



IWA

International Women's Association - Penang



# EXPRESSIONS

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# Bran et Daquet "Dont' Judge Me"

by Michelle Grimsley



## The G hotel

was the setting as IWA members joined other guests at the recent Show by Penang-based fashion House Bran et Daquet. Weeks of preparation and planning had gone into the show by local designer Brandon Tan (last seen in October

at the Luscious Ladies in Shades of Pink event at Rasa Sayang) and his French partner Pascal Martin-Daquet.

Guests arrived early to register and were soon chatting away, glass of wine in hand. Brandon himself managed to escape from the excitement backstage to pose for photos with some of the guests and as the doors opened, guests took their seats alongside the catwalk which stretched the length of the G hotel Ballroom.

As the lights dimmed and the atmospheric music began, the first model appeared wearing a Chinese-style jacket, carrying a pair of traditional Chinese lanterns and wearing old-fashioned wooden clogs. But the show was anything but traditional as Brandon challenged the audience not to jump to conclusions about his models, their lifestyles and backgrounds by presenting a series of dramatic and even shocking juxtapositions in line with his theme "Don't Judge Me".

Brandon's hallmark is clever cutting which sees traditional shapes transformed into sophisticated chic and his elegantly cut occasionwear is made from exquisite fabrics, mainly imported from Europe and he had assembled more than 40 outfits for his show using a palette of black, white, red and gold.

The professional models included ex-Miss Malaysia Trincy Low but some of the loudest applause was reserved for IWA models including Janet Maurillo in an extravagantly regal long feather concoction, Yvonne Touby in a smart skirt suit with fringed beaded trim and Maggie Territt resplendent in flattering feather trimmed red dress.

Brandon himself made an appearance as a model at the end of the show disguised in a trench coat, top hat and gold mask – which he took off in the finale to a roar of applause from the appreciative audience.

The collection is available until 14 February 2010 at Tamasha, Unit 9, Level 1, Island Plaza, tel 04 8990951, open 11am-6pm except Monday.

To commission a piece, contact Brandon for an appointment on 016 4348175.

