

# THE LOOKS THAT SHONE AT *AFI Fashion Week*

With this year's theme #IAmAfrica, African Fashion International Cape Town Fashion Week aimed to celebrate and showcase exceptional African creative talent. Here are some of **Rhodé Marshall**'s favourite creations

African Fashion International (AFI) is one of the highlights of the country's fashion calendar. While still unsure about whether founder and chief executive Precious Moloi-Motsepe and her team could pull-off the fashion showcase, which has already had its difficulties over the years, AFI surprised everyone with a well-organised and timeous event.

**FASHION WEEK**

The runway was filled with designs from Accra, Casablanca, Dakar, Dar es Salaam, Kinshasa, Lagos, Nairobi, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and Joburg - showcasing ranges for all seasons. Here are some of #Trending's favourite designs.  
 • Marshall was dressed by spree.co.za for #AFICTFW. See her looks on Instagram and Twitter, @rhodemarshall



**LEIGH SCHUBERT** This signature womenswear is the quintessential requirement for layering this year. Schubert's collection, which is inspired by African wildlife, the Great Gatsby and Japanese kimonos, included bold colours and a range of fabrics to compliment her sexy, elegant, timeless, but still fresh and interesting designs.

PHOTO: AFI



**TONGORO BY SARAH DIOUF** Another collection that received a standing ovation, this Senegalese brand creates affordable luxury garments. It aims to be worn with ease, be fun and fluid. With prints being a key element to the brand, the aesthetic is graphic and bold. Each piece makes its own statement without having to add much.

PHOTO: AFI



**KAHINDO** Congolese-American designer Kahindo Mateene's collection, Colours of Goma, is inspired by her childhood memories of growing up in Goma, Democratic Republic of the Congo before the war, before the volcano erupted and before the refugees. To Mateene, Goma was blue skies over a tranquil Lake Kivu, cows grazing on the lush green farms of Masisi, the yellow of jerry cans and bananas and the rainbow of colours from Mount Nyiragongo. "This collection is about evoking the colours of home," she told #Trending. PHOTO: LERATO MADUNA



**MAXHOSA BY LADUMA** One of the most talked about collections was by designer Laduma Ngxokolo, best known for his men's knitwear range that's inspired by traditional Xhosa beadwork. His latest collection, which features the most amazing gowns, is inspired by optical art. "It takes on new and inventive ways of translating patterns towards a 3D look and feel. I played with 3D patterns and fused the Maxhosa signature ... We have evolved like the culture we have been inspired by, which marks this entire collection as a luxury collection." PHOTO: AFI

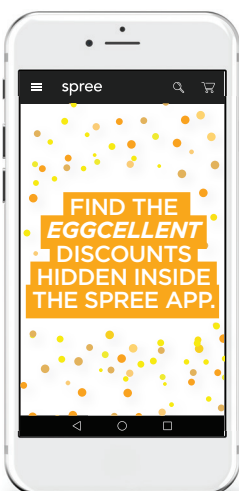


**UNKNOWN UNION** Working with creative director Yasiin Bey, Unknown Union is an edgy combative label that draws on comfort, belonging and creating clothing that is like works of art when worn by the men the brand wants to inspire. The brand draws inspiration from cultural groups in central and southern Africa, and the workmanship of the Basotho blankets. "These are the stories of the people that speak of culture, advancing sustainability and the authenticity of humanhood. Stories that are paramount and foremost about being human," says the brand. PHOTO: AFI

ALL EASTER WEEKEND  
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