

APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES

LVMH narrows down LVMH Prize contestants to 9 finalists

March 15, 2018



Nine finalists were selected from thousands of applicants. Image credit: LVMH

By STAFF REPORTS

The finalists for the LVMH Prize, an annual award given to promising young fashion designers around the world, have been announced.

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After months of deliberation, LVMH has selected nine finalists from around the world who represent the next generation of fashion designers. The selection process produced a diverse group representing multiple countries, styles and gender identities.

"The quality and the standard of the fifth edition of the LVMH Prize made it difficult for our experts to narrow down the selection," said Delphine Arnault, executive vice president of [LVMH](#), in a statement. "As a result, we chose to extend the number of finalists to nine rather than eight, since several of the semi-finalists obtained the same number of votes."

Young fashion designers

Every year the conglomerate awards the LVMH Prize, celebrating some of the brightest and most innovative young minds in the world of fashion design.

This year, instead of eight finalists as is traditional, the group picked nine outstanding candidates from thousands of applicants.

The designers came from a variety of backgrounds including South Korean, American-Vietnamese, British, French, Dutch and Japanese.

Many of the finalists were selected as duos, such as Zoe Latta and Mike Eckhaus, whose collaboration is called Eckhaus Latta.



2017 LVMH Prize winner Marine Serre being congratulated by Karl Lagerfeld. Image courtesy of LVMH

Additionally, the finalists represent several gender identities, including three finalists who identify as gender neutral.

In June, the nine finalists will present their work to the Foundation Louis Vuitton where a jury of designers and fashion experts will pick the winner. Members of the jury represent brands such as Givenchy, Dior, Fendi, Kenzo and Berluti.

Last year in June, LVMH awarded its fourth annual LVMH Prize for Young Fashion Designers to Marine Serre.

In February of 2017, the conglomerate shared the names of 21 designers, culled from a list of nearly 1,200 entries from 90 countries. The following month, a jury selected and announced the eight designers who would move onto the next and final round ([see story](#)).

This year, LVMH may have an even tougher time picking a winner thanks to the larger number of finalists and the high quality of each designer's work.

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