



CORCORAN

GALLERY OF ART • COLLEGE of ART + DESIGN

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CONTACT:

Mimi Carter, Senior Director of Communications and Marketing,
mcarter@corcoran.org, (202) 639-1867
Rachel Cothran, Director of Public Relations,
rcothran@corcoran.org, (202) 639-1833

Maurisa Turner Potts
Founder/CEO
Spotted MP
(703) 501-6289
maurisa@spottedmp.com

CORCORAN AND IIDA-MAC PRESENT *COSMO COUTURE*

Student-organized exhibition on view September 26-October 14, 2012
Panel and Opening Reception October 27 at 7 p.m.

WASHINGTON, D.C. – This fall, the Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design, in partnership with the International Interior Design Association's Mid-Atlantic Chapter (IIDA-MAC) presents *Cosmo Couture*, on view in the Corcoran's Gallery 31 from **September 26-October 14, 2012**. The designs were created for the event Cosmo Couture, a runway show Artisphere on Thursday, September 20.

The 21 handmade garments, made by local interior design and architecture firms as well as a five-person team from the Corcoran College of Art + Design, are created from industry materials like tile and carpet.

Admission to the exhibition is FREE and open during all museum hours. For more information, visit <http://www.corcoran.org/exhibitions/cosmo-couture>.

Designed by five graduate students in the Corcoran's interior design program who form one of the 21 competing teams, the exhibition features all 21 gowns created for the Cosmo Couture event. Each team of designers worked with manufacturing partners to create the garments, made from industry materials such as wood, veneer, carpet, tile, and wall covering. This year all the designs were inspired by *Red Star* (1970) by Raymond Saunders, a painting in the Corcoran's collection.



Form Architects. Photo by R. Scott Kelly. 2011

For the Cosmo Couture event, each team's garment will be judged by a panel of DC notables, competing in the categories of Haute Couture, Best Performance, Most Creative and Audience Favorite. For the third consecutive year, the beneficiary for the event is My Sister's Place, DC's oldest domestic violence shelter providing *Cosmo Couture 2012/page two*

comprehensive programs and services that holistically address domestic violence and the unique challenges survivors face. Last year's event attracted over 800 attendees, selling out for the past two years. Tickets for the event range from \$80 to \$180 and are available for purchase online at www.cosmocouture.org.

A lecture, **Fashion, Interior Design + Art: The Creative Process of Cosmo Couture** will take place Thursday, September 27 at 7 p.m. at the Corcoran's Frances and Armand Hammer Auditorium. The panel will consist of representatives of the designers, manufacturers, and organizers of Cosmo Couture and the Corcoran Gallery of Art. The lecture is \$12 for Corcoran Members; \$15 for the public; \$12 for IIDA or ASID members; \$6 for full-time students. For more information and to register, please visit https://getinvolved.corcoran.org/cosmo_couture.

ABOUT INTERNATIONAL INTERIOR DESIGN ASSOCIATION – MID-ATLANTIC CHAPTER

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the International Interior Design Association (MAC) is a professional organization dedicated to advancing the knowledge of interior design among professionals and expanding the awareness and appreciation of interior design among the general public. The Mid-Atlantic Chapter encompasses the District of Columbia, all of Maryland and Northern Virginia including the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, Prince William, Stafford and Fauquier. It also includes the independent cities of Alexandria, Falls Church, Fairfax, Leesburg, Middleburg, Warrenton, Manassas, Manassas Park and Fredericksburg. Members from Harper's Ferry and Shepardstown, West Virginia are also encouraged to participate in our activities. Due to size and geographical expanse, the Mid-Atlantic Chapter includes two City Centers: the Washington Metro City Center (WMCC) and the Baltimore-Annapolis City Center (BACC). www.iidamac.org

ABOUT THE CORCORAN

Established in 1869, the **Corcoran Gallery of Art** was one of America's first museums of art—dedicated, in the words of founder William Wilson Corcoran, to “encouraging American genius.” Today it is Washington, D.C.'s largest nonfederal art museum, known internationally for its distinguished collection of historical and modern American art as well as contemporary art, photography, European painting, sculpture, and the decorative arts. A dynamic schedule of special exhibitions complements a range of educational programming, which together enrich the perspectives of the visiting public, support the local arts community, and encourage thoughtful interpretation of today's most compelling social issues. **The Corcoran College of Art + Design** was founded as a school of art in 1890 and stands as Washington's only four-year accredited college of art and design. The College is one of the few in the nation whose educational model includes an integral relationship with a museum, fostering the talent of the next generation of artists. For more information about the **Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design**, visit www.corcoran.org.



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