PROGRAMMANUS

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RADIO POPREEL

Fashion school, Taj Mahal and spoken word

Pamela:
Do you say it with clothes, jewelry, or the spoken word? Meet fashion students in Manhattan, in New York. Hear about the "jewel of India", the Taj Mahal, and what spoken word artist Suli Breaks has to say.

I'm Pamela, and this is "Radio Popreel".

Static Revenger **featuring** Luciana, "I Like That".

featuring
här: medverkande gästartist

Song: "I Like That", by Static Revenger

I like that

Michelle Brown:
Okay. I might need your help with this. It's not unscrewing. Oh, wait.

Jack Burns:
You got it?

Michelle:
I think so, yeah. Never mind. I got it.

Pamela:
In the heart of Manhattan, the fashion students are putting the final touch to their collections.

Jack:
Wait, no, no, no. You want to un... You want to loosen it, because the top part's not quite in there. Just...

Michelle:
There we go. Cool, thanks.

Jack:
Uh-huh. Are you going back to Alaska this summer?

Michelle:
Um...maybe. Probably like late summer if I do.

Jack:
Late summer?

Michelle:
Not guaranteed.

Pamela:
Michelle Brown is from Alaska, and her Native American **heritage** is very **visible** in her clothes' designs.

heritage
arv
visible
synlig

Michelle:
For my thesis, I wanted to go the route of sharing my culture, which is the Native American culture. And so through the collection - also **referencing**, seeing oneself in the land - is a huge part of what I tried to **convey**. And of course it was a lot of work, but I feel that the message definitely comes across. I'd say it's a belief that we come from the land and we return to the land, in the end, and... So, reflecting that essence of seeing oneself within the landscape, is the point that I would try to make with this collection.

reference
referen,s hänvisning
convey
förmedla, uttrycka

And, so just the combination of these things and also the idea of **sustainability** within that, because the Native American cultures are very sustainable and very conscious of their use of material. It's just making use of things that you're not using anymore instead of throwing it away. It just seems more practical to put it to another use. And I think that in many ways I'm finding new ways to reuse things. So, I'm really happy with the work itself.

sustainability
hållbarhet

Song: "She's in Fashion", by Suede

And she's in fashion, ooh ooh ooh...

Michelle:
I went into fashion early on, because I really had passion for creating and making things. And I thought that there was so much more of a story and of the language of fashion that could be shared through the clothing that I designed.

Pamela:
Jon Max Goh moved to New York from Singapore.

Jon:
I came to New York to study at Parsons, to **pursue** fashion, and being here in New York I realized that I grew up in a very Westernized country. In Singapore, we speak English as an official language, and all our exams are in English. But at the same time, we're an Asian country. For my designs for this collection, it was about... I called it *Conversation Between East and West*, and I was looking at my own **cultural heritage** and how I view fashion in...that is still very dominated by the Western world, and how to create a new language to design with, looking at my Eastern heritage and the Western upbringing that I had, and how to combine these two to create a new vocabulary, a new language to design with.

pursue
här: fortsätta med

cultural heritage
kulturarv

Pamela:
Manhattan, New York. Professor Fiona Dieffenbacher:

Fiona:
The philosophy for Parsons and The New School is to think about New York City as a lab in and of itself. So, it's an extension of the classroom, and a lot of the activities that we **engage in**, **extracurricular** for the students, and also the curricular course objectives, are placed in the context of the City itself, because being an urban university, we don't have a campus *per se*, as a traditional university would have.

So, the City in itself is our campus. I mean, we are **situated** at the cross-section of 5th Avenue and 13th, with a lot of our buildings **spilling out** around that area. But certainly we...we understand that our students **inhabit** the City, and the **boroughs**, and that they use that for a lot of their context for their work.

Michelle:
New York is a fashion capital... I mean, it truly is, and there is a definite style to it, which is very different. Where I come from, it's not...fashion is not important. We were actually voted "worst fashionable city" in the United States. But even with that, it kind of forces me to try to make new ways of defining my fashion, or of what I design. But, definitely New York has rubbed off on me quite a bit.

I think the appeal of the **high-end**, and like, luxury market is so **apparent** here, whereas I was not exposed to that before. So, definitely the influence has been quite exciting, and I've learned so many new things in the City, and I feel like there's always something new **up-and-coming**. So, it's kept me quite informed.

Jon:
I go home. I try to visit home maybe once a year, because it's very expensive to travel home. It's like 22 hours to fly back to Singapore from New York. So, I spend a lot of time in New York and I do miss home, but it's really a great city because it's so easy to find... Like, sometimes my relatives ask me, "Oh, so do you miss the food from home?" But, no, because it's so easy to find Asian food here and food from Malaysia and Singapore, and it's so similar.

