

## **UiTM students' fashion designs a hit in London**

2010/12/19

From Zaharah Othmanin London

FIFTEEN final-year students from the Faculty of Art and Design, Department of Fashion, University Technology Mara (UiTM) wowed the audience at their Graduate Fashion Show held at the Malaysian High Commission here, with their unique collections which saw the clever interpretation of themes inspired by identity.

The first-ever graduate fashion show from any educational institution from Malaysia to be held here, was organised by the UiTM and hosted by the Malaysian High Commission to showcase the designs to an international crowd comprising of members of the diplomatic circle, representatives from the London Graduate Fashion Week and the University of the Arts London and the London School of Fashion.

Colin Kerrigan, deputy director, International Centre of the University of the Arts London said: "I think it's a really excellent show.

"I've known UiTM for a number of years as I used to live in Malaysia in the 1990s and what is interesting to see today is just how the designs have developed over the years.

"It is much more experimental and cutting edge."

Their avant garde and sometimes futuristic designs were cleverly mixed with elements of Malay traditional designs inspired by Malay warriors, heads of the perahu, Malay wood carvings, the wau bulan and Cik Siti Wan Kembang, to name a few. Eight of the 15 designers were present to showcase their collections to an appreciative crowd at the event.

Also present was the Malaysian High Commissioner to Britain Datuk Zakaria Sulong.

UiTM Vice-Chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Sahol Hamid Abu Bakar, who was very pleased with the reception given by the audience, said: "I truly think that the UiTM students really have talent and have shown that they are able to meet international standards, using elements of Malay culture, designs and elements."

He said the students were very motivated and they would be encouraged now to take their graduate fashion show to other cities such as Paris and New York and to countries in the Middle East region.

The show was an opportunity for the students as well as representatives of the fashion world to exchange ideas on potential collaboration.

According to Datin Hazizah Ahmad, wife of the High Commissioner, she was very much impressed by the high standards of designs and creativity showed by the students through their collections.

Another show was held at the residence of the High Commission here for the Malaysian community.

Shahrizad Fitri Mustapha, 23, who impressed the audience with his designs inspired by the wau bulan, said he interpreted the energy and colour of the wau bulan into his designs made from silk and satin.

Elegance shone through Zakiah Khalit's collections which were inspired by Cik Siti Wan Kembang.

The 23-year-old final-year student used the songket, chiffon and Thai silk in her contemporary designs, with drappings and pleats.

Read more: [UiTM students' fashion designs a hit in London](http://www.nst.com.my/nst/articles/10kem/Article/#ixzz1BGQlJxel)  
<http://www.nst.com.my/nst/articles/10kem/Article/#ixzz1BGQlJxel>