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A sketch by finalist Beatrice Newman,
of De Montfort University

Space Race

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WHAT does the phrase *Urban Holographic* evoke for you? Utilitarian spacesuits? **Courrèges**-inspired moonboots? For 14 finalists from throughout Britain this phrase represents the challenging brief which stands between them and the **FAD competition prize**.

The candidates from universities such as Nottingham Trent, Central Saint Martins and De Montfort, will present their mini-collections on February 24, to an esteemed panel including fashion experts and those more familiar with the theme at hand: space.

Dolly Jones, editor Vogue.com; Esther Lutman, curator of The Space Age exhibition at the V&A; Jeremy Curtis of the British National Space Centre; Martyn Roberts, director of Vauxhall Fashion Scout and designer William Tempest will evaluate the finalists and award a top industry placement and £2,000 to the chosen space creator.

The competition has become an undeniable springboard in the 8 years since its birth, with FAD alumni now working for brands including Coast, AllSaints and Harrods, and finding themselves within the design teams of **Vivienne Westwood** and **Jean Paul Gaultier**. This year promises to be no exception.

"The work that goes on behind the scenes for the FAD competition is phenomenal - both in terms of the students' entries and the support that FAD provides. I'm really looking forward to joining the judges but, considering past winners' achievements, I know we're going to have a difficult time picking just one winner and two runners-up," VOGUE.COM editor Dolly Jones said.

For further information on the competition and the work of the FAD visit www.fad.org.uk.

Lauren Milligan

Fashion Awareness Direct (FAD) is a registered charity (charity number 1112095).

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