

# travelling the silk road



*Creative flair, a stunning colour palette, and exquisite silk... these three elements come together in the Resene NZ Fashion Tech Colour of Fashion competition – now in its fourth year – with winners gracing the runway at this month's NZ Fashion Week. We give you a sneak peek at some of the winning designs*

# RS

Students from the New Zealand Institute of Fashion Technology, inspired by a brief that transported their imaginations to the style capitals of the world, recently showcased their creations before the judges of this year's Resene NZ Fashion Tech Colour of Fashion project. Now 16 of these show-stopping designs have been picked to grace the runway at NZ Fashion Week in late August. And 15 students will travel to the heartland of vibrant colour – India – as part of an ongoing scholarship programme.

The words of the project brief were clear. Ordinary won't do. The judges were looking for colourful looks 'that shimmer and swish, and whisper secrets... that refuse to bow to the convention of ordinary'.

Resene has invested in this project, now in its fourth year, not only to shine the spotlight on emerging Kiwi designers, but also to present their new fashion colour palette on a fitting stage. All 36 lengths of silk in the

project reflect a Resene paint colour – and that colour is central to the student's design inspiration.

Once designed in New Zealand, patterns are taken to India each year by the students who are awarded Prime Minister's Scholarships for Asia. Taking part in six weeks of collaborative learning in India, the students re-create the garments from a locally-sourced silk sari for a 'grande finale' fashion show hosted by the Bannari Amman Institute of Technology at their university campus in Sathyamangalam.

Director of NZ Fashion Tech Val Marshall-Smith says: "The experience is so immense and empowering for these young people. We're certain it will enhance their careers and their lives in many different ways."

Here, we are delighted to unveil six of the project's designs.

*Tickets are available through iTicket for the Resene Designer Runway shows.*

WALL IN RESENE JALAPENO, RESENE RED HOT AND RESENE CANDY FLOSS. OSLO LOUNGE CHAIR IN TANGERINE, \$4040; AROUND COFFEE TABLE IN TANGERINE, \$777; THE DOTS COAT HOOKS IN TANGERINE (MEDIUM, \$58; SMALL, \$45); AND SALT & PEPPER GRINDER IN RED, \$135; ALL FROM BAUHAUS. VELVET CUSHION, \$180, FROM FORMA. PEONY, 100% NZ WOOL + SILK HAND TUFTED RUG BY VIXEN, \$9738, FROM DESIGNER RUGS.



## Red hot

For Dominique Hopson, 30, her Colour of Fashion project evolved into a journey. "First I was inspired by my colour, Resene Jalapeno. It took me to Mexico, then to Frida Kahlo. She'd always been an inspiration to me, not only creatively but also as a woman wanting to be heard. I was inspired by her use of art as a platform to raise issues of social justice as well as inequalities within her culture. A woman who wears this dress represents what Frida stands for. She is a lady in RED!" The design incorporates Kahlo's signature hair flowers. >>



## Resene tip

It's not just a fashion thing – the colour red is a perennial favourite, from wardrobes to walls, and transcends the trends. Warm up your living or bedroom space in your favourite Resene red.

## She who dares

Final year student Sandy Huang, 32, imagines her look worn by a woman brave and strong enough to journey the Silk Road. "Along the road, she is inspired by the sights and smells. The refreshing green leaves provide a contrast to the terracotta path," says Sandy. Her coat in Resene Buttercup "ebbs and flows, like the China seas". Sandy sewed her first stitch just four years ago, but is now draping and shaping exquisite fashion silhouettes like a seasoned professional.



**Resene tip**  
Sassy, playful, energetic and irrepressibly optimistic, orange is a colour that makes us smile. An ideal welcome to guests on your front door or as a feature teamed with deep grey, teal or blue.

WALL IN RESENE LIGHTNING YELLOW, RESENE MALARKEY AND RESENE GOLD DUST. PRINT SOFA, \$5295. AND VELVET CUSHIONS, \$180 EACH. ALL FROM FORMA. VINTAGE PATCHWORK WOOL RUG IN YELLOW, \$8338. FROM ARTISAN COLLECTIVE.

## Green dream

Raishal Harrison, 29, says her biggest fashion influence is her homeland, India. "It's the land of colours, culture, festivals, prints, textiles and mostly utter chaos," she says. Raishal quit business school to follow her dream into fashion design. "My goal is to be a designer with purpose, providing work for women and contributing to the education of children. I want to make my family and country proud." This beautifully quilted pant suit in Resene Limerick, which will light up the Resene Designer Runway at New Zealand Fashion Week, is sure to do just that. >>



**Resene tip**  
Bring the colours and shapes of nature indoors to enjoy all year round. Layer a range of green hues and add wood stains and botanic motifs – just as Mother Nature would.

