FASHION
MEETS
ART

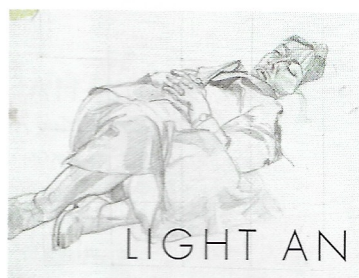
Below, from left: Hendrickje Schimmel,
Puck Verkade and Michaela Yearwood-Dan, all
beneficiaries of Alexander McQueen bursaries

McQueen's honours

The revered designer's enduring legacy
continues to inspire fresh artistic talent

BY TERESA FITZHERBERT





LIGHT AND SHADE

What lies behind the compelling imagery of Paula Rego

A new exhibition focuses on the skilfully executed preparatory sketches that underpin the dark narratives in Paula Rego's emotionally charged depictions of female figures, many of which take inspiration from literature, folk tales or religious scripture. FH *'Paula Rego: From Mind to Hand, Drawings from 1980 to 2001'* is at Marlborough Fine Art (www.marlboroughlondon.com) until 27 October.

STRIKE A POSE

A closer look at fashion's relationship with art

Atelier EB, the collaborative label founded by the artist Lucy McKenzie and the designer Beca Lipscombe, will transform the Serpentine Sackler Gallery into a three-part show, 'Passer-by', exploring the worlds of fashion and art. The mannequin will be the central trope linking each section, which starts with a bespoke showroom, moves onto historical displays recreating early-20th-century world fairs and department stores, and ends with newly commissioned works by contemporary artists. HL As part of Bazaar Art Week, Yana Peel will introduce a private view of 'Passer-by' on 6 October. Visit www.bazaarartweek.co.uk to book.



Alexander McQueen was fearless when it came to pushing the boundaries of imagination and creativity. To produce his exotic, otherworldly clothes, the designer looked beyond the traditional realms of couture to alternative crafts, from jewellers to woodcutters, taxidermists to glass-blowers. 'Part of his ability to invent so freely was his openness to partnering with all kinds of creatives,' says Trino Verkade, McQueen's first employee, who went on to work across all areas of his business. 'He bounced off people. He didn't see barriers.'

It was this love of cross-disciplinary collaboration that inspired McQueen to set up the Sarabande Foundation in 2007, a charitable trust that provides financial and practical support to fashion, jewellery and fine-art students. Spearheaded by Verkade, it offers six bursaries a year and 12 subsidised studio spaces in former Victorian stables in Haggerston. Previous beneficiaries include the designers Molly Goddard and Craig Green, both of whom have returned to give talks and meet students.

'The exposure to designers, artists and curators is amazing,' says the Dutch artist Puck Verkade (surprisingly, no relation to Trino), a current resident who has shown her videos and installations in Lisbon and San Francisco since she joined Sarabande last year. 'Having a support system that puts us in contact with established brands is incredible,' agrees Michaela Yearwood-Dan, one of the studio's newest tenants, who paints abstract botanical diptychs in luminous oils, and sold her first work here to a casual visitor within a week of her arrival.

Another graduate, Hendrickje Schimmel, describes her first year at the foundation as a crucial 'incubation period' before entering the real world. 'You have so much time and space to truly develop your practice with the support of your peers,' she says. Schimmel makes sculptural and wearable pieces of art, often using found and recyclable garments that range from discarded socks to her father's treasured painting jeans.

'We encourage people to do it their own way – we don't want cookie cut-outs,' says Trino Verkade. 'We'll support you if you want to do things differently.' Revolutionary that he was, Alexander McQueen would surely approve.

Sarabande Foundation (www.sarabandefoundation.org)