

India's Fashion Icons Redefine Art in Mumbai

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Vogue India's Forces of Fashion 2025 is back for its fourth edition—this time unfolding as an immersive art-meets-fashion exhibition. Hosted at **Nilaya Anthology** from **September 16 to 20**, the event spotlights over **35 of India's foremost designers**, transforming the venue into a dynamic gallery of storytelling through garment.

A Curated Intersection of Design & Expression

Anchored by the philosophical bridge between architecture and fashion—evoked by the words of **Coco Chanel**: *"Fashion IS architecture: it is a matter of proportions,"*—this showcase emphasizes balance, structure, and emotion as foundational to design. Over five days, Nilaya Anthology evolves into a curated space celebrating the narratives woven by India's weavers, artists, and creators.

Prestige Meets Innovation: The Designer Lineup

The showcase is divided into three distinct tiers, offering a panoramic view of Indian fashion's current landscape:

- **Icons:** Esteemed names like **Manish Malhotra**, **Anita Dongre**, **Gaurav Gupta**, **Rimzim Dadu**, **Shantanu Nikhil**, **Shivan & Narresh**, **Varun Bahl**, **Suneet Varma**, **Shyamal & Bhumika**, and **House of Kotwara** will feature bespoke, evocative creations.
- **Contemporary Voices:** Designers such as **Abhinav Mishra**, **JADE by Monica & Karishma**, **Archana Rao**, **Kunal Rawal**, **Dhruv Kapoor**, **Divyam Mehta**, **Namza**, **NorBlack NorWhite**, **Papa Don't Preach**, **Rimple & Harpreet**, and **Rahul Mishra** bring fresh perspectives and modern sensibilities.
- **The New Guard:** Emerging talents including **11.11**, **Akaaro**, **Kaleekal**, **Rishta by Arjun Saluja**, **Ashdeen**, **Bloni**, **Bobo Calcutta**, **Chanakya School of Craft**, **Countrymade**, **EAST**, **Ekaya Banaras**, **KGL**, **Paiwand**, **QUOD**, **Rkive City**, **Studio Medium**, **SWGT**, and **That Antiquepiece**, bring ingenuity and fresh voices to the canvas.

Adding to the anticipation: **Rabanne**, exhibiting at **Forces of Fashion** for the **first time in Asia**, will display an exclusive selection of archival gowns and runway treasures.

Blending Disciplines with Purpose and Presence

This year's edition is as much about dialogue as display. With support from **Nilaya Anthology**, **MoroccanOil**, and **Grey Goose Vive Le Voyage**, the event becomes a platform where fashion's craftsmanship meets art's introspection. Each creation—meticulously crafted for the showcase—embodies a story of cultural heritage, contemporary reinterpretation, and the balance of aesthetic and architecture. [Vogue India](#)

As Vogue India aptly frames it: “...a gallery that explores the threads and silhouettes shaping the work of India’s weavers, storytellers, architects and artists.”

What to Expect: A Synthesis of Craft, Innovation, and Curation

Attendees can anticipate a visually striking array of one-of-a-kind creations—garments doubling as living sculptures, fashion pieces as visual narratives. From delicate handwork and theatrical silhouettes to avant-garde silhouettes, each display promises a sensory journey through the fabric of contemporary India.

Forces of Fashion 2025 isn’t just a curated exhibition—it’s a statement of Indian fashion’s direction and potential. By bringing together architects of style—from industry stalwarts to rising stars—it underscores the dynamic interplay between preservation and innovation. It brings the conversations around sustainability, artisanal revival, and cultural storytelling to the forefront of global fashion discourse.

Furthermore, featuring Rabanne’s archival presence in Asia signals a growing international resonance for Indian fashion platforms and their cross-cultural collaborations.

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