And so I think New York is really a great place to kind of have a second home, a home-away-from-home, and really to explore my creativity and what I want to say with fashion.

Jack:
I feel like when we're dressing ourselves, what we're really doing is...is conveying to the world who we are.

Pamela:
Jack Burns, from New Mexico, loves studying in New York.

engage in
ägna sig åt
extracurricular
fria aktiviteter

to be situated
vara belägen, ligga (i ett område)
spilling out
sprider sig
inhabit
bebo
borough
stadsdel

high-end
dyrbart, av hög kvalitet, exklusivt
apparent
uppenbart
up-and-coming
lovande

Jack:
I come from New Mexico. It's a bit more rural than New York. New York has this...unforgiving landscape that just is **unrelenting** and keeps everything moving and keeps everything generating, keeps you on your toes, but also...also allows you to meet and...and...and share with like-minded people, which I find is a very interesting, a very necessary way in...in design right now, so...

unrelenting
här: obevekligt

Song: "No Sleep till Brooklyn", by Beastie Boys

No sleep till...
Brooklyn!

Jack:
I live in Brooklyn, and a lot of people do. It's more affordable. And it's a lot more "happening", as far as for the younger crowd. There's a lot more...a lot more accessible, like, to the arts, a lot more accessible to design, a lot more accessible to like, outside. You know, the fun things, actual nature out there. But I love it. I can't imagine living anywhere else right now.

Song: "Fashion Killa", by A$AP Rocky

Come be my Aunt Jemima
and if you is a rider, we go shoppin' like mañana
her attitude Rihanna, she get it from her mama

Pamela:
A$AP Rocky, with "Fashion Killa".

'Cause everything designer,
Her jeans is Helmut Lang, shoes is Alexander Wang
and her shirt the newest Donna Karan

*Wearin' all the Cartier **frames***
Jean Paul Gaultier cause they match with her persona
Her pistol go bang bang, boom boom, pop...

frames
här: glasögonbågar

Pamela:
Can you name some of the famous designers that have studied here in the same school as you?

Ela:
Donna Karan. I mean Jason... They just honored Jason Wu last year. Marc Jacobs graduated. Chris Benz also went here. Dolce and Gabbana met here. Proenza Schouler. I mean, the list goes on and on and on. It's like everybody. Every time... I mean, every time I go for a job, it's usually, "Oh, you went to Parsons? I went to Parsons, too. Did you have this person? I had this teacher, too." And that's usually how you get jobs, because it's all **interconnected** industry. New York seems really big, but it's really small.

interconnected
sammanlänkad

Pamela:
Ela Erdogan always creates a system and a method when she reuses clothes and material.

Ela:
My concept is about **reconstructing** and **deconstructing** memories, so I work in systems. So I created the system with dates. When you make **garments** in a factory, there's a style number for each garment, it's six digits, and a date is six digits long when you write it out. So, I had two lists. I had the list of dates and then a list of clothes that were donated to me from my family with memories. So, I corresponded those together, and I took apart garments and **re-draped** them to get the new shapes.

reconstruct
återuppbygga
deconstruct
bryta ner
garments
plagg
re-draped
drapera om

I usually... I work in the system. So I see something, and there's usually something I want to research, some topic I'm interested in. So, I go and I research that and I try to apply, "Well, how can I make this into clothes? How can this become clothes? Something wearable? How do you put this on a body?" And then once I get that, everything links back to that original idea. And then it all just comes together.

When I was eleven, it was like, "I'm going to go to Parsons. I'm going to move to New York and I'm going to become a fashion designer." So, I only applied to this school. And it was like, "Come to Parsons, going to be a fashion designer." And it actually turned out.

I mean, it's... I consider myself more of a **generalist**. I like art generally. I take film and all sorts of things. But I think fashion is such a great way to communicate ideas, because I love that people can wear your ideas down the street. Like, you can walk, and someone can take... I'm telling a story. But then someone can wear it and then it becomes their story. And I love that whole metaphor, and I think it's so cool.

generalist
generalist, person med allsidiga kunskaper

Song: "Lovers on the Sun", by David Guetta

Let's light it up, let's light it up
until our hearts catch fire

Pamela:
David Guetta, "Lovers on the Sun".

and show the world a burning light
that never shined so bright

We'll find a way, we'll find a way
to keep the cold night from breaking in...

