

Kirrikin Makes Grand India Debut — First Nations Fashion Meets Delhi Runway

Published on 02 Dec 2025 | By IFI Correspondent



In a vibrant evening of culture, art and couture, Indigenous Australian fashion label Kirrikin made its official India debut on 28 October 2025. The event — hosted by Australian High Commission in partnership with Fashion Design Council of India (FDCI) — introduced Indian audiences to a unique fusion of First Nations Australian art and contemporary fashion.

The show opened with a traditional performance by First Nations artists, setting a tone steeped in heritage and storytelling — a prelude to a runway where every garment carried cultural meaning.

What Kirrikin Stands For — Art, Identity & Global Craftsmanship

Founded by Amanda Healy, a Wonnarua woman, Kirrikin transforms hand-painted artworks of First Nations artists into luxe fashion pieces. The brand's name itself means “Sunday’s best clothes” in the Wonnarua language — a nod to tradition, identity, and cultural pride.

What makes this debut especially meaningful is the cross-continental craftsmanship: though the designs and art are Australian, the garments were crafted in India (Noida), blending Indian textile expertise with Indigenous Australian aesthetics.

This collaboration reflects a deeper creative and trade partnership under the framework of the Australia–India Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (AI-ECTA), highlighting how fashion can act as a bridge between cultures and economies.

The Collection: “Evoke”

The showcased collection — titled **“Evoke”** — featured flowing dresses, tailored blazers, wrap-dresses, skirts, and pants in soft viscose crepe. The palette drew from earthy greens, ocean blues, sunlit oranges — colours evocative of Australian landscapes and Indigenous art motifs.

Each garment was more than just clothing: it carried narratives of land, heritage and identity — transforming runway fashion into wearable art that speaks of history and connection.

Attendees included diplomats, fashion-industry leaders, cultural representatives and design enthusiasts — a mix that underscored the event’s role as a meeting point for global creativity and cross-cultural exchange.

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