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## **Interior and Exterior Collide Again Cosmo Couture 2013 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Fashion, Architecture & Design Event**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Washington, DC)** – Dresses made out of colorful tile, jackets made out of wood veneer, a gown made out of rubber materials – these are just examples of works of art that will hit the runway for a good cause when the **4<sup>rd</sup> Annual Cosmo Couture Fashion & Design** event takes place on **Thursday, September 19th**. The annual event is produced by the **Washington Metro City Center (WMCC) of the International Interior Design Association Mid-Atlantic Chapter (IIDA-MAC)**.

**Cosmo Couture 2013** fosters a direct collaboration between local Architecture and Interior Design firms and their manufacturing partners in the Washington DC area, to create garments reflecting a given theme. The garments are judged by a panel of DC notables (to be announced soon) during a runway show with awards given to design teams in different categories. Twenty-five design teams will participate in this year's event.

For the fourth consecutive year, the beneficiary for the event is [My Sister's Place](#) - DC's oldest domestic violence shelter providing comprehensive programs and services that holistically address domestic violence and the unique challenges survivors face.

Each year WMCC selects a theme that focuses on a DC landmark. This year, WMCC has drawn inspiration from **The National Zoo** for the event's theme bridging their conservation research with sustainable design which has never been as integrated into the interior design industry as now. While interior designers follow sustainable practices and incorporate "green" materials into their projects, the National Zoo staff, through its conservation and research center - The Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute, works to find ways to help scientists, companies and industries become more environmentally responsible. They study the complex relationships among biodiversity, people, and the environment, and educate the public about conserving the Earth's biodiversity. These efforts bring designers and researchers together with the common goal of creating a better environment for future generations.

The National Zoo is home to hundreds of birds from all over the world. Because birds are an integral part of virtually every ecosystem, it's not surprising that birds are all over the Zoo, both as residents and visitors. So this year's design inspiration comes from exotic birds found at the National Zoo (Design Theme Link: <http://www.cosmocouture.org/designtheme.shtml>). Our event partner, The Corcoran Gallery of Art, will assemble all of this year's garments into an exhibit to open on **November 20 through December 7** - a few months after the event.

Cosmo Couture attracts over 800 attendees and sells out each year. This year's exclusive Benefactor for the event is **Inscape**, a leading manufacturer of workspace furniture and architectural products. Event tickets range from \$80-180 and are available online at <http://www.cosmocouture.org/tickets.shtml>.



## **EVENT DETAILS**

**What:** Cosmo Couture 2013 - Fashion & Interior Design Event (4<sup>th</sup> Annual)

**Presented by:** Washington Metro City Center of the International Interior Design Association – Mid Atlantic Chapter

**Beneficiary:** My Sister's Place

**When:** Thursday, September 19, 2013

**Where:** Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA

**Time:** 5:00-10:00PM

VIP Reception 5:00-6:00PM, Cocktails 6:00-7:30PM, Runway Show 7:30-9:00PM, Desserts 9:00-10:00PM

**Website:** [www.cosmocouture.org](http://www.cosmocouture.org)

## **About the International Interior Design Association-Mid Atlantic Chapter**

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the International Interior Design Association (MAC) is a professional organization dedicated to advancing the knowledge of interior design among professionals and expanding the awareness and appreciation of interior design among the general public.

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter encompasses the District of Columbia, all of Maryland and Northern Virginia including the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, Prince William, Stafford and Fauquier. It also includes the independent cities of Alexandria, Falls Church, Fairfax, Leesburg, Middleburg, Warrenton, Manassas, Manassas Park and Fredericksburg. Members from Harper's Ferry and Shepardstown, West Virginia are also encouraged to participate in our activities.

Due to its size and geographical expanse, the Mid-Atlantic Chapter includes two City Centers: the Washington Metro City Center (WMCC) and the Baltimore-Annapolis City Center (BACC).

[www.iidamac.org](http://www.iidamac.org)

## **About Inscape**

Inscape makes smart workspaces – thoughtfully designed spaces that perform beyond expectations. For over a century, they have collaborated with clients to provide customized solutions based on their individual needs. Their meticulously engineered system, storage and wall products provide unparalleled flexibility to create unique applications at a lower cost of ownership. Easy reconfiguration and seamless integration with other products means their smart applications will work today and tomorrow. And they look fabulous. Discover more at [www.inscapesolutions.com](http://www.inscapesolutions.com).

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