

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2017

# chicago

WOMAN



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# THE & ARTS CULTURE ISSUE

A DAY WITH FILMMAKER FAWZIA MIRZA  
THE NEW GUARD: CHICAGO FASHION TAKES CENTER STAGE  
THE PINK HOUSE PROJECT: 5 WOMEN SHAPING ARTS & CULTURE  
IN THE CITY: CAT DE ORDO'S MOST INSPIRED RESTAURANTS

# The New Guard



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:  
KATE KIERNAN, TONYA  
GROSS, LAUREN MARKT  
AND ADILAH MUHAMMAD

Chicago is no Second City when it comes to fashion. Get inspired for fall with looks from some of the city's most talented designers, all poised to make a name for themselves for many seasons to come.

by Jennifer Smith Tapp

## Tonya Gross

Executive Director,  
Chicago Fashion Incubator

with designers from CFI current class

KATE KIERNAN WULFKA, WULFKA.COM

LAUREN MARKT SYL, MARKT, SYLMARKT.COM

ADILAH MUHAMMAD ADILAH M, ADILAHM.COM

“The Chicago Fashion Incubator is an established 501(c)3 formed to support the business of fashion in Chicago through a two-year Designer in Residence (DIR) program as well as free and low-cost public workshops and networking events. We are proud of the accomplishments of the nearly 50 designers that have gone through the DIR program since its inception, including Katelyn Pankoke (Elaya Vaughn, Seasons 11 & 12 of Project Runway), Eric Kipp (Eric Kipp Custom Clothiers), and Christina Karin (CFAN).”

Our current DIR are finishing samples for Spring Summer 2018 and preparing for Fall Winter 2017 trunk shows. Information about where to find their collections, the 2018 DIR program, and upcoming public programs can be found at [chicagofashionincubator.org](http://chicagofashionincubator.org).

ON TONYA Jacket by Rakan Shams Aidsen, skirt by Lagi Nadeau, and necklace by Betsy Tanner Designs for Macy's.

Photography by Kirsten Miccoli Photography

Hair and Makeup by Rachael Heimbuch, Torie Conn (makeup), and Shoshana Zacharias on behalf of Make Up First, LLC.

## FASHION THE NEW GUARD



ANNA BROWN

## Anna Brown

[anna-brown.com](http://anna-brown.com)

### THIS COLLECTION'S INSPIRATION.

My inspiration often starts with three elements that define the collection: a menswear or historical uniform reference, a color story that has caught my eye, and an architectural element drawn from the urban landscape, or from whatever visual art or film I'm interested in at the moment. The Fall/Winter '17 collection was influenced strongly by the 1988 Cuban film *Memories of Underdevelopment* and the actress Daisy Granados, who is captivating.

**CHICAGO AS A FASHION CENTER.** We need to continue to build our community. We have enormous talent here, and we need to continue to find interesting ways to collaborate.

### FELLOW LOCAL DESIGNER YOU ADMIRE.

I can't possibly pick one. Chicago has such huge talent, and I'm proud to live and work here in such good company.

**FALL FASHION INVESTMENT.** My garnet-red widelegged Petra pants! You knew I'd say that.

## Lagi Nadeau

[laginadeau.com](http://laginadeau.com)

### THIS COLLECTION'S INSPIRATION.

The reduced color palette, bold shapes and elegance of Japanese artist Kiyoshi Saito's woodblock prints inspired my fabric selections and silhouettes for fall. The color palette ranges from shades of red, white, black, brown and green. Lightweight metallics, structured outerwear, and textures deeply reflect the inspiration of this season.

**CHICAGO AS A FASHION CENTER.** Our fashion community in Chicago is building and growing which makes for an exciting time, but it also has its challenges. I've seen it happen again and again, a talented designer who leaves Chicago because there are other cities with stronger platforms and partnerships to promote their cities' fashion and retail community. Production can be challenging as well, it has taken me time to find resources here and I still travel to New York from time to time for some of my production needs.



LAGI NADEAU

### FELLOW LOCAL DESIGNER YOU ADMIRE.

Andrea Reynnders is the design director of Chicago Fashion Incubator and has been a mentor to me. She is brilliant and her collection reflects that. Her thoughtful designs in beautiful textiles and silhouettes get me every time!

### FALL FASHION INVESTMENT.

I love a good sweater dress. One of my favorite styles this season is our Shelby dress in a rich oxblood color, fabricated in an Italian textured knit. It's my go-to for fall because it's the perfect combination; it feels cozy like pajamas while looking really chic.

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