**FASHION REVOLUTION OPEN STUDIOS**

We are pleased to announce our first Fashion Revolution Open Studios to take place during Fashion Revolution Week, 24-30 April 2017, as part of our #whomademyclothes #imadeyourclothes campaign.

Curated by Tamsin Blanchard, the initiative will see designers around the world opening up their studios, hosting workshops and talking about how they make their clothes. The aim of the week long series of events is to engage the consumer further in the conversation about who makes our clothes - and to involve them in some of the processes along the way.

Christopher Raeburn will be hosting several open studio events throughout the week, including a VIP evening and a daytime public workshop where guests will be invited to make and customise their own tote bag using off cuts from his production. Raeburn will also conduct studio tours opening up his space in the old Burberry factory in Hackney, east London. “I am very proud of my studio and like to open it up as a creative and community hub whenever I can, with regular workshops to teach people how to sew as well as how to repair and customise their clothes and accessories,” he said. He is partnering with Avery Dennison and has invested in ten new sewing machines for his workshop programme and is looking forward to helping people stitch and personalise their own #TotesRemade bags.

The Queen of Crochet, Katie Jones, will kick off the Open Studios with a workshop showing how to use her brand new #revolutionrange patches she is launching with Beyond Retro. Other designers taking part in Fashion Revolution Open Studios include John Alexander Skelton who won the L’Oreal prize at the end of his CSM MA last year and recently showed his third menswear collection with hand-woven fabrics, one-off jackets made from antique trouser linings, as well as Victorian corduroy workers’ trousers, rare breed wools and fabrics made in British mills.

There will also be a chance to meet and make with some of London’s most exciting young designers and their teams who are finding new ways of producing their collections so they can control their fabric choices, supply chains and processes.

Try your hand at making your own fabric lino prints with Dalston-based brand Kepler or get a modern take on embroidery with Jodie Ruffle who is re-thinking luxury sportswear with her artisanal approach. “Anyone who comes can have a look at my past collections, try some pieces on, chat to me, watch the 360 film I made,’ said Ruffle. “I will be working throughout the day on a new project so will have embroidery frames etc set up - it would be nice to be able to show people how I work.”

Other global events will include open-air workshops in Prato, Italy; a tie-dye workshop by Raquel Allegra in Los Angeles; shirt-making with Wilsen Willim in Jakarta; and a peak behind the scenes with Kit X in Sydney.

Fashion Revolution Week is a global campaign sparking a wider public conversation about the impacts of our clothes on the people who make them.

Fashion Revolution is designers, academics, writers, business leaders, policymakers, brands, retailers, marketers, producers, makers, workers and fashion lovers. We are the industry and we are the public, we are world citizens. Get involved: <http://fashionrevolution.org/get-involved/brands/>

*‘We want to celebrate the invisible process behind designers finished collections, the intimacy of a studio, the reality of the team, and see the people that make out clothes’ Orsola de Castro*

*‘Open Studios is an opportunity to shine a light on a group of emerging designers - and some established trailblazers - who are finding alternative ways of producing fashion that is mindful of the planet and its resources. It's not something they talk about as a PR exercise. Its not about sustainability per se. It's just integral to they way they live and how they work. As the existing fashion system continues to find new ways to exist, smaller, artisanal designers have a stronger voice. They are designers who enjoy connecting to their own communities, and increasingly they do that not just by selling them product but by opening up their studios and engaging them in workshops and creating an experience. Working with Orsola de Castro and the Fashion Revolution team, I have invited a group of designers to take part in the first annual Open Studios week. Fashion Revolution is the perfect platform to showcase the work of these designers both in the UK and internationally. They* all work in very different ways but are united in their mission to make fashion better. ‘Tamsin Blanchard’

For the full list of events, go to [www.fashionrevolution.org](http://www.fashionrevolution.org)

For more information please contact roxy@fashionrevolution.org

#fashrevstudios #whomademyclothes #imadeyourclothes