



4th Annual Clash of the Artists **Brings Together International Arts Community**

Annual international arts competition, *Clash of the Artists*, once again drew the work of hundreds of artists from across the globe. Now in its fourth year, it remains one of the very few multi-disciplinary arts competitions offered, a fact that has contributed to its growing popularity.

Presented by New York based arts non-profit, Art For Progress, the competition encompasses visual art, fashion, live music, DJ's, and the infinitely indefinable open category simply known as "creative". Over a five week period, over 20,000 unique visitors watched short films, listened to music, and viewed the work of artists and designers from China to Brazil. The interactive judging process allowed the on-line community to choose three finalists in each category and culminated in a one-night event showcasing all of the finalists during which the winners were ultimately chosen by a live voting ballot.

As Art for Progress founder, Frank Jackson, states, "Because *Clash of the Artists* is multi-disciplinary and juried by the on-line arts community, it naturally speaks to collaboration amongst the arts which is the backbone of Art for Progress."

2010 Clash of the Artists First Place Winners

DJ - DJ Jago

At a mere 13 years old, Jake Fischer (AKA "DJ Jago"), won the DJ competition by a landslide. Only 10 when he mixed for the first time on a Numark starter set, he entered Manhattan's Dub Spot DJ school by age 12 proving that this was not something he took lightly. Further showing his commitment to the art, he sold his dirt bike, resold sneakers and birthday presents over the Internet to buy turntables and a mixer. In school he is a high honor student, and on weekends he DJs private parties and charity events in his area. His goals are to become a DMC World Champ and rock nightclubs all over the world.

Live Music - Muj

Walking the line between epic-symphonica and electropunk, the music duo Muj is a mish-mash of musical styles. Founders Allen Hulsey and Emre Atabay crossed paths in 2004 at Berklee College of Music in Boston, MA. Their early music was influenced by Eastern microtonal music and avant-garde composers such as John Cage, Terry Riley, and Karlheinz Stockhausen. After exploring a catalogue of genres over the next few years they began fusing psychedelic soundscapes with subterranean beats which ultimately led to the ethereal, intelligent pop sound of Muj. Encompassing dance pop, rock, world, trip-hop, and techno they've received rave reviews and comparisons to Depeche Mode, Franz Ferdinand, Radiohead, MGMT, and The Killers. They are now working on a feature-length documentary including an original soundtrack. You can find more information on Muj at <http://www.myspace.com/muj>.

Fashion Design - Kari Smistek

Kari Smistek is the designer and creator of Clementiny Clothing. All of Smistek's pieces are handmade using only 100% re-purposed and recycled materials. The line is available on etsy.com, where she has acquired a loyal following. With reasonable price points and an eco-friendly mindset, the business is growing steadily. Kari makes one-of-a-kind pieces as well as custom orders in flattering, chic silhouettes. She states, "There is nothing better than being able to make something beautiful out of something someone else thought was useless!"

You can find more information about her at www.clementinyclothing.com

Visual Arts - Chris Soria

Chris Soria is a visual artist and professional creative who works in a variety of media, with a focus on painting and photomontage. His photomontages consist of original photographs shot in 35 mm, cut, pasted, layered, and placed in plexiglass. With interests including time travel, dimensional manipulation, archaic industry, collective delusions, paradox, and the human spirit, Soria's artwork exudes architectonic expressionism fueled by a pervading curiosity for the cyclical nature of all things.

In addition to creating for art's sake, Soria's clients include, MTV, BET, Mark Ecko, Zoo York, Crooked Jaw, Code and Theory, and Yankee Stadium. You can find more information on Soria at www.chrissoria.com.

Creative Category - Yui Terai

Yui Terai is a graduate of Japan's premier design institute, Bunka Fashion College. Bunka Fashion College has produced world renowned designers, such as Yoji Yamamoto and Kenzo. During her studies Yui chose leather as her medium. To fulfill her vision, she studied under the school master leather craftsman for leather treatments through the study of anatomy and chromatics. Upon graduation, she furthered her design skills in leather products at an all-handmade boutique leather studio in Tokyo. Firmly believing that hand-made products with unique design have place and purpose in the world, she hopes that her bags serve as a conduit of daily artistic expression not only for herself, but for the hand bag holder as well.

Other winners include; Pere Ibanez (Beijing, China), Fareeha Khawaja (Washington DC), Zoe Hillengas (Upper Darby, Pa), JC Cassis (New York, NY), Savannah Shreves (Chicago, Illinois), Anna Janiszewski (Franklin, Wisconsin), Kyle McNeill (Brooklyn, NY) and Brett Crenshaw (Queens, NY)