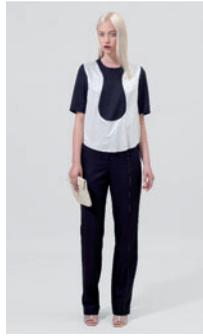


United through talent

TEXT: EMMIE COLLINGE | PHOTOS: ANNE REINKE / LONNEKE VAN DER PALEN / GAËL ODILON PACCARD

Eleven years of providing glamour to Amsterdam through Young Designers United has left Angelika Groenendijk-Wasylewski more committed than ever to nurturing fledgling designers by stocking their creations in the hip YDU shop in central Amsterdam. Once a novel idea, YDU has now become a regular haunt of fashionistas seeking fresh, exclusive pieces.

With high quality a given, the current crop of 25 upcoming designers, primarily Netherlands-based, presents you with an array of fashionable designs. The premise is simple: after scouring graduate fashion shows, charting their development post-graduation and judging whether they'll develop "in an interesting direction for YDU", designers are given a platform in the shop to sell their creations. A fashionista herself, Angelika studied economics back in Germany before spending years travelling the globe. "I just happened to have lots of friends active in fashion, each of them facing different problems in trying to establish their label. I could see that there was a disproportionate distance between the



design piece and the viewer on the market." "The shop is a platform for up-and-coming as well as more established designers. Through YDU their collections are accessible and they have the luxury of transforming their creative vision into wearable pieces." She elucidates: "Getting their own atelier and shop in Amsterdam is nigh on impossible given today's high rents." Today, YDU has countless regular clients as many designers deliver limited new stock on a weekly basis. With a fluid mix of fresh talent, Angelika loves to see

successful collaborations with upcoming designers continue (she cites Brown Clothes as an example) and new designers are contracted twice a year, with Kind of Moving and No Mode as her current newbies. Given this constant influx of new designs, you'd be hard pressed in Amsterdam to stumble across such a high density of high quality, forward-thinking and stylish pieces.

www.ydu.nl

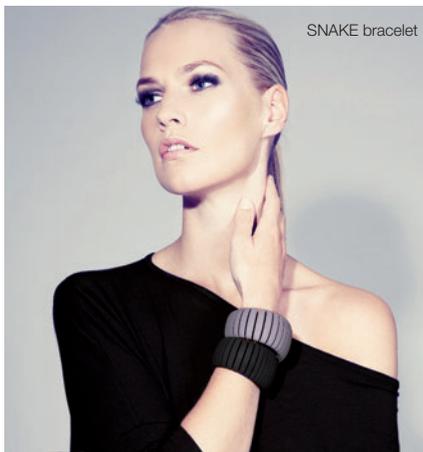
The future in jewellery

TEXT: JOSHUA YANCEY | MAIN PHOTO: LARA BOMMARTINI, YOURSTYLE FOTOGRAFIE | MODEL: NIKITA PAAUWE

Throughout history, the arrival of new technologies has heralded exciting new avenues for art and fashion to explore, and the future of 3D printing promises to bring its own unique flavour.

At the forefront of this approaching wave is award-winning international jewellery designer, Dario Scapitta. Growing up in Valenza, Italy, a city renowned for its artisan jewellers, Dario has a unique vision that blends the artistry of the past with the technology of the future, creating elegant forms and visually striking pieces.

"I take my inspiration from everywhere," he says, "but then I must think about how to transform that idea into a wearable item." Starting with a drawing, he then uses sophisticated 3D computer programmes to create highly detailed images of what the final product will look like. This approach allows him to try different looks before even making a prototype, but it is not always necessary. "If you know the rules of how materials and colours work together, you can know almost from the beginning what the fin-



ished piece will be." From there, a prototype is made and checked for structural stability as well as to ensure proper proportions. Only then is the final piece brought to production.

With exhibits running now in New York and London, as well as recently winning the Silver A' Design Award in Como, Italy, expect to be seeing more Dario Scapitta Designs in the near fu-

ture and for those designs to show you what that future will look like.

www.darioscapittadesign.com



MONOLITE necklace. Photo: stilhest.com



EXTRAVAGANZA neckpiece

