

PROFILE

A DESIGNER WITH STYLE, LOCAL ROOTS

By Joy Sewing

After more than 20 years living in New York, César Galindo still calls Houston his home.

The fashion designer comes to town this Saturday to judge the For Sake of Art 2014 cocktail celebration and wearable art competition at the University Museum at Texas Southern University. The competition invites student designers and artists from across the country to create runway collections to be judged by a celebrity panel, including Galindo.

Galindo even donated six boxes of fabric from his New York studio for the students to use in the competition.

"I like being able to come home and share my thoughts about design in a constructive way with people who are passionate like I am, and they can influence me, too," he said. "I feel I get as much reward as they do."

Galindo, a graduate of Milby High School and the youngest of 11, will again show his collections at New York's Fashion Week in September and is designing the staff wardrobe for the chic Asia de Cuba restaurants in Miami, New York and



Designer
César Galindo

For the Sake of Art

What: A cocktail reception and wearable art competition

When: 7 p.m. Saturday

Where: University Museum at Texas Southern University, 3100 Cleburne, Fairchild Building

Tickets: \$150; 713-313-7120

Dubai, as well as creating the costumes for Milwaukee Opera Theater's production of Cinderella this fall. He previously designed costumes for the Houston Grand Opera.

"I'm proud of my steady journey, and there are a lot of great opportunities in front of me. It only comes from experience. I couldn't have done it without my background, which is Houston."

joy.sewing@chro.com



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Occupation: Fashion designer

Home: New York, Houston

Personal style: Uptight, relaxed. "Sometimes I'm really fitted and streamlined, and sometimes I'm really relaxed."

Style heroes: Fashion designers Paul Smith and Charles James and fashion illustrator Antonio Lopez

One must-keep: A Navy cashmere hoodie by Marc Jacob.

Pairs of shoes: At least 80

Favorite shoe: A pair of Adidas Y-3 tennis shoes and a pair of Paul Smith shoes. "Two extremes."

Thing he should toss but can't: "Half my wardrobe. I'm a hoarder. I have some old Yoji Yamamoto pants that are really oversized, but I just can't get rid of them. I got them 16 years ago. They were hot then."

Trend he'll never wear: Knit vests. "They are ugly."

Most stylish look: A well-tailored blazer, pocket square, Paul Smith shoes and slim-fit pants, from Levi's to Paul Smith

Recent purchase: Paul Smith blazer

Most regrettable purchase: An over-embellished Versace jacket from 1995

Essential grooming product: Water Wax by Redken for hair, Esencia fragrance by Loewe