

# CATWALK MARVELS. WHO WAS WHO

**Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week Africa** not only proved to be a fashion extravaganza of sophisticated designs and impeccable craftsmanship but also brought us the top models of Africa and wowed the guests – many of whom couldn't help but wonder, who are these models? Once again Africa Fashion International proved both the hub of African fashion and the launching pad for some of Africa's finest models. **Sinem Bilen-Onabanjo** reports.

PHOTOS: SDR PHOTOS



## BUNMI ADEMOKOYA

She may be 25 but she is not retiring anytime soon. Runner-up at Nigeria's Next Supermodel 2007 and the winner of Best Model Of The World held in Turkey the same year, Bunmi has walked the catwalks across the world – from New York to Cape Town, London to Lagos, Paris to Johannesburg. It's her international experience and graceful physique that makes her a hit year after year at Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week Africa.

## VICTOR KWEN

The 2011 Face of FAB Awards in Lagos, Nigeria, has come a long way since his early days in fashion and now a runway without Victor is absolutely unimaginable. He rocks any menswear imaginable, from edgy avant-garde looks to smart casuals to more traditional suits, so it is no surprise that he walked for numerous designers this season at MBFW Africa, and oooh what a walk it was, too!







## MALA BRYAN

St. Lucian beauty Mala brings a touch of commercial to the high end, and MBFW Africa is all the richer for it. Take, for example, her Spero Villioti walk, more reminiscent of a Victoria's Secret runway, which set temperatures soaring. Here is one versatile model who proves a favourite with many of the designers and boasts a banging bikini body too!



NEVILLE MASONDO

## BISI SOWEMIMO

Another veteran of the South African and international runways is Adebisi Sowemimo. The winner of the First Nigeria Model Awards in 2004, Bisi has since become a household name internationally. She was also a contestant in the 2007 reality show, *Revlon Supermodel*, which aired on SABC3, between November and December. She represented Nigeria at the finals of the Fashion TV Model Awards in Cannes and Monte Carlo from where she won a modelling contract. She is currently signed to Ice Models.



## ADAU MORNYANG

South Sudanese model Adau Mornyang is all cheekbones, dove eyes, and graceful limbs as her 5' 11" frame takes to the runway, and her walk is a sight for sore eyes. Signed to Izaio in Berlin, Fusion Models in Cape Town, Nevs Models in London, Darley Models in Melbourne, One Management in New York, the globetrotting model has also walked for international fashion houses Rebecca Minkoff, Kenzo, Vivienne Westwood, to name a few. No surprise she was one of the most striking models at MBFW Africa.

## PETER FINN

Much like his Isis Models colleague Victor, Peter brings swagger on to the runway, whether he is dressed in casual wear or dapper evening wear. One of the 12 finalists for Elite Model Look Nigeria 2012, Peter has steadily been building his profile in his native Nigeria, first with Beth Models and since July 2014 with Isis. His slight physique makes him pull off every imaginable look possible on the runway and his striking eyes home in on the photographer's lens making for some amazing runway images.



LAURENCE AIRLINE





## SANELE XABA JUNIOR

With his unique look and fierce swagger, Sanele dominated the Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week Africa shows walking for practically every menswear label – and gosh, what a walk it was! At only 20, the South African albino model has a long career ahead of him and we cannot wait to see more of his journey on and off the runway.

DESIGNER HERE PLS

DENNIS MAPONYA



## ETIENNE TSHISWAKA

His chiselled features and strong walk make Ice Models' Etienne Tshiswaka a favourite with both South African and international designers and this season at MBFW Africa was no different. From casual looks to suited suave styles, Etienne owned each look as much as he owned the runway.



## BIANCA BROMBIN

Very few models have the grace and elegance of Bianca. Model and actress, and most recently a video honey for South African rap group Die Antwoord, the multi-talented model swans down the runway and totally owns it; the latest edition of MBFW Africa, which saw her walking for numerous designers, was no exception.

DESIGNER HERE PLS

## IMADE OGBEWI

The 2011 winner of Nigeria's Next Supermodel title is no stranger to the Africa Fashion International catwalks, and with each season she seems to be getting finer and finer. With her graceful gait and Bambi eyes, she is truly poetry in motion, and this season was of course no different.



TAIBO BACAR



# New African Woman

AN IC PUBLICATION

Issue 28

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SPECIAL  
REPORT

Mercedes-Benz

FASHION  
WEEK  
AFRICA

AFRICAN  
WOMEN  
IN  
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WELLBEING  
Tame that  
TUSH!

“Let’s  
not forget  
Chibok  
Girls”

OBYEZEKESILI

UK £3.00, USA \$4, Canada  
\$4.50, Euro Zone € 4.50, CFA  
Zone F.CFA 2000, Ethiopia R 50  
Egypt EE 20, Gambia Da 120,  
Ghana GH¢ 10.00, Kenya KShs  
350, Jamaica \$680, Liberia  
US\$ 3.00, Mauritius MR 150,  
Nigeria N 500, Norway NOK 50,  
Sierra Leone LE 15,000, South  
Africa R35, Sweden SKr 33,  
Switzerland SFr 5.00, Tanzania  
TShs 5,400, Uganda USh 8,700,  
Zambia ZMK 25.

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Beauty  
TIPS, TIPS AND MORE TIPS



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