

## TASN 'Young Arts' Bursaries 2024

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May, Lynette and Jackie attended the final exhibitions of Iris, Hannah and Venetia, the three recipients of TASN's 2024 'Young Arts' bursaries.

Final year projects have to demonstrate their development from original concept, through technical designs to final 'product.' Students do this through extensive 'workbooks' submitted to examiners. The final exhibitions show a small sample of their work.

*Fashion design* student Iris Zhiting Guo's designs are inspired by our relationship with nature and natural processes. A focus on sustainability led her to use 'zero-waste' pattern cutting methods (in which garments are made from a single piece of fabric and the design is achieved through folds and tucks etc); to source high-quality natural fabrics that will eventually decay and return to nature; and to demonstrate her sophisticated craft skills (which she extended to knitted features and ceramics for accompanying jewellery). Two of her garments were modelled in the catwalk show. Iris will be taking her work to London Fashion Week, which is attended by numerous industry representatives, which she hopes will prove a stepping-stone to a job in the industry.



The concept behind *Fashion design* student Hannah Hyman's designs was young women's ritual of 'getting ready' to go out but, conscious of the fact that fashion is not inclusive to all, she focussed on creating adaptive clothing for young women with dexterity issues. Supported by both a mentorship with the online retailer 'Very' and her TASN bursary, she created an accessible collection with alternative fastenings for her occasion-wear, using magnets, large zipper pulleys, Velcro and drawstrings. She aims to pursue a career in the creative industries, prioritising human-centred design.



*Knitwear design* student Venetia Ejembi found great solace in the Suffolk coastal landscape of Shingle Street where she grew up and she drew on Oshun and Yemaya, guardian spirits of the sea, from her Yoruba heritage, in her designs. Her exhibition shows a triptych of her highly original knitted and soldered metal wire work, materials and designs chosen to echo the graceful ebb and flow of water, mounted on wood foraged locally. In the future she would like

to create installations to feature as 'public art' in a variety of spaces, in collaboration with other artists and musicians, with whom she is currently networking. Venetia was also awarded the 'Best in Show' for knitwear design.



All three bursary recipients used their TASN award towards the costs of their projects, — for example the purchase of materials or other expenditure such as research and travel costs and were highly appreciative of how much their bursary had enabled them to achieve their aims. Lynette and Jackie were generously hosted for the afternoon and early evening by Tina



Downes, Deputy Head of the Department for Fashion, Textiles and Knitwear Design. During the exhibition, Tina introduced us to the Dean of the Faculty, who also expressed his gratitude for the continuing support to their students' careers the Association has provided over a number of years.

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Jackie Goode, 18.5.24