



The Suzanne Rogers Fashion Institute Welcomes New Fellow

September 9, 2025 – Toronto, ON – The Suzanne Rogers Fashion Institute (SRFI) at The Creative School, Toronto Metropolitan University, is proud to announce Alexis Venerus as its newest Fellow. Founder of Sew-Rite, a Toronto-based fashion production studio, Alexis brings a fresh perspective to the SRFI community—broadening the Institute’s support beyond traditional design into the realm of local production innovation.

“We are thrilled to welcome Alexis Venerus to the SRFI,” says Robert Ott, Director of the SRFI. “Her work at Sew-Rite supports the growth of emerging designers while advancing ethical, local production. This kind of leadership is aligned with the SRFI’s mission to support the future of Canadian fashion.”

Sew-Rite has built a collaborative, craft-driven environment rooted in sustainable production practices. This commitment to local manufacturing and community building distinguished Alexis in the Institute’s selection process, offering a vital perspective on the evolving fashion industry. Sew-Rite also partners with SRFI Fellows, producing collections for designers such as Wanze Song and Serena Li.

The SRFI offers a flexible, dynamic program for recent alumni accelerating their careers in fashion. Since its founding in 2016, the Institute has provided over \$900,000 in direct support, enabling Fellows to attend leading international master’s programs, develop and produce collections, present at major fashion weeks, and establish a presence in the global market. This support, combined with mentorship and targeted programming, empowers Fellows to advance their craft and make a meaningful impact on the industry.



About Alexis Venerus

Alexis Venerus, founder of Sew-Rite, is a passionate advocate for sustainable, locally produced fashion. With a deep commitment to fostering craftship through generations, she champions the power of local manufacturing to create meaningful connections between designers, artisans, and communities. Her leadership at Sew-Rite blends technical expertise with a philosophy of mentorship and shared growth, nurturing emerging brands and supporting established ones. With over a decade of experience in small scale production, Alexis has cultivated a team of skilled artisans dedicated to craftship, collective spirit, and innovation.

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Media Inquiries

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About The Suzanne Rogers Fashion Institute

The Suzanne Rogers Fashion Institute (SRFI) at The Creative School supports TMU Fashion Design graduates in becoming leaders on the global fashion stage. The Institute provides its Fellows with mentorship, funding, promotion, and market opportunities. Founded in 2016, the SRFI is generously supported by The Edward and Suzanne Rogers Foundation. For more information, visit www.torontomu.ca/the-suzanne-rogers-fashion-institute.

About The Creative School

For over 75 years, The Creative School at Toronto Metropolitan University has been a global leader in innovation, creativity, and education. Our top-ranked programs bring together diverse perspectives, cutting-edge research, and real-world experience to shape the future of creative industries. Located in the heart of Toronto, we foster a dynamic community where students, faculty, and partners collaborate across disciplines to explore new ideas and push boundaries. This vibrant ecosystem cultivates not only creators, but pioneers—driving innovation and inspiring change on a global scale. For more information, visit www.torontomu.ca/the-creative-school.

About Toronto Metropolitan University

A world-class research institution and Canada's leader in innovative, career-oriented education, TMU offers more than 60 undergraduate programs, over 65 graduate programs, and 80 continuing education certificate programs. The university boasts ten faculties, including the Lincoln Alexander School of Law and the new TMU School of Medicine, which is launching in September 2025. Established in 1948, TMU is home to nearly 48,000 students, including 2,900 Master's and PhD students, 4,000 faculty and staff, and over 245,000 alumni worldwide. For more information, visit www.torontomu.ca.



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