career in London, Leiba moved to New York in the seventies and was tapped to style covers by the creative team of *Interview* Magazine during the Andy Warhol era. He worked with the top photographers of the time, among them Irving Penn, Albert Watson, Horst, Patrick Demarchelier, and Scavullo. Leiba's profile was the lead in a feature Anna Wintour, then at *New York Magazine*, did on stylists. After highly successful stints as creative director of *Harper's BAZAAR* and *Allure*, Leiba was approached by the late Steve Rubell and Ian Schrager who engaged Leiba to design fashion forward uniforms for the Morgan Hotel staff; since then, Leiba has designed the uniforms for Schrager's properties including Editions London, Miami and New York City. Having noticed these designs, Calvin Klein contacted Leiba to create a concept for his Richard Meier designed Perry Street residences. Leiba has styled some of the world's iconic photographs, among them, Madonna with the Gaultier suit, Diana Ross with a tank top, and 16-year old Brooke Shields for *Interview*. Based on his bonds of trust with some of the world's biggest stars, Leiba was hired by *InStyle* Magazine to do many of their covers and *Clinique*, *L'Oréal*, Cover Girl, Revlon, and other cosmetic and fashion ads. When Elizabeth Hurley was hired by Estée Lauder, Leiba was the stylist for her contractual brands, and she insisted that he be her costume stylist for "Austin Powers." Leiba also edited the *Passion Issue of Spirit and Flesh*, a new magazine (February 2015). He also designed a plate and a cup emblazoned with the Red Ribbon symbol for HIV/AIDS for Swid Powell/DIFFA; all proceeds went to care for people living with the disease.

**Nanette Lepore**, designer; driven by her passion for a good party and her tenacious commitment to quality craftsmanship, Lepore has built a fashion empire based on creating compelling high quality product for the woman who is serious and feminine; strong and sexy. Lepore is known for bold colors, and gorgeous prints; added to the beautiful is one special detail that elevates the look. Born in Youngstown, Ohio, when she married painter Robert Savage, the couple headed east to take on New York. All the while, Lepore continued to love fashion. The birth of her daughter, Violet, sparked vibrant life in her designs, and the next year she staged her first runway show. Lepore knows how to dress strong women on the rise. Each original design is crafted in her New York City atelier, taking care to perfect the fit and paying close attention to the details. The clothing is manufactured within five blocks of the studio. Nanette Lepore is a vibrant and essential piece of the urban fabric and maintains an untouchable loyalty to the highly skilled artisans with whom the company collaborates.

**Roxanne Lowit**, photographer; for over three decades; she has captured the faces, personalities, and spaces of modern culture. Lowit has photographed thousands of luminaries, including Andy Warhol, Salvador Dali, Kate Moss, Yves Saint-Laurent, Johnny Depp, Madonna, and George Clooney. A native New Yorker, she was originally a textile designer, but found her calling creating an entirely new genre of photography by taking her camera where no one else went: backstage at fashion shows. Lowit's work has been exhibited in many of the world's major museums, including The Metropolitan Museum of Art; the Whitney Museum of American Art; the Victoria & Albert Museum; and the Andy Warhol Museum. Her photographs are part of the permanent collection of Japan's Kobe Fashion Museum. She has also been featured in one-woman shows in New York, Paris, Berlin, Amsterdam, and London, as well as in group exhibitions at the Gagosian Gallery, Colette, and Art Basel Miami. Four books have collected Lowit's indelible images: *Moments* (1990), *People* (2001) *Backstage Dior* (2009, with a foreword by John Galliano) and *Yves Saint Laurent* (2014, with a foreword by Pierre Bergé). She is also the subject of a new documentary "Magic Moments," by Yvonne Scio which premiered at the 2015 Venice Film Festival. Lowit's photography has been a longtime mainstay in the American, Italian, French, and German editions of *Vogue*, as well as in *Vanity Fair*, *Tatler*, *GQ*, *W*, and other publications. Her groundbreaking advertising work has included campaigns for major brands, including Acura, Armani, Coca-Cola, DeBeers, Dior, Land Rover, Moët & Chandon, and Vivienne Westwood.