Pamela:
The Taj Mahal was built by Mughal emperor Shah Jahan, in memory of his third wife, Mumtaz Mahal. This wonderful building is widely recognized as the jewel of Muslim art in India, and one of the universally admired masterpieces of **the world's heritage**.

the world's heritage
världsarvet

Third-generation Indian jewelry designer Nirav Modi considers the Taj Mahal one of his biggest inspirations.

Nirav:
I am a third-generation in the diamond business. My grandfather, my father...and we wanted to go further, and say: "Let's have the finest of diamonds, and make very nice jewelry." We have a Mughal collection, which is inspired by the Taj Mahal, which has Mughal motifs. The same techniques which are used for the **inlays** of the **marble** of Taj Mahal, is used to make the Mughal jewelry.

inlays
inläggningar, inlagda bitar t ex en mosaik
marble
marmor

Pamela:
What makes the Taj Mahal so special?

Nirav:
It's one of the most beautiful pieces of architecture in the world, and there's also a lot of emotion behind it, because it's a tribute to a woman, or a man's love for a woman. And that's what jewelry is also. You know, it's a man's love for a woman. The Mumtaz was his favorite wife, and he wanted to make a **mausoleum** for her, and I think they spent 30-40 years on making this mausoleum.

mausoleum *mausoleum, gravbyggnad*

Pamela:
Thank you for taking time. Thank you very much.

Spoken Word: "I Will Not Let an Exam Result Decide My Fate", by Suli Breaks

Exams are society's methods of telling you what you're worth.
But you can't let society tell you what you are,
'cause it's the same society that tells you that abortion is wrong,
but then looks down on teenage parents.
The same society that sells products to **promote** natural hair,
looks and smooth complexion,
with the model on the box half Photoshopped
and has fake lashes and **hair extensions**.
With pastors that preach charity, but own private jets.
Imams that preach against **greed**, but are all fat.
Parents that say they want...

promote
här: främja

hair extensions
hårförlängning
greed
girighet, penningbegär

Pamela:
Suli Breaks, from London, is a spoken word artist and he speaks for, and to, his generation about education and other important things in life.

Suli:
Yeah, in **uni** I fell in love with this art form of poetry and spoken word, just because there was so much going on around me and I was really trying to find myself, and I needed an **outlet,** which was most expressive. And for me, poetry and spoken word...I found that...that avenue. It really **conceptualized** that whole period for me. So, that was just the perfect... Like, it was love at first sight. Just because it was that...that way to communicate everything that was going on at that time.

uni
förkortning av university; universitet
outlet
utlopp, ventil
conceptualize
föreställa

I got into spoken word primarily because as a young adolescent, like the hip-hop movement spoke to me so much. Hip-hop and rap spoke so much and had so much energy. But then one thing I felt that lacked at times was people's focus, too much on...on *how* people were saying things, as opposed to *what* they were saying. Like the beat and the sound, all that stuff. So, for me as a person who had a lot of ideas, and I really wanted people...to communicate them to people, and opinions I wanted to share with people, spoken word was like, the ideal platform.

There was nothing else that was covering up what I'm saying. It was just me and the audience and...and the ideas I wanted to project to them. So, spoken word is like the basic, basic form, like in its traditional sense. I mean, other people find their outlets. They find that same...that same passion for maybe, music. Some people find it through sports, some people find it through reading. But for me, I found it in that art form. That...the way to talk to the...speak to my emotions through that art form.

I felt it was so important to promote that message, because I was looking at the people directly around me, and I could see how it was affecting them, the way society viewed them. And how certain **gradings** were making them feel, like, less important or less skilled than they actually were. And I felt like, these are all my peers, these are all my friends, they're all my age mates, and no one's speaking to them.

gradings
gradering

And I thought, if anyone's going to speak to them or for them, I thought, it might as well be me. Just because someone needs to echo what all of us were thinking. And that was just... That was the whole **premise** behind it. I started **launching** the videos because when I...when you're a performance artist, people only hear you when you're performing in one place. And that's the only time you get to reach people. So, then I saw the internet and I realized it was a platform whereby I can reach multiple people, **simultaneously**.

premise
premiss, villkor
to launch
att lansera

simultaneously
samtidigt

So, for me that was just like, the gift, and I thought it just made more sense. I can go on here and everybody can hear me at once, rather than only when I'm at this place or only when I'm at that place. So, that's why I just gravitated towards all these videos and using YouTube as a platform.

