

ONE WORLD SHOW

The Miami School of Fashion Istituto Marangoni, Miami, Florida March 11, 2023

On March 11, Art 4 Humanity (A4H) presented a project in collaboration with the historic fashion brand Vionnet: One World Show (OWS) at Istituto Marangoni. The event featured a live performance - a fashion and photography show presenting outfits from the prestigious Vionnet archive and a display of the photographs shot by female refugees wearing the Vionnet outfits by playing the dual role of models as well as photographers in the surroundings of their refugee camp in Thessaloniki, Greece. The Vionnet outfits and the photographs could be purchased during the event and on A4H website, with proceeds benefiting the training programs of The Photography School, allowing refugees to develop professional skills, gain representation and reinstate their identities.

Like Madeleine Vionnet sought to liberate women through fashion, the refugees walked to freedom. And it is no coincidence that the show was scheduled for Women's History Month in March. Vionnet signifies change. "We like to be disruptive. We want to generate awareness about critical issues through entertainment and trigger actions," says Donato, A4H President. "We brought the haute couture outfits – previously worn during the prestigious catwalks of fashion weeks – to the emptiness of a refugee camp. And then, we went from the nothingness of the refugee center to the glamorous Miami Design District."

Positioned as a hug across the planet to promote mutual support and give representation and voice, on March 11, for the OWS, A4H involved young women from Miami's Haitian communities as models.

Mainly from Iran, Syria, and Afghanistan, the critically acclaimed group of photographers were trained at The Photography School, established near their refugee camp, directed by Mattia Bidoli and supported by A4H since 2020. The School has introduced over 50 young girls to photography with a dramatically transformative effect."We felt the urge to break the silence, tell their stories, and amplify their voices involving a historic brand like Vionnet," says Donato. OWS is a worldwide touring photography and fashion exhibition that kicked off during Miami Art Week in December 2022, was presented in Madrid in February 2023, and will move to Duke University in late March 2023.

Founded in 2020 by Federica Donato, a visual artist and activist, A4H is a 501c3 based in Miami, Florida. Grounded on the belief that art is the most potent form of activism, A4H connects artists, world leaders, and philanthropists to devise innovative projects that inform, inspire, and mobilize resources and actions to build a world that embraces the value of human dignity.