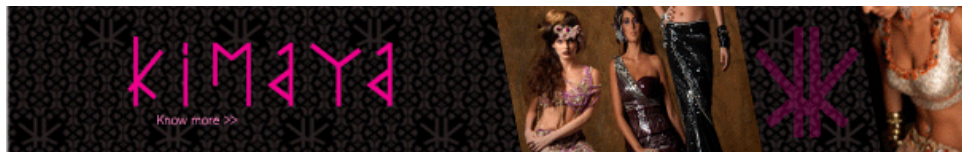


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THE CFDA AWARDS

— ANJHULA MYA SINGH BAIS

Hot off the press as I walked home from Lincoln Center, which is around the corner from me and I'm not going to Standard Hotel to party as I shoot tomorrow, but here's a recap of last night!

New York, NY, June 7, 2011 – Last night were the CFDA awards. The Council of Fashion Designers of America, Inc. [CFDA] is a not-for-profit trade association whose membership consists of more than 370 of America's foremost womenswear, menswear, accessory and jewellery designers and is the platform that most fashion weeks across the world emulate. Diane von Furstenberg, president of the Council of Fashion Designers of America, presented a surprise award to Nadja Swarovski onstage at the 2011 CFDA Fashion Awards at Lincoln Center. The tribute honored Swarovski's tenth year as underwriter of the CFDA Fashion Awards. Nadja Swarovski was presented with a one-of-a kind Trova statuette that 2008 Swarovski Award for Accessory Design winner Philip Crangi had personalized for the occasion with Swarovski crystals.

Twenty-one Swarovski award winners from the past ten years appeared on stage in a surprise tribute segment to honor Swarovski's sponsorship of the awards and the company's unstinting support of emerging designers. Some of the designers included Alexander Wang, Jason Wu, Phillip Lim, Richard Chai and Zac Posen. In presenting the Award, von Furstenberg expressed her gratitude to Swarovski for the company's unwavering support of the American fashion industry, the CFDA Fashion Awards, and, in particular, young and emerging designers.

CFDA paid tribute to the winners and honorees of the 2011 CFDA Fashion Awards at Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center. CNN anchor Anderson Cooper was the host for the evening. The Womenswear Designer of the Year, The evening's Womenswear Designer of the Year honors went to Jack McCollough and Lazaro Hernandez for Proenza Schouler presented by Naomi Watts. Gerard Butler presented the award for Menswear Designer of the Year to Michael Bastian. Alexander Wang took home the Accessory Designer of the Year Award, presented by Iris Apfel. Karolina Kurkova presented the three Swarovski Awards, which honor and recognize emerging talent. The Swarovski Award for Womenswear was given to Prabal Gurung. The Swarovski Award for Menswear was presented to Robert Geller. The Swarovski Award for Accessory Design went to Eddie Borgo. Sofia Coppola presented the Geoffrey Beene Lifetime Achievement Award to Marc Jacobs for his consistent, creative influence on fashion.

Lady Gaga, wearing a turquoise wig with a studded thong, who was accompanied by her parents Joseph and Cynthia Germanotta, was the recipient of The Fashion Icon Award, given by Stephen Gan of Harper's Bazaar, Visionaire and V Magazine. Lady Gaga texted Anna Wintour when she received a text from the formidable editor about winning the CFDA award "yes bitch we did it" thinking it was another Anna! My friend Sophie Elgort's father, Photographer Arthur Elgort, was bestowed the Board of Directors' Special Tribute Award, presented by Vogue's Grace Coddington, for his indelible contribution to fashion over the years. Bibhu Mohapatra did India proud with at least 20 women wearing his creations.

The most influential fashion people on the planet included (I lost count!) in addition to the nominees and honorees: Adam Lippes, Aerin Lauder, Alejandro Ingelmo, Alexander Wang, Alexis Bittar, Ashley Olsen, Aymeline Valade, Behati Prinsloo, Betsey Johnson, Brad Goreski, Chanel Iman, Chloe Sevigny, Chris Benz, Cynthia Rowley, Daphne Guinness, David Neville, Derek Lam, Donna Karan, Doutzen Kroes, Eddie Borgo, Erin Fetherston, Francisco Costa, Georgina Chapman, Guinevere Van Seenus, Inez VanLamsweerde, Italo Zucchelli, Jack McCollough, Jason Wu, Jeff Halmos, Jenna Lyons, Joseph Altuzarra, Kenneth Cole, Keren Craig, Lazaro Hernandez, Lisa Mayock, Liya Kebede, L'Wren Scott, Maggie Rizer, Marc Jacobs, Marcus Wainwright, Mary-Kate Olsen, Michael Bastian, Michael Kors, Miranda Kerr, Nadja Swarovski, Nicole Miller, Pamela Love, Patrick Robinson, Patrik Ervell, Phillip Lim, Prabal Gurung, Rachel Roy, Reed Krakoff, Richard Chai, Richard Lambertson, Robert Geller, Sam Shipley, Sessilee Lopez, Simon Spurr, Sophie Buhai, Sophie Theallet, Stan Herman, Steven Kolb, Tory Burch, Tracy Reese, Vera Wang, Vinoodh Matadin, Yeohlee Teng, Waris Ahluwalia, Yigal Azrouël and Zac Posen.

They joined VIPs such as host Anderson Cooper, Amber Heard, Ashley Greene, Carla Gugino, Chloe Sevigny, Ebon Moss-Bachrach, Estelle, Gerard Butler (Menswear Presenter), Jessica Alba (Founders Presenter), Joy Bryant, Kanye West (International Award Presenter), Kathy Griffin, Katie Cassidy, Kelly Rowland, Kerry Washington, Lady Gaga, Leelee Sobieski, Leigh Lezark, Liv Tyler, Lucy Liu, Matt Bomer, Naomi Watts (Womenswear Presenter), Nate Berkus, Russell Simmons, Shenae Grimes, Sofia Coppola (Geoffrey Beene Lifetime Achievement Award Presenter) and Thomas Mars.



Bhibu Mohapatra



Diane von Furstenberg



Prabal Gurung and Allesandra Ambrosio



The Elgort family in the lift [pic credit: Sophie Elgort]

08-JUNE-2011

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