**Emma McClendon**, Assistant Curator of Costume, The Museum at FIT; she has been at the Museum at FIT since 2011, during which time she has co-curated the exhibitions "Fashion and Technology" (2012), "Trend-ology" (2013), and "Yves Saint Laurent + Halston: Fashioning the 70s" (2015). Her upcoming exhibition "Denim: Fashion's Frontier" (2015) will examine the history of denim and relationship with high fashion. Recent publications include the catalog for *Denim: Fashion's Frontier*, as well as her essays on Yves Saint Laurent for the book that accompanied the exhibition "Yves Saint Laurent + Halston." Past publications include her chapter "The Political Power of the Online Shop" in *From Production to Consumption: The Cultural Industry of Fashion* (2013), as well as her article

"First Paris Fashions Out of The Sky: The Impact of the 1962 Telstar Satellite on the Transatlantic Fashion System," which appeared in *Fashion Theory*. McClendon holds an MA in the History of Dress from the Courtauld Institute of Art in London and an MA Honours in Art History from the University of St. Andrews in Scotland.

**Mark Messina**, Senior Vice President, Global Supply Chain Marketing, Cotton Incorporated; a frequent speaker and advisor to the textile industry on issues related to sustainability, responsible sourcing, supply chain strategy, and fiber economics, he currently serves as Chairman of the International Forum for Cotton Promotion. He is a member of the Industry Advisory Board to the Textile Development and Marketing Department at the Fashion Institute of Technology and Chairman of the Industry Advisory Board, IATM Program at North Carolina State University. With a BA from the University of Michigan in Economics and an MA in Policy Analysis from Duke University, he serves on the Washington State University Extension National Board of Advisors and the Advisory Board to the Department of Apparel, Merchandising, Design and Textiles at Washington State University. Cotton Incorporated, funded by U.S. growers of upland cotton and importers of cotton and cotton textile products, is the research and marketing company representing upland cotton.

**Despina Papadopoulos**, pioneer in the field of wearable technology; in her 18 years of experience, she has developed wearable technology prototypes, \ applications and integrated systems for Interval Research Corporation, NCR's Knowledge Lab, 7 for All Mankind, and HBO among others. She holds a number of wearable technology patents and her work has been exhibited in museums worldwide. She is a frequent speaker at Wearable and Smart Fabric conferences and her work has been featured in publications and peer reviewed industry journals. She has been teaching classes on design innovation and wearable technologies for the past 10 years at NYU's graduate Interactive Telecommunication Program and as founding faculty of SVA's MFA on Design for Social Innovation. She is the founder of Studio 5050 / Principled Design, and Director, Wearable Technology, WWA Advisors.

**Timo Rissanen**, designer and Assistant Professor of Fashion Design and Sustainability, Parsons School of Design in New York City since 2010. He holds a PhD in design from the University of Technology Sydney; his dissertation focused on zero waste fashion design. Prior to entering academia, Rissanen had a decade-long career in the fashion industry in Sydney, including helming his award-winning menswear brand Uvsu (2001 – 2004). He continues to exhibit his design work internationally; it is known for humor and inventive cuts. Most recently his artwork 15%, a collaboration with Finnish artist Salla Salin and a comment on overproduction and invisibility of fashion labor, was exhibited in Tokyo. He co-edited *Shaping Sustainable Fashion* (2011, with A. Gwilt); the book arose from "Fashioning Now," an exhibition they co-curated (2009) in Sydney. His next book *Zero Waste Fashion Design*, coauthored with Holly McQuillan, will be published by Bloomsbury Press in late 2015. With McQuillan, he co-curated "Yield", an exhibition of zero waste fashion design (2011). Having lived in Finland, Spain, Australia and the US, Rissanen is interested in local perspectives to global challenges in fashion and affirms that sustainability research is inseparable from his creative practice.

**Bradley Rothenberg**, Co-Founder, nTopology Inc; nTopology Inc is a startup developing computational design methods to optimize structures, and to make better products that take advantage of the complexity, and personalization of additive manufacturing methods. Rothenberg has worked with 3D printing for 10 years and has a background in architecture. Early work, which focused on the development of textiles with variable performance using 3D printing, evolved into a larger focus on micro-structures and their impact on material performance. The recipient of a B. Arch from Pratt Institute in 2009, Rothenberg is also on the advisory committee of Computational Fashion at Eyebeam, which brings together artists, fashion designers, scientists, and technologists to develop new work at the intersection of fashion and technology, and is supported by the Rockefeller Foundation.