WALL IN RESENE LIMEADE AND RESENE WHEEL OF FORTUNE. MASON SOFA, \$5208; ROUND OTTOMAN, \$350; AND CUSHION \$180; ALL FROM FORMA; HAND-TUFTED VOLCANO RUG, \$2346. FROM SOURCE MONDIAL.



### Bold spirit

Youhan Khosho has achieved a rare accolade at the young age of 20. His "strong, fearless and feminine" look in Resene Fugitive will walk the runway at New Zealand Fashion Week and will take the young designer to India with 14 classmates from NZ Fashion Tech. Youhan says: "The strong lines of the bodice contrast with the soft cascading skirt, inspired by architectural structures and the lines and shadows they create."



### Resene tip

While you can contrast shades to make a statement, why not add a touch of bling? Metallics will catch the light and play with reflections, adding shimmer and shine and opening up a sense of space.

WALL IN RESENE VALENCIA, RESENE GLORIOUS AND RESENE COPPER FIRE. PIÑA CHAIR IN CORAL RED WITH EXTRA CUSHION, \$3515, FROM ECC; FIVE POUF IN TANGERINE, \$1983; AND VARJO RUG IN TANGERINE, \$1362. BOTH FROM BAUHAUS.

### Into the blue

Roi Nu displays a wonderful mastery of fine pin-tucking and intricate pleating in this shimmering sea blue and gold dress. Working her Resene paint colour – She'll Be Right – into her design story, 40-year-old Roi writes: "Strangers and danger are around every corner, but she will be right." >>



### Resene tip

So you thought blue was just for the boys? Think again – blue is at home almost anywhere. Choose navy blue instead of black, a bold pop of blue for a feature, or relax into a weathered blue interior.

WALL IN RESENE ALLPORTS, RESENE PELOROUS AND RESENE SCOTTY SILVER. TONON FEEL ME CHAIR IN EUROPOST, POA; VANESSA MITRANI HAND-BLOWN GLASS 'TRACE LOW' AND 'TRACE MEDIUM' VASES IN DUCK BLUE, POA; ALL FROM DAVID SHAW. VELVET CUSHION, \$180, FROM FORMA. VINTAGE OVERDYED PERSIAN PATCHWORK HAND-KNOTTED WOOL RUG IN TURQUOISE, \$4498, FROM SOURCE MONDIAL.

# Get the look

Here's how to create a stunning feature wall using three of the vibrant Resene shades that inspired our NZ Fashion Tech winners

## GREEN DREAM

**Step 1:** Roller paint your entire wall with Resene SpaceCote Flat in Resene Limeade.  
**Step 2:** Draw three different shaped leaves onto thin card and cut out with a scalpel to create your stencils.  
**Step 3:** Tape stencils to your wall with masking tape and with a small roller, paint with Resene Wheel Of Fortune in a Resene Enamacryl gloss finish. Peel off stencils and let dry.



## RED HOT

**Step 1:** Roller paint your wall with Resene SpaceCote Flat in Resene Red Hot.  
**Step 2:** Measure out diamonds and pin string from point to point, taping low tack masking tape along larger diamond areas. Paint with Resene Candy Floss in Resene Enamacryl gloss.  
**Step 3:** Peel off masking tape, re-tape smaller central diamonds then paint with Resene Jalapeno flat finish. Peel off final tape and let dry.



## SHE WHO DARES

**Step 1:** Roller paint your entire wall with Resene SpaceCote Flat in Resene Lightning Yellow.  
**Step 2:** Draw up a large triangle onto thin card and cut out with a scalpel to create a triangle stencil.  
**Step 3:** Tape stencil in place and paint with a small roller with either Resene Malarkey or Resene Bullion. Peel stencil off and re-position above last stencil. Repeat process until entire wall is filled.



## Going to town

Jennifer Samsudin's design was inspired by the "neon lights in Tokyo, the effortless chic street styles of Paris, the vibrant lifestyles of London". Her standout dress in Resene Full Monty will appear on the Resene Designer Runway at New Zealand Fashion Week in late August. Jennifer, 20, says: "If Full Monty were a person, she'd live by the philosophy 'more is more.'" Unfamiliar with sewing before she started her diploma course, Jennifer now has a full set of high-level technical skills and flair for contemporary fashion design. ✦

### Resene tip

Powerful and confident, there is a richness about purple that few other colours achieve. With a nod to royalty, add silver, chrome or gold accessories to reinforce its beauty and prestige.

WALL IN RESENE HARLEQUIN, RESENE FULL MONTY AND RESENE BULLION. MASTERS METALLIC CHAIR IN GOLD, \$990, FROM KARTELL. BELL TABLE LIGHT IN BRASS, \$1215, FROM ECC. HAY ROUND SLIT TABLE IN BRASS, \$1357, FROM CULT DESIGN. ULTRA-DENSE HAND-TUFTED RUG IN ARTEZ PURPLE, \$2760, FROM SOURCE MONDIAL.

