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ZIPhouse Fashion Hub Moldova | Aliona Raru

In 2023 I graduated the multidisciplinary intensive course Fabricademy. Recently, I presented my PhD thesis in the field of Industrial Engineering. I work as a university lecturer at the Technical University of Moldova, Faculty of Design. At the master studies I am the holder of the course „Innovations Through BioDesign” where, together with my students, we approach and applicate technics of obtaining biomaterials and colouring, with natural ingredients, garments and fibres.

ZIPhouse stimulates the creative potential and entrepreneurial spirit in the field of design, contributing to the development of a professional community integrated in the vibrant world of fashion. ZIPhouse offers young designers, startups, professionals and academic stuff a unique opportunity to sharpen their technological skills and design abilities. The center’s infrastructure allows for a multi functional and flexible use of space, for coworking, education, design and fashion acceleration, alongside hosting fashion shows, workshops, photo shoots and other events.

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MATERIEL Tbilisi & GAFA— the Georgian Textile and Fashion Association Georgia

Ana Vepkhvadze

Over the last five years, I have immersed myself in the fashion industry with a strong passion for sustainability, which has shaped both my career and personal values. Beyond fashion, I am an internal auditor for ISO9001 in quality management, where I assist companies in refining their business models, improving their organizational and operational practices, and conducting training. In addition to my professional work, I have a deep passion for youth engagement and volunteerism, often participating in projects that involve guiding and supporting young people, which I find incredibly rewarding and fulfilling.

MATERIEL Tbilisi, lopment of MTRL, a new brand under the Materiel umbrella. This brand is dedicated to upcycling and sustainability, focusing on creating contemporary, high-quality designs from deadstock fabrics.

At **GAFA**, I work closely with around 40 Georgian companies, fostering collaboration in areas such as logistics, marketing, design, and sustainable development.

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Montebelo
Portugal |
Bárbara
Correia

I'm a junior fashion designer at Montebelo, where I focus on sourcing, design, and product development. I work closely with clients and factories to ensure a smooth product development process. I studied fashion design in Lisbon, earning both a bachelor's and a master's degree. My passion lies in creating sustainable fashion, with a particular interest in using natural materials and developing mono material designs that reflect my commitment to environmental responsibility. Recently, I've also started learning Clo3D. I'm currently living in Porto, but I'm from a small town in the south of Portugal, very close to the beach and surrounded by nature.

Montebelo is an innovative consultancy and agency for textile supply chains. We act in the field of consultancy and guidance for circular innovation, strategies for material, sourcing, supply chain, and recycling. In the product & development area we focus on research of materials and innovations, development of new materials, sourcing strategies, product design and production management. In the field of branding and communication we do brand analysis, visual identity, art direction. We are a multidisciplinary and international team that works with fashion and sportswear brands, textile factories and producers, NGOs in the fashion and textile sector and consultancy firms.

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Buinho Portugal

Carlos Alcobia

Carlos is the Founder and general manager of Buinho, and he holds a PhD in Design and a large experience in the fields of digital fabrication, programming and maker education. Carlos is also the main responsible for all the activities within Buinho Fablab and Creative Hub, which includes the curatorial support of Buinho's Artist in Residency Program, the design of the educational activities of Buinho Educativo program, and the coordination of special sustainability projects like Buinho's Precious Plastic or the Repair Cafés in schools. He also holds a MA in Curatorial Studies, a BA in Economics, and a postgraduate in Robotics and technology for Education.

Buinho is a place where artists, makers, researchers, and other creatives can work on their projects in the unique rural environment. Its vision is to build a network of creative spaces in the historic town of Messejana, always available to the members and residents. Those spaces will complement each other and offer diverse possibilities for collaboration and experimentation.

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Anykščiai Art Incubator – Art Studio Lithuania

Dovile Cibulskaitė

Dovilė Cibulskaitė is an experienced freelance designer with a strong background in costume design and fashion, based in Vilnius, Lithuania. A graduate of Vilnius College of Design, she has a demonstrated history of working in the design industry, specializing in trend analysis, technical design, fashion illustration, fit, and concept development. Her work spans a wide range of creative fields, including commercials, TV shows, music videos, dance and theater performances, and personal fashion collections.

