



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact:

Kannie Yu LaPack  
Lifetime Television  
(310) 556-7582  
[kyu@lifestimetv.com](mailto:kyu@lifestimetv.com)

***READY...SET...SEW!***

**16 NEW DESIGNERS SET TO COMPETE DURING  
SEASON SIX OF LIFETIME TELEVISION'S**



***Diverse Group of Contestants Set to Join Style Mavens HEIDI KLUM,  
TIM GUNN, MICHAEL KORS and NINA GARCIA Beginning AUGUST 20***

***All-New Series MODELS OF THE RUNWAY to Air Immediately Following PROJECT RUNWAY***

LOS ANGELES, CA (July 9, 2009) – Summer sizzles on Lifetime Television with the premiere of the Emmy®-nominated and Peabody® Award-winning hit series *Project Runway*, on **Thursday, August 20, at 10PM ET/PT**, followed by the all-new companion series, *Models of the Runway* at **11PM ET/PT**. Produced by The Weinstein Company, Miramax Films, Bunim-Murray Productions and Full Picture Productions, host Heidi Klum, mentor Tim Gunn and judges Michael Kors (leading fashion designer) and Nina Garcia (fashion director of *Marie Claire* magazine), will guide sixteen new contestants as they show off their design skills to see who makes the cut for New York Fashion Week. *Project Runway* also features influential guest judges from the worlds of fashion, music, film and television.

During Season Six of the series, the contestants will design at Los Angeles' Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising (FIDM). The diverse group of 16 will get pared down to the finalists who will show their own lines in front of an audience of fashion industry influencers at New York Fashion Week. As part of the winner's prize package, an editorial feature on the victorious designer will run in an upcoming issue of *Marie Claire* Magazine, and he/she will strut away with a cash prize of \$100,000 from L'Oreal Paris to start a fashion line and a trip to Paris furnished by Evian.

The Season 6 *Project Runway* designers are:

- **Althea Harper, 24** - Hometown: Dayton, OH; Resides in Brooklyn, NY
- **Ari Fish, 26** - Hometown/Resides in Kansas City, MO
- **Carol Hannah Whitfield, 24** - Hometown: Anderson, SC; Resides in Brooklyn, NY
- **Christopher Straub, 30** - Hometown: St. Louis Park, MN; Resides in Shakopee, MN
- **Rodney Epperson, 50** - Hometown/Resides in New York, NY
- **Gordana Gehlhausen, 45** - Hometown: Yugoslavia; Resides in San Diego, CA
- **Irina Shabayeva, 27** - Hometown: The Republic of Georgia; Resides in New York, NY
- **Johnny Salakis, 30** - Hometown: Long Beach, CA; Resides in Los Angeles, CA
- **Logan Neitzel, 26** - Hometown: Blackfoot, ID; Resides in Seattle, WA
- **Louise Black, 32** - Hometown: Temple, TX; Resides in Dallas, TX
- **Malvin Vien, 24** - Hometown: Englewood, CO; Resides in New York, NY
- **Mitchell Hall, 26** - Hometown: Melbourne, FL; Resides in Savannah, GA
- **Nicolas Putvinski, 27** - Hometown: Moscow, Russia; Resides in New York, NY
- **Ra'Mon-Lawrence Coleman, 31** - Hometown: Chicago, IL; Resides in Milwaukee, WI
- **Shirin Askari, 24** - Hometown: Tulsa, OK; Resides in Garland, TX
- **Qristyl Frazier, 42** - Hometown: St. Louis, MO; Resides in Brooklyn, NY

**For more information about the Season Six designers, visit [mylifetime.com](http://mylifetime.com).**

*Project Runway* and *Models of the Runway* are executive produced by Jon Murray and Sara Rea of Bunim-Murray Productions (*The Real World*). Heidi Klum; Jane Cha and Desiree Gruber of Full Picture Productions also executive produce both series. John Miller and Barbara Schneeweiss oversaw the production on behalf of The Weinstein Company.

### **ABOUT BUNIM-MURRAY PRODUCTIONS**

Bunim-Murray Productions is the leading independent producer of innovative entertainment content. The company is widely credited with creating the reality television genre with its hit series *The Real World*. Bunim-Murray's current programming includes the hit series *Keeping Up with the Kardashians*. Launched in 2006 to better reach the Digital Generation, Bunim-Murray's M Theory Entertainment is a spin-off entity focusing on new media initiatives. Bunim-Murray also recently launched BMP Films, a documentary film division, which premiered its first documentary, *Autism: The Musical*, at the 2007 Tribeca Film Festival. Bunim-Murray Productions is based in Van Nuys, CA. It was founded in 1987 by Jonathan Murray and the late Mary-Ellis Bunim.

