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FASHION REIMAGINED 2025

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From 9-13 February 2025, 15 participants undertook the inaugural 'Fashion Reimagined' programme on Kamau Taurua / Quarantine Island in the Otago Harbour. Fashion Reimagined was developed as a collaboration between the Fashion staff at the School of Design, Otago Polytechnic and the Untouched World Foundation (UTWF), with additional input and support from Ross McDonald, Director of Sustainability at Otago Polytechnic. Fashion Reimagined was created as a programme to foster leadership and empowerment in rangatahi (young people) towards more sustainable fashion futures, with a specific focus on urgency, agency and action. Across five days participants enjoyed the sharing of knowledge from a range of industry experts, and engaged in workshops to develop leadership skills, and critical thinking related to the fashion industry and issues of sustainability, as well as spending time working to regenerate the natural environment of the island.

Many sincere thanks to Jon Clark, Island Manager, Kamau Taurua / Quarantine Island.

The 2025 Participants were:

Daniel Bradley, Polly Figgins, India Woodward-Leth, Oliver Murphy, Catalina Mendoza Gonzalez, Justina King, Dhiya Guler, Hope Duncan, Emma Rowley, Michael Atherton, Oisín Benn, Mikayla Cannan, Ciaran Naylor, and Karlie Morrow.

Facilitators, workshop leaders and guest speakers were:

Claudia Hillyer, Untouched World Foundation
Peri Drysdale, Untouched World and Untouched World Foundation founder
Fiona Bretherton, Untouched World
Bobby Luke, Auckland University of Technology
Natasha Zimmerman, Leadership Consultant
Simon Swale, Otago Polytechnic
Ross McDonald, Otago Polytechnic
Claire Booker, Silverfern Farms
Fiona Jenkin, Stitch Kitchen

All photographs supplied by Simon Swale.

Simon Marcus Swale (ORCID ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5830-3034>) is an artist, designer and educator based in Ōtepoti Dunedin, Aotearoa New Zealand, whose explorations in body adornment extend across fashion, jewellery and the wider fields of art practice. Simon completed an MFA in contemporary jewellery at the Dunedin School of Art in 2020 and was a participant in the Handshake mentorship programme from 2020 to 2022. Simon is currently senior lecturer in the School of Design, Otago Polytechnic.