Dovilė Cibulskaitė is also a skilled leather designer who specializes in reusing old leather clothing and remnants from large-scale production. Her creative space encourages an open-minded approach to sustainable practices, with a strong focus on recycling and repurposing leftover materials. Dovilė is passionate about expanding her knowledge of material recycling and creating new ideas for workshops aimed at local communities and designers, with the goal of integrating sustainability into her brand.

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ZIPhouse Fashion Hub **Moldova**

Elena Florea-Burduja

I am a lecturer at the Technical University of Moldova, Faculty of Design. I am also a representative of the ZIPHOUSE Fashion Hub in Chisinau and a trainer of designer courses in the use of cad systems in the field of fashion. I did my bachelor's and master's degrees at the Technical University of Moldova, Faculty of Design. In 2023, I graduated from the Fabricademy multidisciplinary intensive course. In 2024, I defended my PhD thesis in the field of Industrial Engineering in Iași, Romania. I work as a lecturer at the Technical University of Moldova, Faculty of Design where I teach students to use automated 2D and 3D design systems to minimize the negative impact of this field on the environment.

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**Faculty of Architecture,
University of Lisbon – Fashion
Design Department Portugal**

Graziela Sousa

With a PhD in Design, I've been a lecturer and researcher at FAULisboa for the past 13 years, focusing in the topics of Entrepreneurship, Social Innovation and Fashion Education.

I am also collaborating since 2017 with Modalisboa – Lisbon Fashion Week, programming and coordinating their activities such as talks, masterclasses and pop-ups.

As a consultant and curator, I've been collaborating in the past 6 years with the Portuguese textile associations (Cenit-Anivec) as well..

FAULisboa is the oldest Architecture School in Portugal, and our Fashion Department is already 30 years old. We are an Architecture, Design, Fashion and Urbanism School, offering bachelors, masters and doctoral degrees in all these fields, with prototyping facilities that accompany an hands-on practice of teaching-learning.

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Užupis Art Incubator Lithuania

Grete Labanauskaitė

I am a fashion designer focused on making fashion accessible to everyone, regardless of visual ability.

My work explores how fashion can be experienced through senses, in collaboration with blind and visually impaired individuals. Through my designs, I aim to allow blind people to fully engage with fashion without feeling excluded, while offering sighted individuals a renewed appreciation for the richness and benefits of sensory experiences. I am particularly interested in sustainability, seeking eco-friendly materials and recycling methods, often incorporating repurposed materials, garments, and objects into my installations. I am currently developing textiles for a new project, where I aim to discover different tactile experiences. I have recently created an exhibition titled "Try on the Feeling," which was presented in cities across Lithuania and abroad, inviting audiences to perceive fashion objects through touch, sound and smell.

Užupis Art Incubator is the first and one of the largest art incubators in the Baltic States, where visual artists and creative industries professionals collaborate and reside. The 1500 sqm space houses local and international residencies, workshops and educational spaces and an exhibition gallery; more than 30 artists and start-ups from the cultural and creative industries are in residence at any one time. The average duration of a residency is 3-5 years.

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Destil Creative Hub **Albania**

Kejdi Biraçi

I am a fashion designer based in Tirana, Albania. A graduate of the University of Arts in Tirana, I specialize in experimental clothing and have created three mini collections, each exploring unique concepts. With a strong emphasis on fabric research, manipulation techniques, and alternative methods of garment construction, I push the boundaries of traditional fashion, redefining style through innovative design.

Fields of interest & expertise : I have a passion for experimental clothing, rooted in a strong foundation of artistic principles. With expertise in fabric research and manipulation techniques, I explore alternative methods of garment construction to create innovative designs. An interest in sustainable practices and the intersection of art and fashion drives my work, allowing me to challenge conventional aesthetics and push the boundaries of contemporary style.

Destil is a project that combines architecture, cultural initiatives and sustainable economy as a response to the fast transformation of the city. Starting with the reactivation of an old villa, Destil has experimented its program by combining architecture, cultural initiatives and sustainable economy. During 10 years Destil has established a dialogue with the local and international community of young creatives and has expanded in a building constructed in 1938, located in the area facing the New Bulevard Zogu I. The vision of Destil up to date is to offer a space and a program for learning and experimentation through art, design and other disciplines.

