

# young Voice

by Bou

Is there such thing as a *Uni-form*?

It's the trivialities that chronicle our everyday life and we pay so much attention to the small things, but what about the big picture? What big picture?

So, for most universities across Sydney, its back to the factory, back to the books, back to the bar. Ok, no, seriously. It is time to jump back on the wagon and exercise that part of our body that has turned to fluff. Yes, the brain.

As I frolicked (ok, not so much frolicked, rather, charged) around the hogwart-ish grounds of Sydney uni and noticed all the first year girls and their layers of makeup with their copious mimco bags and wallets. Et, the first year boys with their vans and skinny jeans. I couldn't help but wonder, have we ourselves created a uni-form? I mean at least at school there was one staple uniform.

Is there such thing as *uni-formity*? Do we fall into the same little niches we did at high school? Do the trivialities of friendship still characterise who we are and what

we will become? Or is it just inherent in the 'scandal' of human life?

How are we supposed to budget and save and party and travel, if all we worry about are our status goods and don't forget the services. Adversely, that's not to say that even if we shop at vinnies or salvos that we are 'so' counter-culture, that's still a massive trend in itself, I'm one of those people and not ashamed to admit it! I know the government intends on granting a solid \$900 to students and lower earning salaries alike, but I have little faith in the sensible places that money will go. Is this a case of prioritising? Or fraternising? (with, the enemy, you).

The truth is (oh, but you can handle the truth) that we try to juggle so many things and people, that we lose direction of what is to happen in the coming year or over the next 3 years, 5 years. I don't think I can tell you with great conviction that I know any gen Y's that have a 10 year plan? Perhaps, maybe that's a part of our culture, living in the moment, indulging in the trivialities, loving the leather?

Of course, aren't the largest things we

seem to concern ourselves with a culmination of the smallest factors? Or is it the small things that we seem to forget about?

Alas! The seemingly trivial are often where the clues lie.

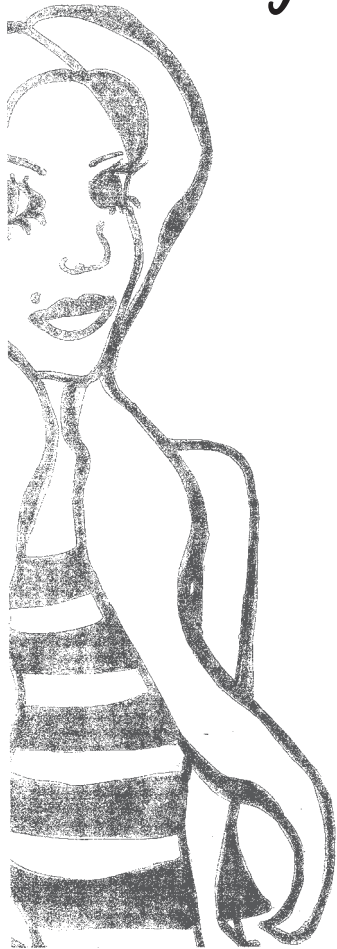
I'm no expert, but maybe; the soccer practice you do or the short stories you write, the iMovies you edit, the PR internship you do, the five hour biology practicals (I kid you not) that you hate.. and even the novels that you read. Perhaps, they will characterise the big picture or maybe just the big sleep. Ha. Who knows?

All I can say, is that it's a goal of mine not to forget the small things and without sounding self-indulgently preaching, you should try. Patience, is a virtue, that I unfortunately don't have. But maybe you'll be better at that or the person next to you can teach you how.

After all, It's the bad moments that make the good ones that little bit better,

And, all things big that are born in all things little.

*Be patient,  
Kisses,  
Bou Bou*



## London fashion week Ioannis Dimitrousis

"I've always had an interest in arts, clothing and design," so for **Ioannis Dimitrousis**, beginning a career in fashion was as simple as "decideing I wanted to study fashion, so enrolled in LCF and came to London. Since then I've worked in fashion full-time."

Born in Thessaloniki, Greece, Dimitrousis now calls London home, but still keeps his roots close at heart; quite literally, as he works on all his collections with his talented mother by his side. I had a chance to meet her at London Fashion Week and she bore an uncanny resemblance to my own yi-ayia (grandmother), with a stern expression broken only by the kindness of her smile, and the inner strength that often quietly pervades the countenance of the weather-worn faces of Mediterranean women.

Short in stature, and like his mother maintaining a serious countenance that is broken only by the benevolence of his sincere smile when he shakes my hand, Dimitrousis fiddles with a bobbin of black thread as reporters approach him in turn. I'm told by a fellow journalist that he's "so shy but so lovely," and it's easy to see that he's awkward in the spotlight, as his hasty post show, on stage bow betrays the humility with which he receives his much deserved accolades.

"Designing for me is a way in which I can express myself"; and I'm left to wonder exactly what emotions Dimitrousis is attempting to divest into his A/W 09 collection. Loose weave knit-

ted dresses in metallic threads cling to the bodies of the men and women marching brashly down the runway, while sashaying fishtails and swishing chains give each outfit intense, yet somehow organic feeling movement. There are many such contradictions in this collection- structural elements clash as the stagnant and the free flowing meet, while intangible elements create perplexing paradoxes as the innocent meets the fetishist, the past meets the future and sex and sexuality become ambiguous.

Dimitrousis says his collection, aptly named 'Untilted,' "asks a freedom of response." "The dark feeling of the collection emphasises the inner pain of the body. Caging through needles and chains and flesh exposure ask you to look beyond the body and observe inside." I imagine his designs would clothe an ancient mountain top party between golden arches, hidden by the clouds from the mortal world and held by physically perfect gods and goddesses and their equally beautiful eunuch servants. But what festers inside these beautiful shells? As wine is gulped from bejeweled goblets the gods and goddesses are afflicted by human emotions that constrain us all-bitter jealousy, bottomless gluttony or lustful desire.

Driven by his senses, Dimitrousis takes inspiration from "anything I see, smell, hear, touch and taste and feel in my heart," which gives his collections an intimate, personal feeling. Design-



ing with "a confident person who has a good sense of style and knows how to put a look together," and who's "age is not important," in mind, Dimitrousis translates "the things that come naturally" into his garments. Dimitrousis articulates this peculiarity as something inherent in the approach of all off schedule designers; "the best thing is seeing new creativity and new things, especially coming from the new designers who are focusing more on the idea than the business or money making side of the industry."

As if this humble nature was too good to be true, I want to know what one item Dimitrousis can't live without. "My Reebok trainers!" Is the emphatic reply. From his decadent collection you would never suspect this unassuming personality as the mastermind behind it all- nor would you expect the unlikely yet refreshingly realistic choice of comfort over style.

## Callas exhibition in Boston

Washington-- A photography exhibition titled "Tribute to Maria Callas" opened at the Maliotis Cultural Center in Boston with a special event featuring a concert by soprano Stella Markou. The exhibition will run until March 29 before opening in Houston, Texas.

Organized by the Hellenic Parliament Foundation under the title "Maria Callas: 30 Years Later" the exhibition was first presented in Athens in 2007 on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the death of Maria Callas, one of the most renowned opera singers of the 20th century. In 2008, under its current title, the exhibition was presented at various locations in Greece, in Trieste, Italy and in Washington, DC. Focusing on Callas's stage appearances in Greece and across the world, the exhibition presents a selection of photographs from the archives of the Teatro alla Scala in Milan, the Greek National Theatre, Associated Press, Hellenic Literary and



Historical Archives, Benaki Museum in Athens, EMI Classics, E R T Historical Archives and the Arena Theatre in Verona, as well as private collections.