**Sarah L. Scaturro**, Head Conservator of The Costume Institute at The Metropolitan Museum of Art; she previously served as Textile Conservator and Assistant Curator of Fashion at the Cooper-Hewitt, Smithsonian National Design Museum. Profiled in *Vogue* magazine and cited in the *New York Times* as an expert on the conservation of fashion, she has lectured internationally and contributed numerous articles to popular media outlets as well as academic journals. Most recently, Scaturro co-authored "Inherent Vice," *Charles James: Beyond Fashion* (2014) published by Yale University Press in conjunction with the acclaimed exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Scaturro is currently a doctoral student at Bard Graduate Center.

**Hebe Schecter**, COO, Kaltex North America, President, Kaltex America Fabrics Division since January 2015, and CFO, Revman International (Home Textiles); she is also a member of the boards of directors of Revman and Kaltex America. Kaltex North America is owned by Grupo Kaltex, one of the world's largest textile manufacturing companies, headquartered in Mexico City. A graduate of the Universidad Nacional de Lomas de Zamora in Argentina with a master's degree in accounting, in 1994 she began working for Kaltex America in New York, initially in the accounting department. She later took on responsibility for finance and operations, and became involved in all the divisions of the Grupo Organization: Yarn, Fabrics, Apparel and Home. Following the 2003 acquisition of Revman International, Schecter became the company's CFO, and was instrumental in implementing a turnaround and restoring the company's profitability. Schecter has overall responsibility for the financial, accounting, taxation, inventory control, compliance administration, technology and human resource departments of all the US divisions of Grupo Kaltex. As president of the fabric division of Kaltex America, her goal is to deepen the presence of Kaltex in different end-user markets.

**Dennita Sewell**, Curator of Fashion Design, Phoenix Art Museum since January 2000. She received her MFA in Design from the Yale School of Drama and BA in Textile and Apparel Management from the University of Missouri. Prior to Phoenix, Sewell was Collections Manager at The Metropolitan Museum of Art's Costume Institute. At Phoenix Art Museum she has organized exhibitions on topics ranging from motorcycle jackets to contemporary designers drawn from the Museum's comprehensive collection, international fashion houses and private collections. Sewell is currently curating "The White Shirt According to Me. Gianfranco Ferré" and "Gianfranco Ferré Designs" which open November 4, 2015.

**Hisano Shepherd**, little h designer; Shepherd launched her collection in 2011. She specializes in creating intimate, delicate jewelry through thought-provoking and innovative pearl designs. With an appreciation for the delicacy required to work with petite pearls and the organic shapes of baroque pearls, the designer is well aware of the challenges behind pearl-based creations. Her goal is to break the stigma and preconceived notions surrounding the gem "that they are meant for just special occasions or "women of a certain age" and create new, modern ways to style the pieces. Her most recent collections, Geode and Finestrino, use pearls and gemstones in a way never before seen, earning Shepherd the 2014 – 2015 Orient Award for compelling design aesthetic from the Cultured Pearl Association of America and the Design Excellence Award of 2015 Vision Awards Competition by MISA. Each one-of-a-kind piece uses the most luxurious and sought after pearls in the world—Soufflé, Tahitian and South Sea—that are sliced down their access, bored and polished to a smooth concave filled with carats of colorful gemstones including natural-color sapphires, rubies, peridot, amethyst, seed pearls, and black and white diamonds. The effect is a stunning interpretation of a natural-forming geode. "It's a romantic notion that the interior of a pearl can be filled with luscious gems. The techniques used to create these collections require such precision and are really groundbreaking when applied to something like a pearl, creating a new dialogue in modern jewelry," says Shepherd. Spotted on such A-List celebrities as Taylor Swift, Olivia Wilde, Elizabeth Banks, Selena Gomez, Anna Sophia Robb and Emma Roberts, little h has also been featured in top tier publications such as *InStyle*, *W* and *Teen Vogue*. The collection can be found online at [littlehjewelry.com](http://littlehjewelry.com).