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Fab Lab Barcelona bio.materiality / s-biotica Spain

Lara Campos

Lara is a material designer, researcher, and educator focused on exploring diverse narratives within materials, technologies, and living beings. She holds a degree in Textile Design (2015) and has expanded her expertise through courses in craft techniques, anthropology, post-human and ecofeminist philosophies, and herbalism. After completing Fabricademy (2018) at Fab Lab Barcelona, she specialized in biodesign, digital manufacturing, and sustainable technologies. Lara has exhibited internationally, receiving awards such as the ARS Electronica Starts Prize Innovative Collaboration.

Currently, she is part of the **S-Biotica** collective (bio-based research and design) and works with FabLab Barcelona on educational projects about new materialities, circular economies, and food waste. She also leads "Almacén de Residuos" (Waste Warehouse), a project focused on circular economy and organic waste transformation in Barcelona.

Fab Lab Barcelona is an innovation centre rethinking the way we live, work and play in cities. As part of the Institute for Advanced Architecture of Catalonia (IAAC), it produces world-leading research, education and innovation based around the digital fabrication laboratory. Fab Lab Barcelona was the first fab lab funded in the European Union in 2007 and is a benchmark in the powerful network of over 1800 Fab Labs in over 100 countries.

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Buno Behen | Khadi London France – India

Maithili Chodankar

Maithili, an experienced Digital Marketer turned Impact Entrepreneur, has spent over a decade in the fashion industry. Recognising the limitations of traditional fashion, she now focuses on cultural sustainability and regenerative fashion, advocating for community-driven practices. **Fields of interest** : circular production methods in textile manufacturing, recycling craft techniques. **Expertise** : Regenerative Artisanal Production Practises.

As a craft connector and consultant, her Franco-Indian brand, **Buno Behen**, supports women-led craft communities in South Asia through market connections, capacity building, and design development. Buno Behen has been recognised by social incubators such as SINGA and The Break Fellow (EU women-leadership programme).

Khadi London is a not-for-profit knowledge hub specialising in regenerative fibres and textiles. Working across borders, we partner with rural communities and artisan groups involved in the production of ethical, heritage and sustainable textiles. As a diverse team with extensive experience in textile and fashion design, heritage textiles, ethical fashion and building equitable value chains, we bring a unique perspective, sharing our knowledge through: Consultancy - Research ; Workshops & trainings ; Knowledge - exchange collaborations -Events

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_ARTERIA_LAB Portugal

Marius Araújo

Marius Araújo is the Fab Manager at **_ARTERIA_LAB**, the maker space at the University of Évora, where machines obey and creativity reigns. With expertise in digital fabrication, 3D scanning, and a talent for navigating technical puzzles, Marius keeps the lab humming. Having studied 3D Computer Animation and Visualization at Bournemouth University, completed a Design Master's at the University of Évora, and graduated from Fab Academy, Marius is versed in the art of turning ideas into reality. Former multimedia technician at the University of Évora, he now blends art with high-tech, making sure every prototype has its day - and every 3D printer behaves (eventually).

Arts, Entrepreneurship, Research, Innovation & Application is a creative laboratory at the University of Évora dedicated to transdisciplinary experimentation and research. At **_ARTERIA_LAB** we co-design, prototype and test new ideas at the intersection of arts, science, technology and design, with the aim of responding to society's challenges. We are also a hub for creative entrepreneurship and digital and technological education and a maker space.

_ARTERIA_LAB stands for the sharing of resources and knowledge, participation in design and development processes and seeks to be responsible in terms of the environmental, social, cultural and economic sustainability of its projects.

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Creative Spark Enterprise FabLab Ireland

Oscar Diaz

Oscar Diaz is a versatile practitioner with a background in architecture, urban innovation, and energy efficiency, holding advanced certifications in digital fabrication and parametric design. With extensive experience in FabLab management, prototyping, and instruction, including roles as a Fab Academy instructor. Currently, as the Education and Operations Manager at Enterprise FabLab at Creative Spark Dundalk, he develops training programs and promotes innovation in SMEs, entrepreneurship, and STEAM outreach.

