

Stars of the

by Faith Newcombe
(research by Nadine Kudmony)

After visiting the annual Summer Show held at the Arts University College at Bournemouth, the editor of Wessex Muse Magazine was very impressed by the particular works of two students, photographer Montana Lowery and costume designer Richelle Rudeen.

Montana Lowery has always shown an aptitude for photographic brilliance it would seem; she received her first award, 'UK's Young Photographer', at the tender age of eight and held this outstanding position for the next three years. From the sparks of this running start, along with an Editor's Choice award and a Portrait Prize under her belt, rose a close alliance with Y Salon in Newcastle, providing Lowery with submissions into the British Hair Awards and L'Oreal competitions and the esteemed Colour Trophy for Hairdressing.

Her fresh ambition and ability are particularly evident in her untitled photograph of model Andrea graced by a large purple flower, a piece which bears a smouldering intensity complemented by a traditional 1920s-esque finish, displayed at the AUCB Summer Show. More recently, Lowery has had the privilege of having her work featured in many prestigious magazines including Vogue & Glamour, along with involvement in the shooting of new promotional campaigns for fashion monsters American Dream and Love Hair Extensions in May this year. Lowery admits to an intimate connection with the world of fashion photography, but says she is interested other genres too and with a portfolio as breathtaking as hers, it is evident that she could fulfill any specification with just as much vigour. For more information on Montana Lowery's work, go to her website at www.montanamilowery.com or visit her Flickr page at www.flickr.com/photos/montanamilowery



Pictured (cw): Bound - Richelle Rudeen; Montana Lowery; Ringmistress by Richelle Rudeen



Future

impress at AUCB summer show

Richelle Rudeen also started a life of success early. Fresh from graduating an international diploma with honours from Eugene International High School, Oregon, in 2006, Rudeen went on to the Fashion Institute of Technology, NYC, averaging over 90% in all of her classes in 2008. Her flawless aptitude for precision and perfection in her work led her to design and coordinate costumes for various productions around Oregon and Western America since 2005, including a less traditional ballet production of Snow White set in the Renaissance.

Rudeen's evening-wear designs were chosen to feature in a 2008 fashion show hosted by renowned designer James Galanos and won her the chance to work on a short film run by Kodak, highlighting the risks of smoking. In particular, her costumes 'Bound' and 'Ring Mistress', both displayed at the AUCB summer show, emphasise just what she is capable of; intertwining social symbolism within her dark portrayal of female beauty in 'Bound' with striking detail encapsulated in the incredible strength of form and colour in 'Ring Mistress'. The latter costume has recently been selected as a potential finalist for the eminent international 'World of Wearable Arts' awards held annually in New Zealand.

Rudeen describes her work as 'impacting an audience through the artful combination of shape, colour and texture', but it is plain to see that impacting her audience is the very east she is capable of. See for yourself at her website: www.richelledyna.com.