

Fashion Week Interview

It is the day before London Fashion Week and I am sitting in the foyer of the design workshop of Zawi, just off Kings Road in Chelsea, waiting to interview Matthew and Lizelle, the brother and sister designer duo of the well-known fashion label Zawi. There is a flurry of activity. People are darting around, talking on mobile phones, pushing rails that have covers to hide the no-doubt gorgeous garments underneath. As a rail is pushed past me I manage to catch a glimpse of a bit of fabric peeping out. I see a kaleidoscope of bright colours – and was that an animal print?

Zawi is well known for using Africa as inspiration because that is where Matthew and Lizelle grew up. Suddenly Matthew and Lizelle appear, looking calmer than everyone else considering their couture show is to be held next day.

“For this collection we have been inspired by African animals, African sunsets, and flowers that used to grow in our mother’s garden,” Matthew explains as he flicks through his sketching journal. “I can’t give too much away by showing you the actual garments, but I have sketches and Lizelle has samples of the fabrics we have used to give you a feeling for our collection.”

Zawi

