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Lela Rose to keynote 2017 Washington Winter Show Luncheon Lecture

American fashion designer to speak to show theme, the Art of Style

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today, the Board of the Washington Winter Show announced American fashion designer Lela Rose as the 2017 Luncheon Lecture speaker. The Texas-born, New York City-based designer is widely regarded for her elegant aesthetic and fresh point of view, from her sophisticated eponymous ready-to-wear collections to her Lela Rose Bridal collection. The luncheon, which takes place on Friday, January 13, 2017, will compliment the Show's 2017 theme, The Art of Style, featuring a spectacular loan collection of portraits of Coco Chanel, as well as the design icon's clothing given to the artist, Marion Pike.

Formally trained as a painter and sculptor, prior to studying design at New York's Parson's School of Design, Lela Rose's collections are known for their brilliant use of color, rich fabrications, sculptural silhouettes and handcrafted details. Rose's unique point of view and the quality of her designs and fabrications have elevated the esteem of the brand, receiving recognition from fashion editors, stylists, and high-profile celebrities who are regularly seen wearing the brand - including Gwyneth Paltrow, Jessica Chastain, Claire Danes, Anne Hathaway, Selena Gomez, Zoe Saldana, Uma Thurman, Jessica Alba, Selma Blair, Laura Dern, Olivia Munn, Sofia Vergara, Karolina Kurkova, Chrissy Teigen, January Jones, Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge, and First Lady Michelle Obama, among others.

As a principled, female business owner, wife and mother, Rose is committed to supporting and giving back to the community. Since the inception of the company over 17 years ago, Lela Rose has proactively supported a proven network of artisans, sewers, pattern-makers, manufacturers, and small business owners in New York City, maintaining all possible apparel production locally of her ready-to-wear and dress collections.

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The spirit of the Lela Rose brand and company is driven by the entrepreneurial designer, and her passion for style, design and décor, which infuse all that emanates from the studio. Rose, now a published author, released her first book, Prêt-à-Party, with Rizzoli in 2015, which focused on her love of style and entertaining while creating a new platform for future opportunities and products.

Proceeds from Show will benefit the Washington Winter Show's charity partners: THEARC, Bishop John T. Walker School, and the Founders Board of St. John's Community Services.

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