

The 2015 MFIT Fashion Symposium *Fashion Underground: The World of Susanne Bartsch* has been made possible thanks to the generosity of the Couture Council of The Museum at FIT and MAC Cosmetics.

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Location

Fashion Underground: The World of Susanne Bartsch will be held in the Morris W. and Fannie B. Haft Auditorium, on the second floor of FIT's Marvin Feldman Center, on West 27th Street between Seventh and Eighth avenues in New York City.
By Subway: 1, C, E, F, M, or R
By Bus: M20 or M23
By Train: Penn Station is at West 31st Street for Long Island Railroad, New Jersey Transit, and Amtrak trains.

Current Exhibitions

Global Fashion Capitals
Fashion and Textile History Gallery
Through November 14, 2015

Fashion Underground: The World of Susanne Bartsch
Special Exhibitions Gallery
September 18-December 5, 2015

The Museum at **FIT**

Hours
Tuesday-Friday, noon-8 pm
Saturday, 10 am-5 pm
Closed Sunday, Monday, and legal holidays
Admission is free.
Museum information line: 212 217.4558
fitnyc.edu/museum

Cover: Photograph by Steven Menendez.

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The Museum at **FIT**

Fashion Underground:
The World of Susanne Bartsch

A Fashion Symposium
October 22 & 23, 2015

FASHION UNDERGROUND

THE WORLD OF **SUSANNE BARTSCH**



A Fashion Symposium
October 22 & 23, 2015

The Museum at **FIT**

SPEAKERS

Dr. Ann Ilan Alter is a cultural historian who specializes in 19th and 20th century French fashion, popular entertainment, and social change. She teaches a seminar in fashion history at Rutgers University.

Joey Arias has been a fixture of New York's downtown performance scene for more than thirty years. He has performed worldwide in London, Paris, Tokyo, Moscow, Germany, and Finland.

Josef Astor is a photographer and filmmaker whose work has appeared in *Vanity Fair* and *GQ*. His documentary *Lost Bohemia* won a Special Jury Prize at the DOC-NYC Festival.

Rachel Auburn is a cutting-edge fashion designer who became a popular DJ in London. She was the first female DJ to play in China and Johannesburg.

Suzanne Bartsch has been prominent in New York nightlife since the 1980s. Her penchant for extreme fashion made her name the equivalent of a couture label for party people around the world.

Billy Beyond (Erb) is a New York artist who has created costumes, jewelry, and especially makeup. His current passion is photography, which he has done for Todd Oldham and Amy Sedaris.

Hamish Bowles is the international editor at large for *Vogue*, where he oversees all interior design features and covers fashion and contemporary culture.

Simon Doonan is creative ambassador at large for Barneys New York, an author, and an award-winning window dresser. His latest book is *The Asylum: True Tales of Madness from a Life in Fashion*.

James Gager is senior vice president and creative director for MAC Cosmetics. His leadership has helped make MAC Estée Lauder's fastest-growing brand.

Jessica Grindstaff is co-founder, artistic director, and set designer for Phantom Limb, a theatrical and production design company.

Colleen Hill is associate curator of accessories at The Museum at FIT. Her exhibition *Fairy Tale Fashion* will open at MFIT in January 2016, accompanied by a sumptuously illustrated book.

Jeffrey Hinton is a DJ, filmmaker, and artist. For three decades, he has DJ'ed at venues around the world, and has sound-scored fashion shows, dance performances, and films.

Stephen Jones is a milliner whose exquisitely crafted, quixotic hats attract a celebrity clientele that includes Rihanna, Mick Jagger, and Dita Von Teese.

Kabuki was the original makeup artist for HBO's *Sex and the City*. His shoots have appeared in *Vogue*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Marie Claire*, and *ELLE*.

Waleed Khairzada was a co-curator of the exhibition *Fashion Underground* and is founder of Waleed Khairzada Consulting. A graduate of FIT, he also founded the critically acclaimed luxury label NAUM.