Spoken Word: "I Will Not Let an Exam Result Decide My Fate", by Suli Breaks

So, this one is for my generation,
the ones who found what they were looking for on Google,
the ones who followed their dreams on Twitter,
pictured their future on Instagram, accepted **destiny** on Facebook.

destiny
öde

This one's for my failures and my **dropouts**,
for my unemployed **graduates**,
my **shop assistants**, cleaners and **cashiers** with bigger dreams.

dropout
avhoppare
graduate
person med akademisk examen
shop assistant
butiksbiträde
cashier
kassör

My self-employed entrepreneurs, my world-changers and my dream chasers,
'cause the purpose of "Why I Hate School but Love Education"
was not to initiate a worldwide debate,
but to let them know that whether 72 or 88, 44 or 68...

We will not let exam results decide our fate. Peace.

Suli:
And I was seeing how these results that people were giving them were having such **adverse effects** on how they viewed themselves. It was affecting their self-image. So, I thought someone has to speak up, or someone has to say something that everybody's feeling.

adverse effect
negativ inverkan

I love education but I don't like the structure of the school system, you know? I mean, I love learning, but I think people need to really understand what learning is, because sometimes when you're in certain systems, there's an emphasis on just remembering, remembering, remembering for 24 hours, and then forgetting after that. And that's not really learning, because you're not...you're not taking away a life experience; you're not taking away an idea that you can share with people.

And I think there's...that the two...the concepts are really **misconstrued**, as to what learning really is. We need to get the knowledge and apply it, you know, and...and...and really then enrich yourself with knowledge. When you learn how to really learn, it's a beautiful thing, whereas when you're forced to learn, and forced to learn...to learn stuff, it's not...it's not the same thing. Completely different. It's not...yeah, it's not...it's...it's...it's so...it's...it's so subjective, like so many factors can happen.

misconstrued
feltolkade

I know someone who's brilliant throughout the whole year, coming into the exams she felt ill. And because she was ill during...coming to the exam, they wouldn't give her the time off, because it's like, they didn't see it as a serious illness. It's like, she...she gets ill every month. Like that kind of stuff. And her grades reflected that. And I was like, this is totally unfair, because she's a brilliant student. It's just that exam happened to be on the wrong time. And then I used to remember when some people... I would have one exam one week, and I had one the next week. I remember some people have four exams in a row, before they have another exam the next week. And it was like...

There's no balance. It wasn't making sense, and I just felt people need to understand that there are so many other factors around you, that **contribute** towards your success, and contribute to who you are as a person. Not just one number or one...or one grade that people give you.

contribute
bidra

Male 1:
Jesus preached that he was the way.

Pamela:
The original Speakers' Corner is in the northeast corner of Hyde Park in London. Suli Breaks used to go there with his uncle.

Suli:
I love Speakers' Corner. It's...it's amazing. I used to go there with my uncle when I was young. And he used to take us there. And it was the most entertaining thing, just hearing people... Some of them had crazy ideas, some people had cool ideas. But just the exchange of ideas. I've always loved that whole dynamic of...

I'm a very **argumentative** person, so for me that was like the best place to be and hear the exchange of ideas, and how people argued their points. And I love that...that...that whole debate...debate culture. I see it on YouTube and I watch people debate and I watch powerful speakers. I love that, that whole dynamic. And when you can blend it with art, like spoken word, it's just...it's...it's great for me.

argumentative
diskussionslysten

Spoken word: "Why I Hate School but Love Education", by Suli Breaks

I'm not saying school is evil and there's nothing to gain.
All I'm saying is understand your motives
and **reassess** your aims.

reassess
omvärdera

'Cause if you want a job working for someone else, then help yourself.
But then again you wouldn't really be helping yourself,
you'd be helping someone else.

There's a saying which says:
"If you don't build your own dream,
someone else will hire you to help build theirs."

Redefine how you view education.
Understand its true meaning.

redefine
omdefiniera

Education is not just about **regurgitating** books
on someone else's opinion on a subject to pass an exam.
Look at it.

regurgitating
rapa upp

Picasso was educated in creating art.
Shakespeare was educated in the art of all that was written.

Colonel Harland Sanders was educated
in creating Kentucky Fried Chicken.

Song: "Happy", by Pharrell Williams

Because I'm happy
Clap along if you know
what happiness is to you

Pamela:
This is Pharrell Williams and his song, "Happy". For more on "Radio Popreel" and "Popreel" on TV, visit UR.se. And don't forget to follow us on Instagram. Niclas Jensen, Carl Nilsson and myself, Pamela Taivassalo Wikholm, produced the program. You've been listening to "Radio Popreel".

Clap along if you know
what happiness is to you
Because I'm happy
Clap along if you feel like
that's what you wanna do
Come on!