

## A Change of Venue for Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week

Erin Etheridge, Staff Writer

Self-labeled “the world’s premier fashion event,” Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week opted for a change of location for its New York round of fall and winter 2010 couture and ready-to-wear showcases.

The event, which was founded by publicist Eleanor Lambert in 1943 and then referred to as Press Week, has taken place in the now iconic tents of Bryant Park since 1993, explained freelance editor and writer Kristin Larson in her 2009 “Fashion Week 101” article for MSN Lifestyle. This year, however, the New York portion of the international event was relocated to the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in Damrosch Park and ran from February 11 through 18.

Reflecting on the move from Bryant Park, Anna Wintour, Editor-in-Chief of American Vogue, remarked on the Web site for Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week New York, “Bryant Park become the beacon of what New York fashion stands for – an industry that’s fearless, tireless, and always moving forward.”

However, despite the venue

change, attendees still seemed eager for the semi-annual fashion showcase, produced by the entertainment, media, and sports company IMG. “Mercedes-Benz fashion week brings excitement, glamour and feelings of happiness to us all,” observed Sex and the City costume designer Patricia Field on the New York event’s Web site.

This season’s New York portion of Fashion Week featured collections for fall 2010. Notable among the designers and labels present were those of Calvin Klein, Diane von Furstenberg, Isaac Mizrahi, and Vera Wang. The event also highlighted relatively new but increasingly popular designers and labels, such as 3.1 Phillip Lim, Tory Burch, Tibi, and Project Runway’s Christian Siriano.

Fashion Week New York also included a “Red Dress Collection” on February 11 to raise awareness of heart disease and stroke in women, as well as a “Fashion for Relief” showcase on February 12 to benefit the victims of the recent Haitian earthquake.

New York’s February

Fashion Week is one of three international fashion events sponsored by Mercedes-Benz and highlighting fall and winter pieces for 2010. Fashion Week began this year in Berlin, Germany. This showcase took place from January 20 through 23 at the Bebelplatz, a public square in Berlin’s historic district and the site of a 1933 Nazi book burning.

Ready-to-wear pieces for the fall and winter of 2010 were on display during Fashion Week Berlin. The event featured the collections of mostly European designers and labels, including Allude, Custo Barcelona, A-lab Milano, littleshippa, and Mongrels in Common.

The next of Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week’s designer showcases for 2010 will take place at The Raleigh Hotel in Miami Beach, Florida. The event, running from July 15 until July 19, will highlight the year’s swimwear collections. Designers and labels such as Caffé Swimwear, Lui Fama, Red Carter, V Del Sol, and White Sands Australia are scheduled to present pieces.

The Fashion Week phenomena will then return to New York in September of 2010, when it will

feature couture and ready-to-wear collections for spring 2011.

For more information on the three shows that comprise Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week, visit the group’s Web site at <http://www.mbfashionweek.com>.

## Blast from the Past



Photo of the Meredith Curie Chemistry Club circa 1922, courtesy of Martha Fonville

## Ask Gigi

Dear Gigi,  
I think my friend has a serious drinking problem. She openly jokes about having used alcohol to “drink away her problems” since she was 12 years old. Frequently during the week, she drinks so much that she claims to not remember the previous day. Recently, she has started to neglect many of her academic and personal responsibilities. When I tried to bring up the issue last week, she freaked out and stopped speaking to me! How can I help her?

Sincerely,  
Worried

Dear Worried,  
Your friend probably has more than one underlying personal problem that she tries to cover up or forget about with the aid of alcohol. Since she won’t speak to you, write her a letter and tell her how worried you are about her and why her drinking habits concern you. Let her know that you won’t push the issue but that you care about her and will listen if she wants to talk later. Then anonymously refer her to the Counseling Center. The trained counselors will be able to contact other professionals in the local network so as to get her the help she really needs. She has a long road to recovery ahead of her, and she’ll need your help to get to the finish line, so be strong for her.

Yours truly,  
Gigi

## What’s Up In Raleigh

- March 5 – March 27, 2010: Shannon Johnstone. “Milkbones” Show at Artspace
- Wednesday, March 10, 2010: Alice in Wonderland: An IMAX 3D Experience at the Wachovia IMAX Theatre at Marbles Kids Museum, “From Walt Disney Pictures and visionary director Tim Burton comes an epic 3D fantasy adventure Alice in Wonderland, a magical and imaginative twist on some of the most beloved stories of all time.”
- Southern Ideal Home Show at the Fairgrounds, \$8
- RBC Center, Carolina Hurricanes vs Pittsburgh Penguins
- NCHJA “C” Indoors Hunter/Jumper Horse Show at the Fairgrounds, 3/12-14/2010 at 8:00 AM, free
- Women’s Club of Raleigh Antique Show and Sale. Admission is \$7 for a three day pass. Event hours are Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- March 13th: 28th Annual St. Patrick’s Day Parade
- Downtown Raleigh: 2010 Run for the Oaks will be held March 13, 8:30 am at Moore Square Park
- Bond Park’s 15th Annual Kite Festival, March 13th at 12:30 pm. Free.