Nathalie Khan teaches fashion history and theory at Central Saint Martins and the London College of Fashion. She is a leading theorist and writer on the impact of new technology on fashion.

Melissa Marra is the associate curator of education and public programs at MFIT. Melissa was a contributing author to the book *Fashion Underground: The World of Susanne Bartsch*.

Dr. Peter McNeil is a professor of design history at the University of Technology Sydney and distinguished professor at Aalto University. He has published extensively on fashion.

Ted Polhemus is author of *Fashion & Anti-Fashion*, *Streetstyle*, and *BOOM!—A Baby Boomer Memoir, 1947-2022*. He has been a Beat, a Modernist, a hippie, a glam rocker, a punk, a goth, and a perv.

Dr. Valerie Steele is director and chief curator of The Museum at FIT. She has organized more than twenty exhibitions, including *Dance & Fashion* and the current *Fashion Underground: The World of Susanne Bartsch*.

Zaldy is a renowned designer who brings the energy of the New York club scene to his work. His work includes stage looks for Michael Jackson, Lady Gaga, Britney Spears, and Gwen Stefani.

SCHEDULE

Thursday, October 22

9-10 am

Check-in and registration
Haft Auditorium, Feldman Center, second floor

10 am-1 pm

Dr. Valerie Steele, welcoming remarks
Melissa Marra, "Subcultural Capitals: London and New York"

Hamish Bowles, "Striking a Pose: Remembering London's Fashion and Club Scene in the 1980s"
Stephen Jones and Colleen Hill, in conversation
Simon Doonan, "The Swiss Miss Gives Back"

1-2 pm

Lunch break

2-5 pm

Susanne Bartsch and Dr. Valerie Steele, in conversation, "Fashion Underground"
Nathalie Khan, "Trash Bag Bikinis: Bodily Practice in London's Club Culture"
James Gager and Kabuki, in conversation

Friday, October 23

9-10 am

Check-in and registration
Haft Auditorium, Feldman Center, second floor

10 am-1 pm

Ted Polhemus, "No Future—Glam, Punk, New Roms, and the Roots of Postmodernity"
Rachel Auburn, "The London Fashion Explosion 1980s"
Dr. Peter McNeil, "Sydney, Australia—From Port City to Queer Clubbing"
Josef Astor, "Body Morphing à la Mode"

1-2 pm

Lunch break

2-5 pm

Dr. Ann Ilan Alter, "Costumes, Cross-Dressing, and Masquerades at Parisian Carnival Balls: Transgressive, Reactionary, or Fashion as Usual?"
Joey Arias and Dr. Peter McNeil, in conversation
Zaldy and Dr. Valerie Steele, in conversation
Waleed Khairzada and Jessica Grindstaff, in conversation
Jeffrey Hinton and Billy Beyond (Erb), in conversation, followed by a screening of the film *80's Is a Blur*, by Jeffrey Hinton

There will be time after each presentation for questions and answers.

REGISTRATION

Admission to the symposium is **free**.

However, **registration is required**.

To register, please go to fitnyc.edu/museum.

Preregistration deadline is October 8, 2015.

Space permitting, you may also register the day of the symposium.

The symposium *Fashion Underground: The World of Susanne Bartsch* will be held in the Morris W. and Fannie B. Haft Auditorium, on the second floor of FIT's Marvin Feldman Center, on West 27th Street between Seventh and Eighth avenues in New York City.



The exhibition *Fashion Underground: The World of Susanne Bartsch* is currently on view at The Museum at FIT, in the Goodman Center on the campus of the Fashion Institute of Technology. This exhibition explores the creative links between Bartsch's 30 years of sartorial self-expression and its influence on the global fashion scene. Museum hours are noon to 8 pm, Tuesday through Friday, and 10 am to 5 pm on Saturday. Admission is free.

Photograph of Susanne Bartsch by Marco Ovando. Art by Maxwell N. Burnstein.