



# sanitation

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Press Release #22-18

April 13, 2022

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### **ReFashion Week NYC Wraps with Sustainable Runway Show ([PHOTOS HERE](#))**

*Hosted by donateNYC and the Sanitation Foundation and sponsored by MPB, NYCEDC, and others, ReFashion Week NYC Spotlights Secondhand and Sustainable Fashion Across New York City*

**BROOKLYN, NY:** The fourth annual ReFashion Week NYC hit the runway from April 2–8, 2022 with a series of events designed to reduce textile waste and reimagine the fashion industry. From clothing repair workshops to thrift markets to runway shows, ReFashion Week brought New Yorkers together to build a world where style and sustainability go hand in hand.

Including a full list of 25 events, viewable at [refashionweek.nyc](http://refashionweek.nyc), ReFashion Week concluded Friday with the **ReFashion Runway Show**, in which eight sustainable stylists and five designers showcased thrifted looks and upcycled designs with materials sourced from donateNYC's nonprofit partners. **donateNYC** is DSNY's program promoting donations and reuse to help New Yorkers give goods, find goods, and do good through online tools, capacity building for the non-profit reuse sector, and events, such as Refashion Week.

Looks were evaluated live by high-profile judges from the sustainable fashion industry, including Runa Ray, Sustainable Fashion Workshop, Céline Semaan, Founder of Slow Factory Nicole Spina, Assistant VP of Sustainability Initiatives at NYCEDC, and Camille Tagle, Co-founder and Creative Director of FABSCRAP.

Ultimately, the judges chose Mahdiyyah Muhammad as the winning designer and Terell McCollum as the winning stylist.

[Photos of the runway show can be seen here.](#) They may be used with attribution to the NYC Department of Sanitation.

Emceed by New York drag icon Marti Gould Cummings, the runway show is ReFashion Week's headline event - but far from the only one. The week kicked off on April 2<sup>nd</sup> with the ReFashion Week Opening Expo and Marketplace at Brooklyn Army Terminal, where attendees shopped sustainable and secondhand vendors and learned from expert panelists working in the field of sustainable fashion. As the entire purpose of ReFashion Week is to reduce waste, clothing donation bins and alteration services were also available onsite.

From April 3-7, events were hosted throughout the City and virtually, including factory tours, mending workshops, designer vintage drops, and panel discussions.

"New York is the city of Swagger, and that means dressing the part. But looking as good as we do doesn't have to mean creating tons of textile waste," said **New York City Mayor Eric Adams**. "I want every New Yorker to check out the [donateNYC platform](#), to watch the ReFashion Week talks, and to visit their local thrift stores to help us be the best-looking, least-polluting city we can be."

"Every year, New Yorkers send 200,000 tons of clothing, shoes, and accessories to landfill. Keeping these items out of landfill through reuse, repair, and recycling would have a dramatic impact on the City's greenhouse gas emissions. DSNY's award winning reuse program, "donateNYC" ([nyc.gov/donate](http://nyc.gov/donate)), enables and supports these activities in NYC. ReFashion Week proves that saving the planet is fun, and that you can look damned good while you do it," said **Edward Grayson, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Sanitation**.

**Julie Raskin, Executive Director of the Sanitation Foundation**, echoed that sentiment, saying, "New York is the fashion capital of the world, but we can also be the *sustainable* fashion capital of the world. I encourage all New Yorkers to visit their local thrift stores, donate old clothes rather than throw them away and check out NYC designers and brands doing the right thing to reduce waste." The Sanitation Foundation is DSNY's official non-profit partner. Learn more at [sanitationfoundation.org](http://sanitationfoundation.org).

ReFashion Week was made possible through the support of a number of partners. The opening and closing events took place at the Brooklyn Army Terminal in space donated by NYCEDC. "New York City is home to the most iconic fashion industry in the world, and the Mayor's economic blueprint calls for its continued support," said **NYCEDC President and CEO Andrew Kimball**. "We are thrilled to host ReFashion Week 2022 at the Brooklyn Army

Terminal and foster the industry's growth in sustainable practices, local manufacturing, and innovation.”