### **ABOUT FULL PICTURE PRODUCTIONS**

Full Picture Productions marries talent with innovative formats to execute original ideas that capitalize on the company's extensive expertise, experience and relationships. Full Picture co-created and Executive Produces *Project Runway*, the four-time Emmy nominated, PGA nominated and Peabody Award-winning series and *Runway* companion series *Models of the Runway* and The CW's *Stylista*. Full Picture also produces *Style Studio*, *Mind Body Balance* and *Pursuit of Health* for MSN Entertainment.

### **ABOUT MIRAMAX FILMS**

Miramax Films is a motion picture production, financing and worldwide distribution company committed to its mission of providing audiences with high quality, innovative and risk-taking films from the world's best filmmakers, established and emerging. Miramax Films is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of The Walt Disney Company, the world's preeminent media & entertainment company in the field of family entertainment.

The Walt Disney Company, together with its subsidiaries and affiliates, is a leading diversified international family entertainment and media enterprise with four business segments: media networks, parks and resorts, studio entertainment and consumer products.

### **ABOUT THE WEINSTEIN COMPANY**

The Weinstein Company (TWC) was created by Bob and Harvey Weinstein, the brothers who founded Miramax Films Corporation in 1979. TWC is a multi-media company that officially launched on October 1, 2005. Dimension Films, the genre label that was founded in 1993 by Bob Weinstein, is also included under the TWC banner. During the Weinstains' tenure at Miramax Films, the company released some of the most critically acclaimed and commercially successful independent feature films which received 249 Academy Award® nominations and won 60 Oscars®, and have generated billions of dollars in worldwide box office receipts and billions more in home video sales. In its history, Dimension Films has released some of the most successful franchises including *Scream*, *Spy Kids* and *Scary Movie*.

### **ABOUT MARIE CLAIRE**

*Marie Claire* ([www.marieclaire.com](http://www.marieclaire.com)) is more than a pretty face. It is the fashion magazine with character, substance, and depth, for women with a point of view, an opinion, and a sense of humor. Each issue is edited for a sexy, stylish, confident woman who is never afraid to make intelligence a part of her wardrobe. *Marie Claire* is published in 26 countries and is read by more than 15 million worldwide. The magazine was founded in 1937 by French industrialist Jean Prouvost, whose goal was to present the realities of life mixed with fashion and beauty coverage. The American edition is published by Hearst Magazines, a unit of Hearst Corporation ([www.hearst.com](http://www.hearst.com)) and one of the world's largest publishers of monthly magazines, with nearly 200 editions around the world, including 15 U.S. titles and 20 magazines in the United Kingdom, published through its wholly owned subsidiary, The National Magazine Company Limited. Hearst reaches more adults than any other publisher of monthly magazines (70.6 million total adults, according to MRI, Fall 2008).

### **ABOUT FIDM/FASHION INSTITUTE OF DESIGN & MERCHANDISING**

FIDM/ Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising is a private college for specialized professional education, accredited by WASC and NASAD, granting Associate of Arts and Bachelor of Science in Business Management degrees. Over the last 35 years, FIDM has graduated more than 35,000 students, preparing them for careers in Fashion, Graphics, Interior Design and Entertainment. The college is headquartered in downtown Los Angeles, with other campus locations in Orange County, San Diego and San Francisco; 7,500 full-time students. FIDM/Museum & Galleries has one of the nation's finest costume collections dating from the 18<sup>th</sup> century and yearly presents major exhibitions.

### **ABOUT LIFETIME TELEVISION**

Lifetime is a diverse, multi-media company, committed to offering the highest quality entertainment and information programming that celebrates, entertains and supports women. Through its award-winning public affairs initiatives, the Company also advocates a wide range of issues affecting women and their families. Lifetime Television and Lifetime Movie Network – cable's two highest-rated women's channels – Lifetime Real Women and Lifetime Digital (which includes [myLifetime.com](http://myLifetime.com), [Lifetime Games](http://LifetimeGames.com), [Roiworld.com](http://Roiworld.com), [DressUpChallenge.com](http://DressUpChallenge.com) and [MothersClick.com](http://MothersClick.com)) are part of Lifetime Entertainment Services, a 50/50 joint venture of Hearst Corporation and The Walt Disney Company.

**Photography and designer bios are available at [www.lifetimepress.com](http://www.lifetimepress.com).**

###