

Professional training

1988-90

BA (Textile Design) RMIT University, Melbourne

Georgia Chapman and Meredith Rowe both graduated with high distinctions. In her final year of the course, Georgia was awarded the inaugural McPherson Art Prize for outstanding work in any medium. The award was part of the 1990 Next Wave Festival.

Evolution of a label

1992

After meeting at RMIT during their degree course, Georgia and Meredith worked in various jobs in the textile industry before forming their own textile design partnership, Vixen Australia. Vixen's first range consisted of 6 scarves designed and handprinted for an exhibition at the Meat Market Craft Centre. This range was then sold to Georges, David Jones, the Arts Centre shop and David Lawrence.

1992-95

Supplied scarves and sarongs to retail outlets. Designed fabric for Scanlan and Theodore. Both Meredith and Georgia lectured in textile design part time at RMIT.

1996

Commissioned to design and manufacture a range of printed fabrics for Collette Dinnigan's Paris '96 Ready to Wear Collection.

1998

Took part in their first group show, the New Generation Collections, at Australian Fashion Week, Sydney Showgrounds (May)

1997

New Generation Parade, part of Melbourne Fashion Festival, Greville Street Runway (February)

1998

Finalist in Sportsgirl New Designer Award, part of Melbourne Fashion Festival

1999

Commissioned to design and produce scarves for the women's formal official team uniform for the Sydney 2000 Olympics.

2000

Georgia became sole director of Vixen Australia when Meredith left to continue her design career overseas. Maureen Sohn joined the business to develop the fashion/garment side.

Took part in a parade and exhibition of 3 contemporary Australian fashion designers to open Ballets Russes costume exhibition, From Russia with Love, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra (July).

2002

Solo parade, Collection Show, Ian Potter Gallery, Australian Fashion Week (November)

Exhibitions

1994

CROSSROADS

Group exhibition, Meat Market Craft Centre, North Melbourne

1996-8

AURORA: AUSTRALIAN WOOD, METAL, GLASS, FIBRE, CERAMICS
Exhibition toured from RMIT Gallery, Storey Hall, Melbourne to: Australian Embassy (Hanoi); Gallery Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam); Lionel Wendt Art Gallery, Colombo (Sri Lanka); Dwarika Hotel, Katmandu (Nepal); La Salle SIA College of the Arts Gallery (Singapore); Shilpakala Academy, Dhaka (Bangladesh); National Gallery, Islamabad (Pakistan); V M Gallery, Karachi (Pakistan); Seoul Arts Centre, Seoul (South Korea).

1996

FIFTH INTERNATIONAL TEXTILE COMPETITION

Museum of Kyoto, Japan

1997

UNDRESS

Span Galleries, Melbourne, part of Melbourne Fashion Festival
Group show of textile and fashion designers, funded by Arts Victoria.

1999

Seppelt Contemporary Art Award, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney

2000

REPETITION

Vixen Australia Reworked Retrospective, Craft Victoria, Melbourne
This exhibition marked the end of an eight-year collaboration between Georgia and Meredith.

2001

FOUNDATIONS OF GOLD

A touring exhibition, from RMIT Storey Hall, Melbourne to Mumbai, Osaka, Seoul, Manila, Singapore

Georgia accompanied the exhibition to Mumbai where she was guest speaker at the Indian Merchants' Chamber

2001

PEEPSHOW

Span Galleries, Melbourne, part of Melbourne Fashion Festival
Collaborative exhibition of work by Georgia Chapman and photographer Sonia Pletes.

2002

AUSTRALIAN FASHION AND TEXTILE EXHIBITION

Fashion Centre Korea, curated by Meredith Rowe

SOURCING THE MUSE

Sydney Powerhouse Museum

Art & Design Awards

1997

Finalist in the Victorian Design Awards,
Major Textile Design category

1998

Winner of \$20,000 Major Textile Design Award,
Victorian Design Awards

1999

Winner, object category, Seppelt Contemporary Art Award,
MCA, Sydney

2003

Finalist in the Cicely and Colin Rigg Contemporary Design Award,
Ian Potter Gallery, NGV, Victoria

Art & Design Collections

Vixen is represented in the following collections:

NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA

Fabrics and garments for Textile and Fashion collection
(acquired in 1997 and 1999)

POWERHOUSE MUSEUM

Garments for Textile and Fashion collection
(acquired 2002)