**Jeremy Shepherd**, CEO, PearlParadise.com; Shepherd's life has been governed by the quest for the perfect pearl; born in Germany, the son of a US Army officer, Shepherd grew up both in the US and abroad. Always fascinated with languages, by age 14, Shepherd was immersed in Asian culture and had taught himself to speak fluent Japanese. His parents let their son travel to Japan to attend high school. Years later, on a trip to China, he wandered into an exotic pearl market where he was drawn to a strand of the beautiful gems. Back in the States, a jeweler told him they were worth many times the original price. He immediately returned to Asia to buy pearls, visiting Asia hundreds of times over the years, studying pearl cultivation, and developing friendships with pearl farmers. He also obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Business and Marketing, and became a GIA graduate with a certificate in pearls. When Shepherd started importing pearls back to the US and learned about retail mark up, he realized that by sidestepping the middlemen and selling pearls on a volume basis, he would only need a small markup to make these gems widely available, and plied his trade in a relatively new marketplace—the Internet. Shepherd has since built a multi-million dollar on-line empire known as PearlParadise.com with a reputation for his uncompromising quality standards and farm-direct prices. As his company continues to grow, Shepherd still travels, personally handpicking and inspecting pearls for his customers.

**Jeffrey P. Silberman**, Professor and Chairperson, Textile Development and Marketing Department, The Fashion Institute of Technology, a consultant to the International Cotton Advisory Committee Secretariat, and Executive Director, International Forum for Cotton Promotion, and an international textile consultant; Silberman recently designed and implemented textile programs in Armenia and Nepal; linen development programs throughout Russia, including Mosalsk, Severlyon, and Kostroma; and marketing programs for the Mongolian Cashmere FibreMark Society, and United Textile Mills in Bangkok. He built and managed the Apparel and Home Textiles Internet Industry Channel for About.com. Silberman was central to the team charged with developing and launching the Egyptian Cotton World Wide Promotion program for the government of Egypt and Alcotexa. Silberman was a Director of Marketing for Cotton Incorporated, and before that, the Technical Director for United Merchants and Manufacturers, Inc. A recipient of the "Winrock Award for Service and Dedication Given in Helping to Build a Better World," Silberman holds a degree in Textile Marketing and Design from Philadelphia University, a Master of Textiles (MR) from North Carolina State University, College of Textiles, and Advanced Management Program Certificates from the Wharton School of Business in Finance and Accounting; in Marketing Management from the Columbia Graduate School of Business; and in Environmental Law from New York University.

**Alexandra Steigrad**, Media Editor, *WWD*; she writes about the business and cultural side of the media industry. At *WWD*, Steigrad covers breaking news and writes the daily media column called Memopad. She also writes and edits the publication's weekly magazine feature, "Media People," a Q&A with industry leaders. Prior to media, Alex covered the accessories market, the legal beat and specialty retail for *WWD*. Before beginning her seven-year tenure at *WWD*, she covered culture, politics, immigration and general news for Reuters in Paris, as well as the hospitality industry for *Travel + Leisure*. She has also worked as a Congressional correspondent in Washington D.C., and as a general news reporter in Chicago, while obtaining her Master's degree at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism.

**Susan S. Szenasy**, Publisher/Editor in Chief, *METROPOLIS*; Szenasy directed two *METROPOLIS* films: *Site Specific, The Legacy of Regional Modernism and Brilliant Simplicity*, and authored *Szenasy, Design Advocate* (2014). Szenasy's professional service includes: recently concluded long-time service as an adjunct professor at Parsons the New School for Design; two terms on the boards of the Council for Interior Design Accreditation and the Landscape Architecture Foundation, and service on the board of the Fashion Institute of Technology's Interior Design department. Among the honors she has received are: two IIDA Presidential Commendations, honorary membership of the ASLA and NYC AIA, and the ASID Patron's Prize and Presidential Commendation (2008), the medallion of honor from the Society of Registered American Architects New York Council, a Special Citation from NYC AIA and along with *METROPOLIS* founding publisher Horace Havemeyer III, the Civitas August Hectscher Award for Community Service and Excellence (both 2007), the Gene Burd Urban Journalism Award and appointment as a Senior Fellow by the Design Futures Council (both 2011), and the Stephen A. Kliment Oculus Award from the AIA/ NYC chapter (2014). In the wake of the 9/11 tragedies, she and architect Beverly Willis co-founded R.Dot, Rebuild Downtown Our Town, a design and community group that focused on researching and sharing information with policy makers. An ASID distinguished speaker, and a frequent moderator at design and

architecture industry events around the U.S. In 2015, she is spearheading the *METROPOLIS* Think Tank. She holds an MA in Modern European History from Rutgers University, and honorary doctorates from Kendall College of Art and Design, the Art Center College of Design, the Pacific Northwest College of Art, and the New York School of Interior Design.

