

A RAMP CALL FROM CHINA. PLUS, DEEJAYS AT DUSK

It's China calling for three Indian designers who have been invited to open the Shanghai Fashion Week to be held from May 13 to 16. Asian Fashion Blooming, a special event that opens SFW, will feature a show by Sabyasachi Mukherjee, Anand Kabra and Nikasha Tawadey. Other participating countries in AFB include Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan and China.

Sabyasachi will also present a piece themed "Impression of Shanghai", a gift to SFW that will be showcased on the ramp at the closing ceremony.

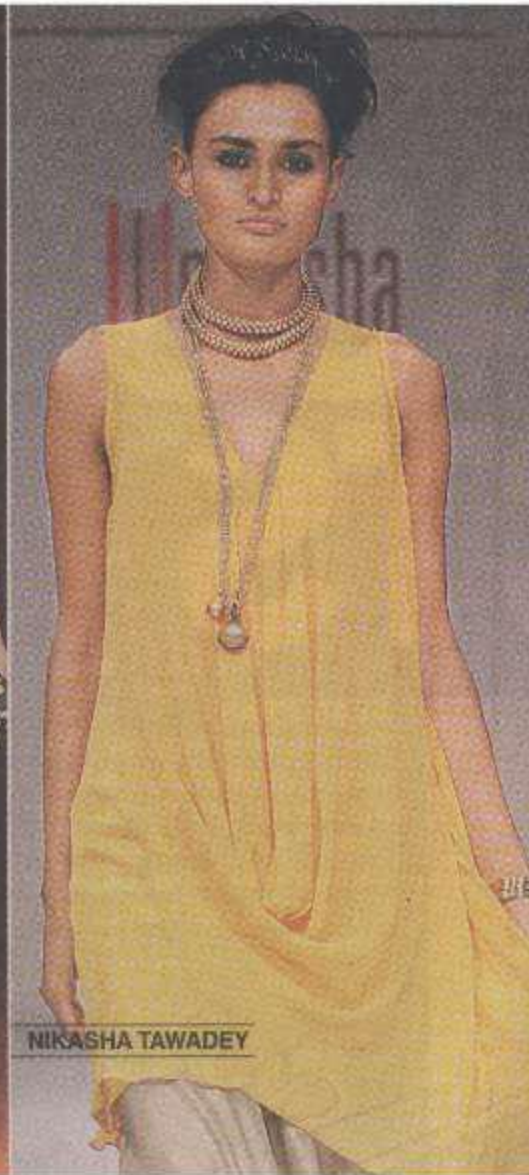
It's a collaboration between Lakme Fashion Week and SFW that has led to the invitation. Said Anil Chopra, advisor, Lakme, "We are extremely pleased to receive an invitation to represent Indian fashion at Asian Fashion Blooming for SFW, which has seen participation from designers like Ferragamo, Vivienne Westwood, Jean Paul Gaultier, Sonia Rykiel, Lanvin, Vivienne Tam and more."

Sabyasachi has two reasons for accepting the invitation — "curiosity and eye-opener". "China operates from the mind and India operates from the heart. It will be a very interesting survey for me in China! Also, I want to see what China does because what it is doing today, the world will do five years hence. I am also very curious to find out how the consumerist country, also the production hub of the world, functions," he said.

"I am excited about going to Shanghai Fashion Week. It is a great opportunity to explore an untapped market for me. My collection at SFW is basically a line-up of my retrospective from the past two seasons. Shiuli, as it is called, is extremely low profile but high on wearability. I have tweaked it to suit the audience in Shanghai," Nikasha told t2.



SABYASACHI MUKHERJEE



NIKASHA TAWADEY



ANAND KABRA