

Lakm? Fashion Week x FDCI 2025 Opening Show Highlights: Craft, Colour & Couture at The Kunj

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The opening show of **Lakm? Fashion Week x FDCI 2025** marked a bold start to the 25th edition of India's most celebrated fashion extravaganza. Hosted at **The Kunj**, Delhi's first **craft-focused retail destination**, the event spotlighted the synergy between **handloom artistry and contemporary design**.

Gaurav Jai Gupta's Akaaro: A Burst of Pink

The evening opened with Gaurav Jai Gupta's **Akaaro** collection, '**Starlight**', a vivid homage to pink skies rendered in **handwoven khadi silks, cottons, and metallic fabrics**. The signature **kinji palla saris, lungi drapes, and layered overcoats** showcased Gupta's mastery of texture and movement, making it one of the standout moments of the night.

Anavila Misra's Subtle Elegance

Designer **Anavila Misra** presented a curated selection from her '**Sarmast**' collection, inspired by the opulence of the Deccan region. Soft **organza and linen saris and lehengas** in muted cream, blush, and gold tones were accentuated with **obi belts, corset tops, and bib blouses**, blending fluidity with structure.

Music and Mood

Live performances added dimension to the showcase. Singer **Deveshi Sahgal** lent a retro flair to the early presentations, while violinist **Madina** provided a soulful score for Gupta's collection, proving once again that **fashion and entertainment are inseparable**.

Scenography and Scope for Refinement

While **Ankon Mitra's textile-art installation** elevated the ambiance, the venue's architecture posed challenges. Split seating and limited visibility affected the runway experience, and some multi-designer segments, like '**The Edit at The Kunj**', felt rushed and under-focused.

The Verdict

Lakm? Fashion Week's opening show celebrated **craft, creativity, and colour**, though tighter choreography and streamlined programming could have enhanced the visual narrative. It was a promising start to a week that promises to merge **tradition with innovation**, giving craft a modern, global stage.

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