“We are so thrilled to return as a sponsor for ReFashion Week NYC this year, shining a light on how fashion and visual storytelling can lead in driving circularity and reuse,” said **Matt Barker, CEO and founder of MPB**, the Title Sponsor for this year’s program. “As the online platform to buy, sell and trade photo and video kits, MPB recirculates more 300,000 cameras, lenses, and accessories each year. When New Yorkers sell or trade in their used kit, they’re also making photography and videography more accessible and affordable for others. We’re proud to be a part of such a dynamic event to visualize and create a more sustainable future.”

Amazon is a supporting sponsor of ReFashion Week and is also sponsoring this summer’s Bronx Clean-up Series, produced by the Sanitation Foundation and DSNY in partnership with the New York Yankees and the Bronx Borough President’s Office.

“As a company, we’re committed to building a sustainable business for our customers, employees, and communities,” said **Carley Graham Garcia, Head of Community Affairs for Amazon New York**. “We continue to be inspired by the Sanitation Foundation’s commitment to embrace private sector companies like Amazon through collaborative neighborhood clean-up efforts, and we’re thankful for the opportunity to join in this most recent partnership.”

Additional support came from Tencel, Mebl, Alternew, and others.

The work of making a more sustainable world doesn’t end when the curtain closes on ReFashion Week. By donating and reusing goods instead of discarding them, New Yorkers can greatly reduce waste, conserve energy and resources, save money, and help provide jobs and human services for New Yorkers in need. donateNYC is an essential part of NYC’s zero waste initiative, helping New Yorkers reach the goal of sending zero waste to landfills, and all New Yorkers can learn more at [nyc.gov/donate](https://nyc.gov/donate).

### **About the New York City Department of Sanitation**

The Department of Sanitation (DSNY) keeps New York City healthy, safe and clean by collecting, recycling and disposing of waste, cleaning streets and vacant lots, and clearing snow and ice. The Department operates 59 district garages and manages a fleet of more than 2,000 rear-loading collection trucks, 450 mechanical brooms and 705 salt spreaders. The Department clears litter, snow and ice from approximately 6,500 miles of City streets and removes debris

from vacant lots as well as abandoned vehicles from City streets. DonateNYC is one of DSNY's portfolio of zero waste programs to help New Yorkers more sustainably manage their waste.

### **About the Sanitation Foundation**

The Sanitation Foundation, founded in 2016, is the official nonprofit organization of the New York City Department of Sanitation. Supported by private funding and in-kind donations, the Foundation leverages non-traditional strategies to promote sustainability and advance the essential services of Sanitation employees.

The Sanitation Foundation is supported, in part, by grants from The Association for a Better New York (ABNY), Bloomberg Philanthropies, Closed Loop Partners, Con Edison, Covanta, Lily Auchincloss Foundation, Mack Trucks, MPB, National Grid, PepsiCo Recycling, Verizon Wireless and WeCare Denali. We'd like to extend our deepest appreciation to all donors and friends of the Sanitation Foundation, who make our programs possible.

### **About MPB**

MPB transforms the way that people buy, sell and trade in photo and video kit. The world's largest online platform for used photography and videography equipment, MPB is a destination for everyone, whether you've just discovered your passion for visual storytelling or you're already a pro.

Founded by Matt Barker in 2011, MPB has always been committed to making kit more accessible and affordable, and helping to visualize a more sustainable future. We recirculate more than 300,000 items of used kit every year, extending the life and creative potential of photo and video equipment for creators around the world.

Headquartered in the creative communities of Brooklyn, Brighton, and Berlin, the MPB team includes trained camera experts and seasoned photographers and videographers who bring their passion to work every day to deliver outstanding service. Every piece of kit is inspected carefully by our product specialists and comes with a six-month warranty to give our customers peace of mind that buying used doesn't mean sacrificing reliability.

MPB recently secured a £49.8 million investment from Vitruvian Partners with support from Acton Capital, joining existing investors Mobeus Equity Partners, Beringea and FJ Labs - the largest ever funding round for a Brighton-based company. For further information visit [www.mpb.com](http://www.mpb.com).