**Lindsey Unterberger**, Executive Digital Editor, *Glamour*; she oversees the content and editorial strategy for the brand's spin-off beauty site, Lipstick.com. In this capacity, she more than doubled the traffic to *Glamour*'s beauty content in less than a year and made it a must-visit destination for consumers and advertisers alike. In August, she helped launch the Lipstick Index, the media industry's first real-time ranking of beauty trends, powered by a proprietary algorithm. Since joining *Glamour*'s digital team in 2008, Unterberger has helped content including relationships, weddings, health, and entertainment, before moving to beauty. Prior to *Glamour*, she held digital positions at *Time Out New York* and iVillage. You can find her on Instagram and Twitter @lunterber.

**Rio Uribe**, designer, Gypsy Sport; an American male born in the 1980s to teenage immigrants and the eldest of six, Uribe was always responsible for dressing his younger siblings. At age six, he was contemplating stripes vs plaids. Directly after high-school, he set off with a one-way ticket to New York City, with dreams of becoming a fashion designer. After a year of navigating New York gaining random retail experience, he landed a visual-merchandising job at the Balenciaga showroom. The brand had recently re-launched with Ghesquière at the helm; after six invaluable educational years, he resigned and used all of his savings to launch his own accessory brand, Gypsy Sport. What started as a line of baseball caps has organically expanded into ready-to-wear, footwear, and jewelry. His designs have been featured on DKNY runways and The "Hunger Games" motion pictures. Most recently Gypsy Sport has been nominated for the CFDA Vogue 2015 Fashion Fund Award. Uribe is a self-taught designer who takes pride in presenting diversity and adversity in his collections.

**Alyson Walsh**, author, *Style Forever: The Grown-up Guide to Looking Fabulous*; Walsh is a former fashion editor, a regular feature writer for the *Guardian*, *Financial Times* *How To Spend It* and the *Daily Mail*. Walsh started her successful style blog, That's Not My Age, seven years ago in order to celebrate the creed "style begins at 40." Here she explores how the topics of fashion, age and culture are connected. Having developed a sizeable online presence and a loyal group of followers, Walsh has also appeared on BBC News and BBC Radio 4's Woman's Hour with Jenni Murray [www.thatsthatmyage.com](http://www.thatsthatmyage.com)

**Gary A. Wassner**, CEO of Hilldun Corporation; Hilldun, known as the company behind many of Seventh Avenue's most prestigious fashion companies, has provided financing and factoring for many of America's most iconic designer labels. Derek Lam, Peter Som, Jason Wu, Maria Cornejo, Yohlee, Alexander Wang, Nanette Lepore, Rebecca Taylor, Naem Kahn, Zang Toi, Vivienne Westwood, Chris Benz, Thom Browne, Betsey Johnson, Marc Jacobs and Alexis Bittar are among those that have benefited from his acumen. Recently named one of Fashionista's 50 Most Influential People in Fashion, Wassner is a member of the CFDA Advisory Board, a mentor for the CFI Incubator program, an advisory board member of Fordham Law School's Fashion Law Institute, a member of Senator Gillibrand's Fashion Industry Working Group, and a supporter of the Save The Garment Center movement and all causes related to the Fashion Industry in NYC. In 2014, Wassner became a founding member and Chairman of Interluxe Holdings LLC; partnering with Lee Equity to purchase equity stakes in luxury, designer and contemporary apparel and accessory brands, the first being Jason Wu in September, 2014, the second being ALC in August, 2015. A respected fiction writer and children's book author, he also donates 50% of the proceeds from *Isabella Cucharella, Fashion Designer Extraordinaire*, to the CFDA Fashion Incubator Fund.

**Elizabeth Way**, Curatorial Assistant, The Museum at the Fashion Institute of Technology; she co-curated the exhibition, *Global Fashion Capital* (with A. Elia, June - November 2015). Way's publications include: "Elizabeth Keckly and Ann Lowe: Recovering an African American Fashion Legacy That Clothed the American Elite" in *Fashion Theory* (February 2015), "Elizabeth Keckly and Anne Lowe: Constructing Fashionable Black Identity" in *Fashion and Its Multi-Cultural Facets* (2014), and "Intersections of Movement and Style: African American Dance and Fashion in the Twentieth Century," in *Dance and Fashion* (2013). She has spoken at conferences for the Costume Society of America and Interdisciplinary.net's global fashion conference series, FASH5 and FASH6. Way holds an MA in Costume Studies from New York University, and a BS in Apparel Design and a BA in History from the University of Delaware.

