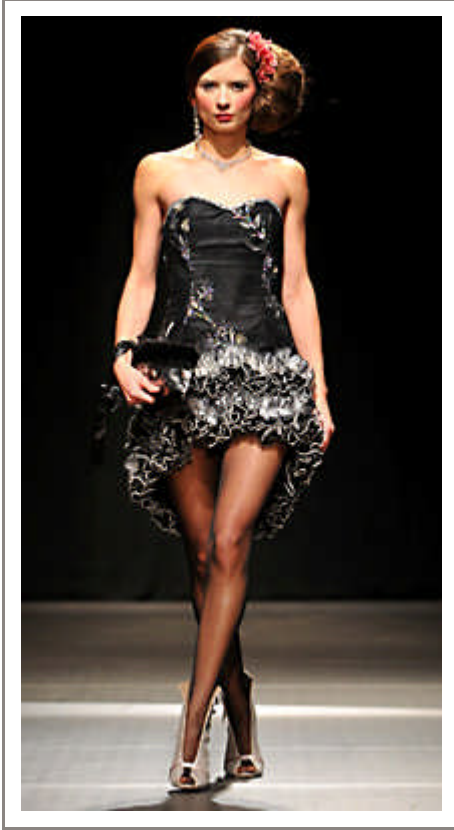


# World Fashion Directory and Style Guide

## Couture Fashion Week Wraps Up Latest Edition at New York's Famed Waldorf-Astoria

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All the theater and drama of couture fashion was present at Couture Fashion Week New York in February 2009. The three- day spectacle was a parade of glamorous evening wear as well as innovative couture and luxury wear. The moods of the shows ran the gamut from theatrical to sensual, from whimsical to classic, from traditional to futuristic. Wall to wall enthusiastic audiences of top socialites, diplomats and editors from around the world flocked to the perennially elegant Waldorf-Astoria February 13-15, 2009 to enjoy couture and luxury fashion collections on the runway by designers from Lebanon, Russia, Romania, Dominican Republic, India, Australia, Egypt, Korea, Turkey, Japan and the USA. Performances by world class entertainers including cellist Ggilberta Gelaj, singer Lara Janine, the NTDTV Lion! Dance Troupe, singer Najibah, Chinese zither artist Xianzi Ai and Chinese pipa artist April Zhu also enchanted attendees.

Launched in 2003, Couture Fashion Week has grown into a prestigious event recognized worldwide for its success in presenting stunning couture fashion shows

in such upscale venues as the St. Regis, The Westin Times Square and the Waldorf-Astoria. Event founder and producer Andres Aquino (also an accomplished fashion designer in his own right) along with a talented team of top makeup and hair stylists, models and staff continue to make Couture Fashion Week “the” place to see and be seen during New York Fashion Week. “The days are cold, the models are hot, and, most importantly, the clothes are rocking this season. Couture Fashion Week in New York City arrived at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel’s Starlight Roof last week.” - T7live.com

Leading couture designer Dany Atrache, who held his first runway show in Beirut and has shown at the Paris haute couture season for several years, mesmerized the discerning audience with a breathtaking collection of exclusive designs made especially for his USA debut at Couture Fashion Week New York. “Atrache’s mix of chic elegance with comfort, form and fit has his designs sitting on the lips of many this season. He’s a designer who sees beauty in unexpected places and this translates to his gowns ... The confidence of the gown as it delicately draped the models made me think of how much fun a bride in that dress would have on her special night.” - woai.com

Catalin Botezatu returned to Couture Fashion Week with a theatrical fashion show that drew celebrities and well-known international personalities including opera star Angela Gheorghiu and Olympic gold medalist Nadia Comaneci. “Romanian designer Catalin Botezatu's collection was focused on luxury. Everything about his show was over the top - from the make up the models wore - a white canvas with theatrical eye shadow and lipstick, to the hats, which were representative of pieces of art.” - diaryofalabellover.typepad.com

