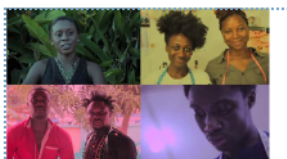


**Agba Metro Gear, Multi Bellor, Nung Couture, Quami Weat, Sambalaka, Honey Black Couture and Yeebeheads.** Whilst there is clearly a sense of collaboration, association and collective thought emanating from the association's base in the Garment Enclave situated in the North Industrial Area of Accra, there is also a strong sense of the attributes and values intrinsic to the ITC EFI: craftsmanship, empowerment, ethical values and a sense of history and pride in their own culture. Of the designers who showed in Milan, Akosua Afriyie-Kumi of **A A K S** is based in both Ghana and London and incorporates the use of leather and raffia to create bags hand-crafted by top level local weavers. **Améyo** designers Kleleli Dzidzienyo and Netty Anang design and create fashion that is "relevant in the lives of the independent modern woman who is creative and sophisticated yet likes to show a simple elegant style". **Joint Collective** designers Leslie Wiredu and Kofi Gyedu Kwabia combine sharp tailoring and feminine shapes, hand-woven cotton fabrics and striking Ghanaian wax prints. Their designs, whilst strong and military-inspired are softened by using soft and airy fabrics. In Milan they paired their collection with Ghanaian shoe brand **Heel The World**.

Akosua Afriyie-Kumi of A A K S working on her bags for the IED Moda show

Finally, **Radford Collective** is the work of Afua Biney, Michael Owusu and Papa Oppong, whose artwork and illustrations feature a little earlier in this magazine. The three students from Ghana's Radford University fashion department created a capsule collection showcasing talent from the country's premier fashion programme. With this ground swell of creativity, production and design taking place in Accra it is clear that the country is building its own foundation toward the growth of African fashion and the ITC EFI is proud to be part of it.



Watch the film: IED Moda show, Milan by Tolga Dilisiz



A A K S at IED. Photo: Paolo Consag