## **ROSARIO SPEZIO – GENERAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD WINNER 2025**



Rosario Spezio, a 22-year-old fashion & design student at Cardiff Metropolitan University, has received the Company's General Development Award. This award will enable him to seek apprenticeships with fashion houses, refine his skills, and gain industry experience after graduation. Passionate about fashion, Rosario aims to build a career that fosters his creativity and innovation while contributing to the industry through new designs and compelling editorials that reach diverse audiences. Rosario was presented with his award, at the Award Committee's Meeting at Cornerstones in Cardiff in September 2025. His proud family accompanied him



Rozario comments "In my last year I have completed my final collection project, which consisted of a male, female and accessory line up, inspired by elegant yet comfortable outfits consisting of rich red monochromatic garments with accents of gold. I have also produced a magazine, which showcases my collection, in a printed form, allowing me to promote my creation, and grow my fashion editorial skills. In addition, during my final year in University, I had the privilege of designing and create the National Miss Wales dress, inspired by the red Welsh dragon, which was showcased at the Opening

Ceremony of Miss World 2025, taking place in Telangana, India. I kindly ask for a bursary, which would enable me to promote my design and aspirations as a fashion designer, and showcase my work in printed form, as a lookbook. I also seek to find fashion related apprenticeships and mentoring around Europe, to gain experience in this sector, and build valuable knowledge, which will be crucial for my personal ambitions, and start a successful career as a fashion designer. My hope is to found my own fashion brand and provide support and opportunities to future generations in Wales and the rest of the UK; by sharing the knowledge I have accumulated throughout my career. Through the Business of Fashion and Fashion jobs, I have found Fashion and Beauty internships, located in Milan, Zurich, and Paris. I have also looked at LinkedIn and Fashion workie where I found internship opportunities in London. They all offer a minimum of six months placement, and my research is based on opportunities where I can be immersed in the fashion industry. The bursary will be used to travel and find accommodation, as well as any expenses for any mentoring. In addition, I will be attending Graduate Fashion Week which will be a great support for students graduating this year finding job opportunities and internships."









## PERSONAL STATEMENT I believe that fashion is not just about clothing, it's the reflection of identity and personal experience. Istrive to create pieces that blend the allure of formal wear with the comfort and urban aesthetics of streetwe I am particurarly inspired by simple yet well defined garments, and I put innovation and tradition at the heart of my design process, as I believe that great ideas emerge from diverse perspectives. Finally, through my vision and creativity I aim to contribute to the fashion industry by creating pieces that reflect my aesthetic and will stand out in the fashion market while respecting the tastes of the clientele.

A small selection of photographs taken from Rosario's portfolio