



## EXTREME COLLABORATION "Herself the first embodiment of catalytic clothing"

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# solas nua

a new light on irish arts

solas nua is the only organization in america dedicated exclusively to contemporary irish arts

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Solas Nua brings DC a fashion show unlike any other. Showcasing the talents of four Irish fashion designers, Fathom Creative will play host to an exciting fashion installation event for a special sneak peak of what's to follow at our February 2012 fashion showcase, Paisean Faisean!



## *Fashion Salon!*

23rd September from 7 - 9pm at Fathom Creative, 1333 14th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005.

**FOR PRESS REQUESTS OR TO RSVP PLEASE CONTACT JENNY MCFARLANE - JENNY@SOLASNUA.ORG OR 202.315.1317**

Designers featured in the show include **Joanne Hynes**, the award winning designer who established her label in 2005. She was born and raised in the West of Ireland and is a Saint Martins London, MA graduate. Mario Testino featured her AW11 Crystal jewelry in his September editorial in VOGUE and her crystallized t-shirt was chosen for VOGUE SPY in the same September issue of VOGUE UK. Joanne Hynes shows at London and Paris Fashion week in September following on from the success of previous seasons.

Born in Puckane, Co. Tipperary but based in London, **Tim Ryan** specialises in beautifully crafted knitwear design. Tim Ryan's work to date has featured at Dublin and Paris Fashion Weeks as well as featuring in noted publications such as VOGUE ITALIA, I.D. MAGAZINE and is a constant search for new constructions and juxtapositions underpinned by a firm grounding in traditional craft. All of Tim's designs are ethically produced mainly in Ireland and the United Kingdom and across Europe.

Belfast born couture milliner **Gráinne Maher** is currently Fashion Designer of the Year as awarded by the prestigious Ulster TATLER MAGAZINE. She creates bespoke headwear, including hats, fascinators, tiaras and corsages. She also reworks and remodels vintage headpieces under the design label Pluck & Devour. Working from her home studio Gráinne produces sophisticated pieces using classic shapes, hand-dyed feathers and antique embellishments. She also experiments with avant-garde styling and modern materials including leathers, sheepskin and Perspex to achieve statement pieces that are not for the fainthearted. Her new, edgy jewellery and accessories label Pluck & Devour is a fine example.

**Umit Kutluk** is a 2011 graduate of Grafton Academy of Dress Design in Dublin and has won four prestigious fashion design competitions in Ireland including Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT) 2011 Fashion show sponsored by Alfa Romeo, University College Dublin (UCD) 'Young Irish Fashion Designer of the Year 2011', Dublin City University (DCU) 'Fashion show and Young Designer of the Year', and Gillette Venus Sponsored, 'Dress of Your Dreams'. As a result of his competition wins, Umit has been profiled extensively on internet style blogs and in Irish fashion media including a recent profile in NONE Magazine.

We'll also be showing a special US premiere of the short film **Catalytic Clothing** by artist/designer Helen Storey MBE and scientist Professor Tony Ryan OBE showcasing 'Herself', a dress created by the Northern Irish textile designer Trish Belford, featuring supermodel Erin O'Connor. Catalytic Clothing seeks to explore how clothing and textiles can be used as a catalytic surface to purify air, employing existing technology in a new way. It is the brainchild of artist / designer Helen Storey and chemist Tony Ryan - people from very different worlds whose minds have come together over recent years in highly successful art/science collaborations. For more info, please visit their website: <http://www.catalytic-clothing.org>

**Solas Nua** is the only organization in the United States dedicated exclusively to contemporary Irish arts. Solas Nua produces the Capital Irish Film Festival, Irish Popcorn!, a critically acclaimed theatre season, Irish Book Day, the DC Irish Writers Festival, Paisean Faisean!, visual arts exhibitions, the Éist podcast, the Solas Salon Series and Irish language classes.

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