Fields of interest - Circular economy, green skills, citizen science, interdisciplinary work, emergent futures, gender, and inclusion in STEAM. **Expertise** - Prototyping, digital fabrication, problem-solving, critical thinking, parametric design, architecture.

Creative Spark is a not-for-profit social enterprise which aims to develop the local creative industries sector and support new and established innovative enterprises. Through its mission, Creative Spark aims to deliver on this vision by providing the space, technology, and training necessary to promote creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship. We support anyone else in the workplace by providing de-risked investment opportunities, allowing them to utilise equipment until they reach the point where they can graduate out of the space into their own workshop.

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Lottozero Italy

Tessa Moroder

Tessa Moroder together with her sister Arianna is the founder of Lottozero textile laboratories. After graduating in economics, statistics and social sciences, at Bocconi University in Milan, she worked as a business consultant in various sectors (automotive, wine, television) and later as the CFO of a cultural communications company before founding Lottozero in 2014.

Lottozero is a center for textile design, art and culture based in Prato, Italy, it operates both as a consultancy studio and as a creative hub, divided into a gallery/exhibition area, a shared studio space/coworking and an open fab-lab for textile production, experimentation and research. Our work is aimed at designers, artists, brands and institutions, providing personalized services and resources to anyone concerned with the world of textiles, textile art and fashion.

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The Making Rooms **UK**

Thomas Macpherson-Pope

I have a degree in computer science and a background in developing educational electronics products. I was a user and volunteer at Fab Lab Manchester for 6 years before joining The Making Rooms. I enjoy various computer design activities, but also physical crafts like candle and notebook making.

Fields of expertise:

- Electronics development
- 3D modeling
- Programming
- Graphic/2D design

Fields of interest:

- Sustainable textiles (recycling, community reuse, biomaterials and dyes).
- Open source machine designs & making.
- Routes from initial community engagement to entrepreneurship and industry in sustainable textiles.

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Montebelo
Portugal |
Thomas
Thibaut

I'm part of the Porto hub, Montebelo, but living in Galicia, Spain. At Montebelo, I'm doing project management, making sure we are responding to our clients needs and helping make the different projects to happen with our partners. I also oversee the digitalisation of our organisation by proposing and setting up tools that serve our mission.

Montebelo helps the textile industry transit to more sustainable practices by proposing creative and innovative solutions to brands and textile supply chains. As per our geographical location (North of Portugal) we work closely with all actors from the industry and for all kinds of projects (design, sourcing, development, production and consulting).

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Green Fabric Belgium

Valentin Fruchart

e Valentin Fruchart is the founder of the Green Fabric. After working as an engineer in sustainable building design for 10 years she created the Green Fabric in 2020. She loves developing new projects, particularly in the field of circular textiles.

Green fabric is a creative hub which offers a textile fablab, creative workshops, a coworking space for creators and finally a second-hand haberdashery. In Brussels, Green Fabric puts creation at the center of the ecological and social transition. By raising awareness of reasoned consumption that respects the environment, in order to strive for a more sustainable way of life. It covers a total of 360m² and it's divided into an open lab for textile production, experimentation and research, a shared studio space/coworking area, private ateliers and a workshop area.

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Savonia University of Applied Sciences Finland

Kaija Villman

I work as a Research and Development Manager in the Sustainable Societies Research Field in Savonia University of Applied Sciences, in Finland. My background is from creative industries and textile design from my former career. Nowadays, as a R&D manager my interest is to support out team to enhance sustainable development and creative industries collaboration with other fields.

The goal of our teams in the **Sustainable Societies Research Field** is providing multidisciplinary local solutions to global challenges, which are related to strengthening the ecosystem-based actions, vitality of the region and resilience in complex crises. The cross-cutting themes are sustainability, resilience and businesses. Our tool to offer services is projects. They range from development and innovation activities with SME's to the implementation of large-scale research projects plus collaboration with the public-private sector – The variety of the project topics is quite broad from tourism, business, construction, to ecosystem building and creative fields – so, we operate throughout the whole society. But in all activities individuals and user orientation are in the centre. We perform Savonia RD spearheads, which are comprehensive security, renewable industry and resource efficiency – the basics are sustainable business models which include the idea of a reduction of carbon footprint and better handprint, so that things are bouncing back better.

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