

BRITISH FASHION COUNCIL

FASHION TRUST

PRESS RELEASE

20th May 2019

BRITISH FASHION COUNCIL FASHION TRUST ANNOUNCES ITS 2019 GRANT RECIPIENTS

The British Fashion Council (BFC) is pleased to announce that its charitable initiative BFC Fashion Trust is allocating £400,000 to the 2019 grant recipients. Announced today, this year's designers will receive financial grants and business mentoring tailored to specific business needs and awarded to fund key areas of expansion.



Megha Mittal, Stephanie Phair, Tania Fares and Sian Westerman with the 2019 BFC Fashion Trust Grant Recipients at Sushi Samba, Covent Garden, London.

Photographer: James Peltekian

[Link to download more images](#)

BFC Fashion Trust Grant & Mentoring Recipients 2019

Aries

Eudon Choi

Marta Jakubowski

Molly Goddard

NABIL NAYAL

Paula Knorr

ROBERTS | WOOD

Designers who will receive mentoring for 2019

Hillier Bartley | Huishan Zhang | Mother of Pearl | PAPER LONDON | SHARON WAUCHOB

The BFC Fashion Trust is a British Fashion Council charity that offers financial awards and business mentoring to UK based fashion designers. Since its inception in 2011, the BFC Fashion Trust has awarded over £2 million to 42 designer businesses to fund the implementation of practical solutions such as introducing new capsule collections and producing additional samples sets and to enable long term strategic plans involving as e-commerce, intellectual property, merchandising and finance. The BFC Fashion Trust is part of a group of BFC business support initiatives and charities aimed at supporting British talent from college to fashion start-ups through to future global fashion houses. Last month, the BFC announced that in 2018 it raised over £2.3million for its charities and business support initiatives out of which £1.1million will be allocated directly to scholars and designer businesses. The BFC is committed to developing design excellence and growth by nurturing, supporting and promoting British fashion talent on the global stage in an industry worth £32.2 billion to the UK GDP.

The BFC Fashion Trust's fundraising and philanthropic programme is led by co-chairs Tania Fares and Sian Westerman who have formed a formidable network of more than 100 dynamic philanthropists, entrepreneurs, investors and business people with a shared interest in nurturing creative talent.

BFC Fashion Trust Co-Chairs Tania Fares and Sian Westerman said: *"Thanks to the generosity and commitment from the BFC Fashion Trust's patrons and partners, we can continue to offer financial and mentoring support to some of the best UK's design talent and help them develop their creative identity while turning their brands into global businesses."*

Stephanie Phair, BFC Chair commented: *"London is a city that has a special reputation for producing some of the fashion industry's brightest new talents. Thanks to the BFC Fashion Trust and their partners' generous support and mentoring, the 2019 grant recipients are given the opportunity to become the creative leaders of tomorrow while reinforcing the UK's reputation as a hub for fashion business."*

In addition to the grants, the BFC Fashion Trust supports a graduate traineeship programme which offers graduates 12-month paid placements with a British based designer. The programme has the dual benefit of allowing graduates to gain insight and experience and for the designer's business to benefit from additional support. Previously partnered brands include E.Tautz, Erdem, House of Holland, JW Anderson, Mary Katrantzou and Roksanda.

The BFC Fashion Trust's Official Partner is HSBC and today Revlon Professional confirmed that they will be continuing their support throughout 2019. Taylor Wessing support the BFC Fashion

Trust through pro bono legal service. With thanks to Bicester Village Shopping Collection, Eco-Age Farfetch, Google, Launchmetrics and the rest of our Fashion Business Network.

The BFC Fashion Trust would like to thank Megha Mittal, Founder Patron, for her generosity in hosting the BFC Fashion Trust Grant Recipients event at Sushi Samba, Covent Garden.

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ABOUT BRITISH FASHION COUNCIL

The British Fashion Council (BFC) was set up in 1983 to promote British fashion internationally and co-ordinate this promotion through fashion weeks, exhibitions and showcasing events. The BFC now supports designers beginning at college level and extending to talent identification, business support and showcasing schemes to help British designer businesses develop their profiles and business globally and promote British fashion and its influential role in Britain and London. The BFC Colleges Council offers support to students through its Foundation, BA and MA scholarships, links with industry through design competitions and Graduate Preview Day. Talent identification and business support schemes include BFC/Vogue Designer Fashion Fund, BFC/GQ Designer Menswear Fund supported by JD.com, Inc. and NEWGEN which includes womenswear, menswear and accessories. The BFC also runs and owns charities including the BFC Fashion Arts Foundation, the BFC Fashion Trust and the BFC Education Foundation. Showcasing initiatives and events include London Fashion Week, London Fashion Week Men's, LONDON show ROOMS, International Fashion Showcase, London Fashion Week Festival and the annual celebration of creativity and innovation in the fashion industry: The Fashion Awards.

About SUSHISAMBA:

SUSHISAMBA delivers a unique blend of Japanese, Brazilian and Peruvian cuisine, culture, music and design. The menus are a mix of new and signature dishes with an emphasis on piquant flavours, the finest ingredients and artful presentations. Complementing the cuisine, the location offers specialty cocktails, cultural spirits such as shochu, pisco, Japanese whisky and sake and a large selection of wine and Champagne. The restaurant is operated by Orange Brands Management, which in addition to London locations oversees SUSHISAMBA locations in Miami, Las Vegas and Amsterdam as well as Duck & Waffle and Duck & Waffle Local in London. For more information visit www.sushisamba.com. Social: @SUSHISAMBA

About HSBC:

Founded in 1865, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations, serving more than 37 million customers worldwide. In 2017, we won the title of 'The World's Best Bank' in Euromoney magazine's Awards for Excellence. More recently, we won 'Best Business Banking Provider' at the British Bank Awards 2018.

We are committed to working with UK SMEs to help them realise their ambitions and over the past three years have committed £34bn in lending to enterprises in this sector. Recent online initiatives, such as our Business Lending Eligibility Checker and HSBC LinkScreen, are designed to make it easy for SMEs to seek loans.

We're also able to support the ambitions of internationally-minded businesses through our global network, with offices in 53 international markets. As part of our commitment to supporting the international growth of UK businesses, we were an official partner of the International Business Festival 2018.

Alongside our financial support, we offer guidance to SMEs through a range of channels, including:

- Strategies for Growth events offer networking and insights on business growth
- The HSBC Knowledge Centre provides expert insights, case studies and a range of 'how-to' guides
- Through our Financial Wellbeing programme, we work with businesses to help their employees build their understanding of key financial topics.

To find out more, visit: <http://www.hsbc.com/about-hsbc/structure-and-network/commercial-banking>