



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Olivia Rubens receives top prize at the International Talent Support Competition 2020

Toronto, Canada—October 28, 2020— Canadian-born designer, Olivia Rubens, garners international recognition at the prestigious International Talent Support (ITS) Competition 2020, Trieste, Italy. A jury of global fashion experts awarded Olivia with two top prizes, the ITS Responsible Fashion Award powered by Allianz and Camera Nazionale della Moda Italiana Award. As the recipient of these awards, Olivia is granted a total cash prize of 15,000 euros along with a mentorship with Fashion Revolution. Rubens presented her Autumn/Winter 20 collection, *Duplicitous Lives*, and created a new look for the special Diesel project using recycled denim and responsibly sourced and naturally dyed fibres.

Rubens' positive knitwear collection explores the concept of women as shapeshifters, taking inspiration from the works of Cindy Sherman, Nadia Lee Cohen, and Juno Calypso. Her signature eccentric knitwear was developed using innovative and sustainable materials and processes. Natural dyed organic wools, hand-painted organic peace silks, jersey made from recycled water bottles, and artisan-made recycled glass beads work together to create a conscious collection.

Rubens joins a family of over 600 ITS finalists, some of whom have become fashion industry notables. As one of 11 finalists from six countries, Rubens, a Fellow at The Suzanne Rogers Fashion Institute, Ryerson University, is proud to receive global recognition. She is grateful to have a strong collaborative team and generous sponsors based internationally.

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Media Inquiries

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About Olivia Rubens

Olivia Rubens is a positive women's knitwear designer based between Canada and the UK. She aims to create a positive impact through design and material innovation, and social justice initiatives. Through unorthodox forms of research rooted in human nature and pop culture, Olivia uses her dark sense of humour to create eccentric knitwear that is both eerie and playful. For more information, visit oliviarubens.ca.

About The Suzanne Rogers Fashion Institute

The Suzanne Rogers Fashion Institute (SRFI) in the Faculty of Communication and Design at Ryerson University is a program dedicated to supporting emerging Canadian fashion designers nationally and internationally. Serving third and fourth-year Ryerson fashion design students and recent graduates, the Institute educates and provides mentorship, awards and international opportunities to new talent in fashion craftsmanship. The SRFI was made possible through the generous \$1 million gift from The Edward and Suzanne Rogers Foundation. For more information, visit srfi.ca.