

Getting Soucie in Soho

Ripe from New York Fashion week, Katherine Soucie arrives home knowing one thing for sure: New Yorkers will never look at pantyhose in the same way ever again.

By Shannon Melnyk

Yesterday, a juror in the Port Moody Arts Centre Wearable Arts Awards. Today, an eco-friendly designer with her very own show in one of the globe's largest fashion capitals. Tomorrow? New frontiers in glass, bamboo, soy and dryer sheets all courtesy of Sans Soucie Clothing.

Dryer sheets? It all makes sense when you learn it started with pantyhose. Soucie made a name for herself by hand-dyeing and silk screening reclaimed hosiery and turning it into high fashion.

But does it run, is what we all really want to know. The answer is no, and her polymer studies have translated into whimsical and feminine machine-washable pieces that flatter every size.

Gaining momentum through-out Canada, the US and Japan, the irony of her line's namesake is not lost on the environmentally dedicated designer who will soon be adding the word wedding to her japantown, lace and dryer sheet collections. Sans Soucie, translated, is "without a care". But her design philosophy has always made sense. Says Soucie, "It's simple. Caring allows you to be more carefree. It's who I truly am as an artist".