**Caitlin Weiskopf**, Executive Director, ShopBAZAAR; she oversees the e-commerce platform from the editors of *Harper's BAZAAR*. The first content-to-commerce website of its kind, ShopBAZAAR allows *BAZAAR* readers to shop the content of the magazine and website. In her role, Weiskopf manages the content and direction of the site, marketing programs and revenue, partnerships, retail relationships, experiential events and editorial franchises. Under her leadership, ShopBAZAAR has seen triple digit increases year over year in revenue, traffic, social media and email acquisition. Previously, she held numerous positions at *BAZAAR*, including Executive Director of Brand Development, and Special Projects. Before joining the *BAZAAR* team, Caitlin was the Executive Director of Special Events at *ELLE* where she built their signature event series, "Women in Hollywood," and ran her own brand strategy firm.

**Walter T. Wilhelm**, Chairman, WWA Advisors LLC (WWA), a boutique consulting organization that focuses on the softgoods (apparel, footwear and home) industries helping retail and brand clients to refine processes and implement technologies from design to the initial bulk order; Wilhelm is recognized as one of the most innovative and "connected" executives in the softgoods industry, and one of the pioneers in creating and implementing technology to streamline the product design and development processes. He has held senior positions in retailing, manufacturing and technology sales & development. Wilhelm has extensive experience domestically as well as internationally, having opened six offices in Europe and four in Asia. Previously he has been co-founder of Microdynamics; President of Animated Images (Ai); Co-Founder of Wilhelm-Leslie Associates; General Manager of Hughes Aircraft Company's Apparel & Footwear Automation Systems, and President/CEO and Founder of Walter Wilhelm Associates.



# Registration

Registration confirmations are sent via email.

**To register on-line:**  
<https://trailblazersiac.eventbrite.com>

**By e-mail:** Fill in the registration form and send to: [info@artinitiatives.com](mailto:info@artinitiatives.com)

**By mail:** Return form at least 10 days before the conference start date, complete credit card information, and mail to Initiatives in Art and Culture, 333 East 57th Street, Suite 13B, New York, NY 10022.

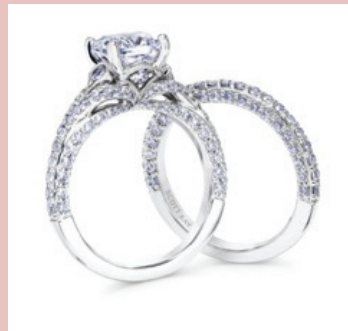
**By phone:** Using American Express®, Visa® Card, Discover®, or MasterCard®, call (646) 485-1952.

**Fee:** The conference fee is \$350 per person. The rate for full-time students is \$100 (with ID).

**Withdrawal and refunds:** Notice of withdrawal must be made in writing to: Initiatives in Art and Culture, 333 East 57th Street, Suite 13B, New York, NY 10022 or via e-mail to [info@artinitiatives.com](mailto:info@artinitiatives.com). No refunds will be made after November 1, 2015.

**Conference location:** This conference will take place at City University Graduate Center with events at Staley-Wise Gallery and Featherstone Fine Jewelry.

Program subject to change.



Scott Kay, Ladies Platinum "Heaven's Gates" Engagement Ring and Wedding band. Photo: Monica Niwa; courtesy, Scott Kay.



Jose Hess, Flowers, platinum and diamond necklace, 9 carats. Photo: Ron Saltiel.

Single-day registration options available; please send inquiries to:  
[info@artinitiatives.com](mailto:info@artinitiatives.com) or call (646) 485-1952.

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**The conference fee is \$350 per person / Student rate \$100 (with ID) per person.**

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Photo: Randy Brooks.  
threeASFOUR, 3D printed laceDress, spring2016. White laser-cut/centered nylon nude mesh. Fabricator: Materialize.

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# TRAILBLAZERS

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THURSDAY – SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12 – 14, 2015