



PATRICK KELLY

RUNWAY OF LOVE

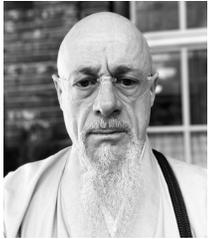
Oct 23, 2021–Apr 24, 2022

OPENING DAY
FASHION PANEL

Saturday, Oct 23
4–5 pm
Koret Auditorium

de Young \
museum

BIOGRAPHIES



Bjorn G. Amelan was the life and business partner of the late fashion designer Patrick Kelly from 1983 until Kelly's death on January 1, 1990. In 1993, Amelan moved to New York to begin his personal and professional relationship with director/choreographer Bill T. Jones, whom he married in 2014. Amelan has designed sets for numerous works of the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Co. and is the recipient of a 2001

Bessie Award for his designs of *The Breathing Show* and *The Table Project*. In 2011 Amelan helped Jones found New York Live Arts, an experimental body-based art center home to the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Co. He is also New York Live Arts' creative director. Amelan's sculpture exhibition, *Memory of a Stone*, was shown in Santa Fe at Dwight Hackett Projects (2007). His paintings were exhibited at Gerald Peter's Contemporary in 2018 and are currently on view at New York Live Arts' Ford Gallery in New York City.



Dilys E. Blum is the Jack M. and Annette Y. Friedland Senior Curator of Costume and Textiles at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and has been at the museum since 1987. She has organized more than forty exhibitions, from Black quilts to haute couture including the landmark *Shocking: The Art and Fashion of Elsa Schiaparelli* (2003) and most recently *Off the Wall: American Art to Wear* (2019).

In 2014 she organized the original exhibition *Patrick Kelly: Runway of Love* at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Blum has written extensively on textiles, historic costume, and fashion. She completed graduate studies at the University of Manchester and the Courtauld Institute of Art, London.



Laura L. Camerlengo is associate curator of costume and textile arts at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco. Since 2010, she has organized or co-organized costume and textiles exhibitions for the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. She most recently co-organized the critically acclaimed exhibition *Contemporary Muslim Fashions* (2018). She is the

author of *The Miser's Purse* (2013) as well as a contributor to *Degas*,

Impressionism, and the Paris Millinery Trade (2017) and *Contemporary Muslim Fashions* (2018). She holds a master of arts in the history of decorative arts and design from Parsons, the New School for Design/Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum, New York.

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

Patrick Kelly: Runway of Love celebrates the meteoric rise and enduring legacy of Black fashion designer Patrick Kelly (1954–1990). During his brief yet impactful career in the late 1980s, Kelly became the first American and first Black designer to be voted into the Chambre Syndicale du Prêt-à-Porter des Couturiers et des Créateurs de Mode, the prestigious French association for ready-to-wear designers. Kelly was lauded with such accolades while being, and remaining, one of only a few designers who directly addressed issues of race in their work.

Patrick Kelly (1954–1990) was born and raised in Vicksburg, Mississippi. His grandmother, a cook and maid, fostered a love of fashion by bringing him fashion magazines from the family for whom she worked. Kelly briefly studied art and history before moving to Paris in late 1979. In 1988, he became the first American and the first Black designer to be voted into the Chambre Syndicale du Prêt-à-Porter des Couturiers et des Créateurs de Mode, the French fashion industry association and standards organization for ready-to-wear designers. Kelly's career was cut short by complications related to AIDS in 1990. The epitaph on his headstone in Père Lachaise Cemetery, Paris, is emblematic of the designer and his legacy: "Nothing Is Impossible."

COVID-19 GUIDANCE

Regardless of vaccination status, face coverings are required for staff and adult visitors at all times on museum premises (city-owned property). There is no drinking or eating allowed inside the Koret Theater; we encourage you to step outside temporarily or visit our café after the program. Cleaning routines have been increased, and sanitizing stations are available throughout the de Young. More information on the rigorous health and safety measures can be found at deyoung.famsf.org/covid-updates.

SCHEDULE

9:30 am–3 pm

Marcus Lewis Trunk Show \ Main-level store entrance

10 am–8 pm

Wheel of Fun* \ Wilsey Court

11 am–4 pm

Family Art Making \ Piazzoni Murals Room

3:30–9 pm

Pam Wiston Trunk Show \ Main-level store entrance

4–5 pm

Fashion Panel \ Koret Auditorium

4–9 pm

Live Music by Swagger Like Us \ Wilsey Court

5–7 pm

Donor Reception* \ Hamon Observation Tower

5–9 pm

Food Trucks: Off the Grid \ Hagiwara Tea Garden

*The Wheel of Fun will begin spinning every hour, on the hour. Limited prizes will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Donors at the Sponsor level and Benefactor level, members of the Leadership Circle, and special guests are invited to an intimate reception following the opening-day fashion panel.

Image credit: Patrick Kelly's Fall/Winter 1988–1989 advertising campaign. Photograph by Oliviero Toscani. Courtesy of the Estate of Patrick Kelly. Scan by Randy Dodson / Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco.

Opening Day
Celebration Sponsor

