

## Texprint 2010, taking textile creation to a higher level

From Missoni to Marks & Spencer, Alexander McQueen to Anthropologie; the world's leading fashion and interiors companies are working with Texprint's creative stars.

Each year, Texprint selects and mentors 24 of the most talented UK-trained textile design graduates, offering them a high-profile launch pad into their professional lives. As a not-for-profit organisation, Texprint depends on the generosity of the fashion and textile industries, its press and associations, to support its work to help the best new British-trained designers find jobs, commissions, placements and to establish themselves as fully-fledged designers.

The Texprint programme for 2010 is about to start, and now is the time to get involved with this vital link between education and industry.

The programme begins with a rigorous selection process at which time the 24 new graduates are chosen. The designers begin their journey into industry with the support of Texprint in July at First View in London. From there, the programme moves to Paris in September. Each of the 24 designers is given a stand in the Texprint village at Indigo, part of Première Vision Pluriel. In the heart of the fashion world, the designers have direct contact with buyers and prospective employers. And sales of work, job and work placement offers reached record levels at the event in September 2009.



© Nicola Strathearn, Texprint alumna 2009

During Indigo, a special prize giving ceremony takes place: six of the designers receive special awards for weave, knit, print, colour, breaking new ground and interior fashion design, chosen by special guest judges. Last year's selection panel included the Turner Prize winning ceramicist Grayson Perry and leading British fashion designer Giles Deacon.

And previous prize presenters at Indigo include Sir Paul Smith, the British Ambassador to France Sir Peter Westmacott, and chairman of the British Fashion Council Harold Tillman, who said: "Texprint is a wonderful opportunity for the industry to discover the stars of the future and in these uncertain times, original textile design and creative thinking is what will make a business stand out from the crowd."

At every stage of the programme, from selection to exhibition, the designers are given encouragement and advice in order to help them reach their potential. Though the generous contributions of its sponsors, Texprint is able to continue its work. To support the next generation of talented new textile designers, join the illustrious list of Texprint's sponsors and get involved.

For more information, contact Joanna Bowring at [info@texprint.org.uk](mailto:info@texprint.org.uk), and also see our website [www.texprint.org.uk](http://www.texprint.org.uk)

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