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FASHION

BEAUTY

By: Alex Y. Vergara Philippine Daily Inquirer / 08:00 AM November 14, 2014



And before the weeklong event ended at Matrade exhibitions complex in Kuala

Lumpur, Albert Andrada ran away with one of three major awards handed out

The Middle East-trained Filipino designer won Asia's Most Connected Designer

award mainly on the strength of online voting on Facebook. Mary Jane Tauyan,Wearista Stylo Andrada's feat came in the heels of fellow Filipino Avel Bacudio's win last year awardee as Asia's Most Influential Designer. It was the first time the decade-old MFW handed out awards.

Designer award went to Taiwanese Chun Ting Liu, 29.

by organizers.

evening wear collection made of chiffon, soft tulle, Mikado silk and various laces.

veteran designer showed a well-received 12-piece semi-beaded and embroidered

With or without Facebook, many felt that Andrada deserved the prize, as the

Inspired by marine life, Andrada's collection was limited to such colors as white, nude, coral and sea green. Apart from embellishing certain pieces with laser-cut appliqué, he also used tiny shells and crystals.

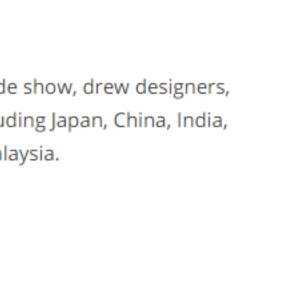
"The look is still luxurious," he said, "but the take is totally different from what I've

done before, including the nude and sequined tulle dress I did for Paris Hilton."

A joint project of the Malaysian trade department and Singapore-based events organizer Stylo, MFW is also known as Mercedes-Benz Stylo Asia Fashion Week (MBSAFW) after the leading German carmaker became one of the event's major

This year's MFW, which coincided with a lifestyle trade show, drew designers, buyers and journalists from 13 Asian countries, including Japan, China, India, Indonesia, Singapore, Australia and host country Malaysia.

Strong contender





sponsors last year.

Alzate, who has won a string of awards locally since becoming a full-time

attention grabbing dresses and braided jackets.

and black and orange with neutral-colored patent leather panels and oversized zippers to produce strong,

"My dresses have always been big, bold and a bit heavy," said Alzate. "This ALBERT Andrada receives award from season, my silhouettes are basic and almost shapeless. I love incorporating organizers and sponsors of Malaysia

too much embellishments."



silk and silk jacquard.

Fashion Week.

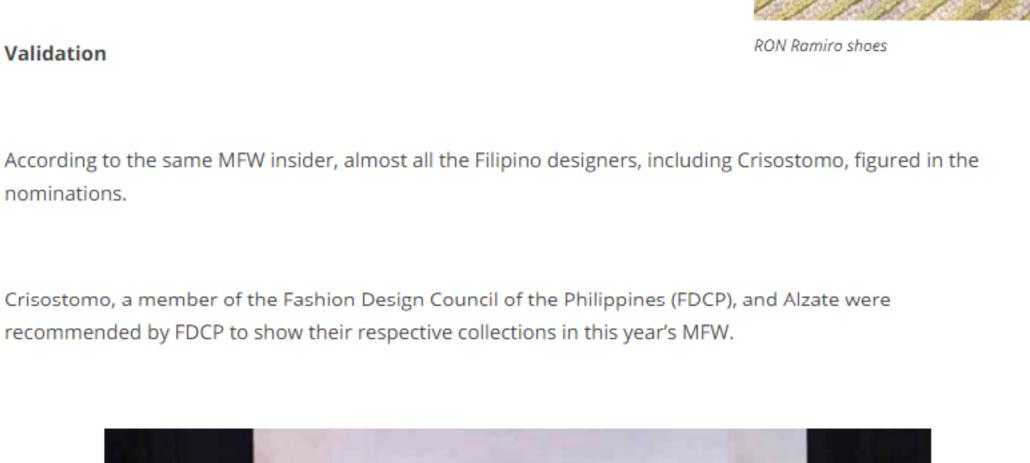
Validation nominations.

