

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 20, 2011

Contact: Sarah Snodgrass  
Executive Producer, *Summer In Spain*  
Telephone: 816-204-0851  
Email: 18thstreetfashionshow@gmail.com  
Web: www.westeighteenthstreet.com



**LARGEST FASHION SHOW IN KANSAS CITY RETURNS FOR ITS 11<sup>TH</sup> YEAR**  
**The 11<sup>th</sup> annual *West 18th Street Fashion Show* returns to the Crossroads Arts District to feature a nationally talented cast of artists and designers**

Kansas City, MO – April 20, 2011 – The annual West 18<sup>th</sup> Street Fashion Show returns to the Crossroads for its 11<sup>th</sup> year. This year's show, themed *Summer in Spain*, will take place on June 11, 2011, on West 18<sup>th</sup> Street between the cross streets of Baltimore and Wyandotte. The show begins at dusk (about 8:00 p.m.). This is a free, outdoor event with a limited number of runway seating available for purchase. The show is presented by Birdies and The Pitch.

The show consists of 18 collections produced around a central theme, *Summer in Spain*. The selected designers, chosen from a pool of over 50 applicants, will create five custom looks for the show, never before shown in public. The fashions will range from accessible clothing to avant-garde wearable art.

Notable designers include accomplished artists Ari Fish and Peregrine Honig. Ari Fish, an artist, fashion designer and writer, was a recent Charlotte Street Foundation award recipient and former contestant on Bravo TV's *Project Runway*. Peregrine Honig is a published artist, owner of Birdies, and a long-time organizer of the West 18<sup>th</sup> Street Fashion Show. In 2010, Honig was the runner-up on Bravo TV's *Work of Art: The Next Great Artist*, and at age 22, she was the youngest living artist to have work acquired by the Whitney Museum of Art's permanent collection. Also joining the talented group of designers is Chicago-based KCAI graduate, Eli Borrowman; Ukrainian-born fashion designer and corsetry specialist, Nataliya Meyer; Puerto Rican RISD graduate and jewelry designer, Cheryl Eve; and menswear designer, Christian Micheal.

The West 18<sup>th</sup> Street Fashion Show is held outdoors in the middle of 18<sup>th</sup> Street, a one-way street running through the Crossroads Arts District. Event producers transform the city street into an open-air event space complete with a 100-foot long runway, stage design, and full sound and light production. The large production consists of over 2000 spectators, 18 designers, 100 models, and many more crew members, musicians, volunteers, and hair and makeup stylists. Musical Director, Mark Southerland, will present Spanish-inspired music in the mingled styles of jazz, flamenco and tango with special guest musicians.

The event is free and open to the public, with limited VIP Runway seating available for purchase. Tickets will be sold through the show's website, at Birdies Boutique, and at Donna's Dress Shop. Tickets go on sale May 1, 2011.

For additional information visit [www.westeighteenthstreet.com](http://www.westeighteenthstreet.com) or contact Sarah Snodgrass at [18thstreetfashionshow@gmail.com](mailto:18thstreetfashionshow@gmail.com).



## **About the West 18th Street Fashion Show**

The West 18th Street Fashion Show is an annual fashion show in Kansas City, generally held on a Saturday night in June, at dusk. Each year, the event organizers and a credentialed selection panel choose 18 designers from a large pool of applicants to be featured designers. It is a free event held outdoors in the middle of 18th Street in the Crossroads neighborhood of Kansas City, Missouri, on the block between Baltimore Avenue and Wyandotte Street. It is no coincidence that the event is held on 18th Street, which has become a hub of art and fashion in Kansas City. Take a stroll down 18th Street, and on any given day you will no doubt see artists, musicians, funky fashion, and eclectic local boutiques such as Birdies, Spool, Peggy Noland, and YJ's Snack Bar.

Since its inception in 2001, the goal of the West 18th Street Fashion Show has been to showcase emerging talent in the Kansas City fashion scene by providing a new and creative platform. Through the years, the production value has grown exponentially, but the outdoor street setting, eccentricity and beauty of the event endures. Ask anyone, the annual West Eighteenth Street Fashion Show has become part of the fabric of our city, contributing greatly to the cultural value of our burgeoning downtown and Crossroads arts community.

The West 18<sup>th</sup> Street Fashion Show is hosted by the merchants of West 18<sup>th</sup> Street led by Birdies Panties and Swimwear Boutique, and is completely funded through the generosity of local businesses and donors.