



## **Birmingham student is future of fashion**

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A BIRMINGHAM fashion student is over the moon after her space-age designs scooped a major prize at last week's London Fashion Week.

Talented designer Camilla Kennedy was one of just 14 budding Guccis from across the UK who made it through to the final of the Fashion Awareness Direct Awards.

The finalists created two futuristic designs to be shown at a special catwalk show.

Camilla's outfits, based on the planets Mercury and Jupiter, were a big hit with the judges and saw her bag second place.

"It was really overwhelming," said the 20-year-old student, of Perry Barr. "I didn't think I'd get through the first round so coming second was a big shock."

Judge Dolly Jones, editor of Vogue.com, described the work of the finalists as "phenomenal".

As part of her prize, Camilla won £1,000 and a work placement with trendy fashion label Religion.

She entered the competition on the advice of her lecturers, who have predicted Camilla will receive a 2:1 when she graduates this year.

Her Mercury outfit was a silver, cubist dress using spiky, reflective materials while the Jupiter look was a red and black jumpsuit inspired by the planet's famous spot.

"I hadn't seen anybody model them before so it was really exciting to see them coming down the runway," said Camilla, who dreams of designing for a major fashion label. "The make-up and hair was amazing too. I was really pleased."

Now in its eighth year, the Fashion Awareness Direct Competition is dedicated to highlighting and supporting undergraduate talent.

It is heavily supported in the fashion industry with representatives from Harrods, Jasper Conran and Vivienne Westwood just some of those attending.