“Egyptian designer Soucha rocked his FW09 presentation, softening his usually goth-romantic inspired collection by interweaving it bold jewel tones - coral, turquoise... and emerald green. Emphasis was placed on the different silhouettes - from the fluid and figure hugging mermaid silhouette, to empire waist, to the Grecian column.” - diaryofalabellover.typepad.com

A number of other great designers were introduced to the fashion savvy crowd including Orlando, Florida-based design duo Vocce Couture, Korean accessories label Bloom Boom Boom and Dominican designer Jorge Diep who presented a well ornamented collection that combined beautiful colors and sex appeal. Mr. Diep has dressed many Latin beauty queens and celebrities. “I was very pleased to present Jorge Diep - he comes from a country with a great tradition of fabulous

international designers,” said producer Andres Aquino. “Australian designer Linda Ellis presented her couture collection on Saturday, February 14. It was definitely a show for lovers. Romance was infused in the room and throughout her designs. The vibe at the show was elegant chic with a toss of downtown cool. The crowd was completely diverse and included budding fashionistas, the men who adore them and seasoned fashion veterans. The show began with a performance by cellist Gjilberta Gelaj, which was an exquisite touch to the collection.” - phatguru.com

A unique fashion show, dubbed "Space Couture", presented winners from a design contest of futuristic fashion in Japan. "You're going to want to wear something special for that once-in-a-lifetime event," says Chuck Lauer of Rocketplane Global, an aerospace firm that plans to offer suborbital tourist flights and helped to organize a recent space-themed fashion show at Couture Fashion Week in New York City. - newscientist.com.

Nedret Taciroglu from Turkey made her second appearance at Couture Fashion Week. Her elegant show was attended by contingent of diplomats and important personalities from the Turkish community as well as a host of press and fashion lovers “I have just discovered a wonderfully talented Turkish designer by the name of Nedret Taciroglu.” - The Epoch Times The dramatic "Journey" collection by Andres Aquino was accessorized by one-of-a-kind matching shoes crafted by British shoe designer Silvia Campbell. Many of the beautiful jewelry ensembles used in the show were created by Kenyan-born designer Nasimiyu Wekesa, whose jewelry has been worn by Christy Turlington, Patti Scialfa Springsteen and other celebrities. The impeccable hair styling for the fashion show was done by hair stylist to the stars Federico Calce of Federico Salon in New York. “Saturday’s production of Andres Aquino’s couture show (the man behind the Waldorf-Astoria’s Couture Fashion Week) was like spending an afternoon in some Viennese majestic courtyard sipping tea and then a languorous walk over to the wild side with African, theatrical induced sensibilities...” – scallywagandvagabond.com

Nina Gleyzer, a native of St. Petersburg, Russia and a master of couture design, offered a collection of refined and sophisticated creations inspired by the beauty of nature through a palette of feminine lines, dramatic colors, and innovative fabrication. Sushma Patel's return appearance at Couture Fashion Week featured elegant and fluid feminine designs accented with crystals and delicate beading. “Australian designer Cristina Nitopi for the first time presented an exclusive

menswear collection at Fall Couture Fashion Week. It was nice to see a feminine perspective on menswear. The tailored, trim cut pants and cropped denim jackets were a revival from decades past but with just enough modernity to make the sophisticated, urban guy proud to walk down the street wearing it.” -  
diaryofalabellover.typepad.com

The next Couture Fashion Week is scheduled for September 11-13, 2009 and it is expected to be bigger and better than ever. The upcoming event will include for the first time The Couture Fashion Week Ball, a black-tie evening of dinner, dancing and fashion on Saturday evening. Couture Fashion Week is a multi-day event showcasing couture and luxury fashion. It also includes exhibits of luxury brands and fine art as well as world-class entertainment and receptions. The event is held in top venues in New York City, Palm Beach, Florida and other selected cities and is attended by upscale consumers, invited VIPs, the press and high-end store buyers. Couture Fashion Week offers unique branding opportunities for luxury products and services. More information at:  
**[www.CoutureFashionWeek.com](http://www.CoutureFashionWeek.com)**

<http://www.world-fashion.info/couture-fashion-week-new-york>