**PRESS RELEASE**

**1 July 2021**

**The grand gala of Native/Rebelpin**

***… and the winners are…***

**Meet the Rebelpin Fashion Awards winners!**

**This Thursday, the final gala for the Native project was held. The gala was conducted as a virtual event, with participants digitally attending from all over Europe. The gala was broadcast from the host city Borås of Sweden, a city that this year celebrates its 400th birthday. And at the end of the gala, *Lisa Ivarsson of Sweden* was named the winner of the Rebelpin Fashion Award by the Native mentor’s jury.**

The winner of the other award given (the popular vote award) was the designer Weng Tzu Chun, representing Italy.

Apart from the host city celebrating its 400th birthday, the organisation behind Native – ACTE – celebrates its 30th year as a European motor for innovation within the fashion, textile, shoes and accessory industry. The virtual event was the final gala of the year-long project Native. It has been an in most parts a digital project.

**The awards**

Our virtual event was in part a presentation of the ten designers showcasing the nine entries (two of the Native project designers work as a team) collections. After the runway presentations, we also announced the winners of the two Native/Rebelpin Fashion Awards. During the event we presented the professional jury award as well as the popular vote award. The professional jury is a panel put together of the mentors that have supported the ten designers during the Native project. The popular vote award was be given to the collection that has received the most votes on the ACTE website (up until June 30).

**Innovative 3D designs**

The professional jury scrutinised the participating collections from a certain viewpoint. The jury especially looked at eight criteria: 1. Authenticity and originality, 2. Design concept and quality, 3. Vision and fashion factor, 4. Pattern construction, 5. Creativity and craftsmanship, 6. Potential for commercial production, 7. Overall stylistic concept, and 8. The award theme “3D meets craftmanship”.

Each designer had the opportunity to present ten outfits, in total 90 outfits was showed at the digital gala.

In the end *Lisa Ivarsson* of Sweden was given the professional jury award. An award, with a total prize of €5000, that was announced by the Mayor of Borås, Mr Ulf Olsson. The jury motivation for the award to Lisareads as follows:

*“Rooted in nature, with culture-visionary creations for the future. An innovative, sustainable-balanced and well-integrated collection – ready to meet the market on global scale.”*

Congratulation to the winner Lisa Ivarsson.

**The popular vote**

Mrs Chaira Pucci of “Creative Europé” helped announce the winner of the popular vote award. The voting for the popular vote award was held on the ACTE web site and was concluded June 30. The winner of the Rebelpin Fashion awards popular vote is Weng Tzu Chun, representing Italy. He was given the award, including a total sum of €2000.

**CONTACTS**

**The winners**

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Facts

The Native project is co-financed by the *Creative Europe program* of the European Union. It was created with the dual objective of developing the skills of young designers involved the design industries and to facilitate the integration of creative knowledge into SMEs in the fashion industry. Thus, allowing an exchange of talent and experience at in Europe.

The Native project (New Creative Trails) is led by the Swedish Municipality of Borås and includes the participation of the Catalan Fashion Cluster (Modacc), the Municipality of Prato in Italy and the Sztuk Pięknych Academy of Fine Arts in Poland – all members of the European textile network, ACTE (the Association of European Textile Collectivities). ACTE brings together some thirty European institutions and municipalities, all involved in the fashion industry.

Read more about the project at the ACTE/Native website: <https://acte.net/native/>