"I explored cutting, fusing and mixing of fabrics and colors like white, lime

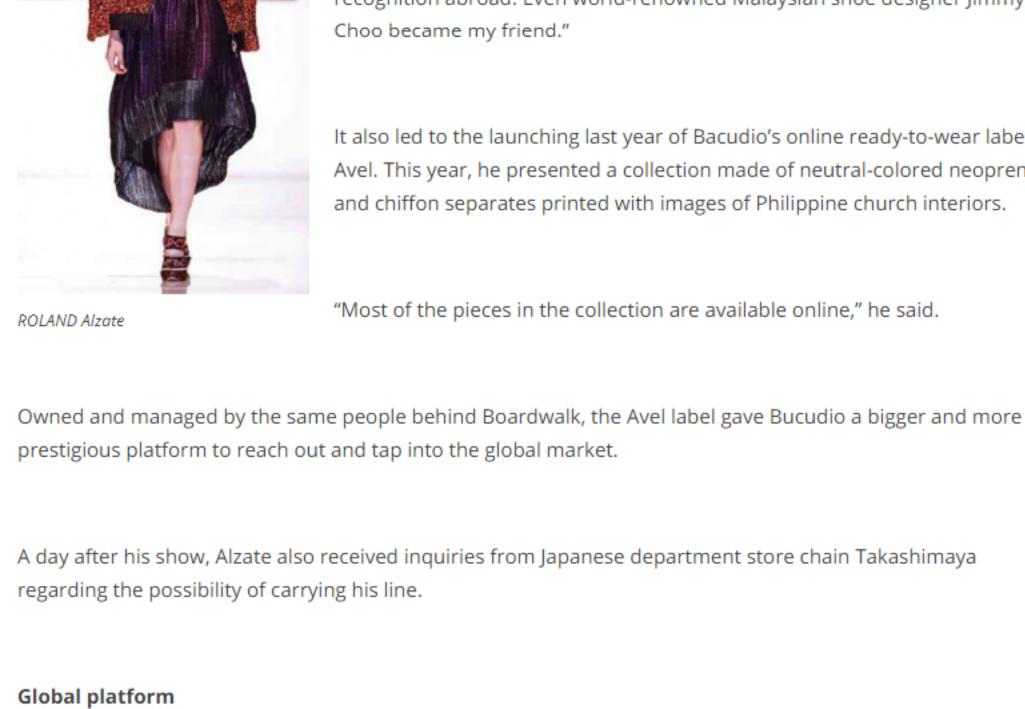
architecture in Manila before immigrating to Canada sometime in the '80s.

reminded me of irregularly cut tiles," said Crisostomo, who studied

green, pink and magenta. For a change, I did asymmetrical color blocking that



AVEL Bacudio, last year's Asia's Most Influential Designer awardee, with his latest line for his Avel label



"Most of the pieces in the collection are available online," he said.

A day after his show, Alzate also received inquiries from Japanese department store chain Takashimaya

"Noel and I spent quite a sum to get here, but we feel that it was worth it because this is one fashion week where they really invite foreign buyers and media," said Alzate. "It gives designers like us a regional and even a

hotel, airfare and the \$2,750 participation fee to be part of MFW.

global platform to show our clothes."

The Filipino presence was bolstered by the participation of young designers Rosenthal Tee, Jeffry Rogador and Charles Cua.

A product of London's Instituto Marangoni, Tee, 26, showed a 12-piece collection consisting of luxury dresses, separates and bridal gowns made of French and Spanish laces, soft tulle, organza, piña and various silk fabrics in ivory and ecru.

and civil weddings.

Tee's ready-to-wear bridal dresses and separates with minimal beadwork and appliqué are ideal for resort

"I find it funny that I'm debuting in Malaysia and not in the Philippines," said Tee, who runs a fledgling shop in Marikina. "But I thought it would be

for instance, was a strapless and body-hugging number with drama

like a bouquet of roses in various sizes.

seasoned colleagues like Noel and Albert."

garment business in the Philippines.

She also did a number of elaborate wedding-day options. Her finale piece,

confined mainly on the gown's bottom half—a cloud of soft tulle shaped

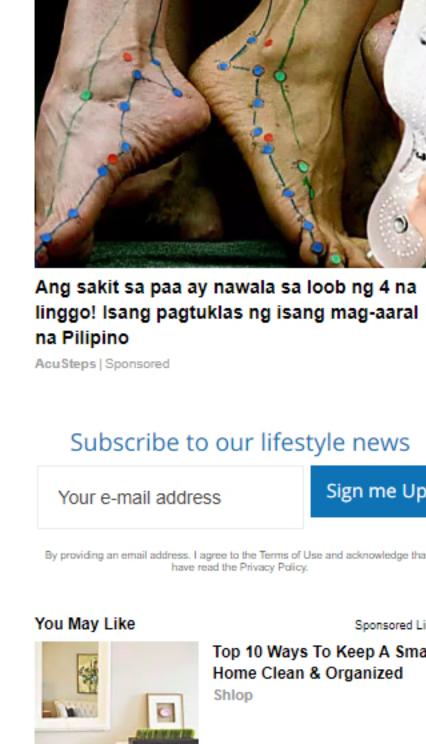
Filipino presence

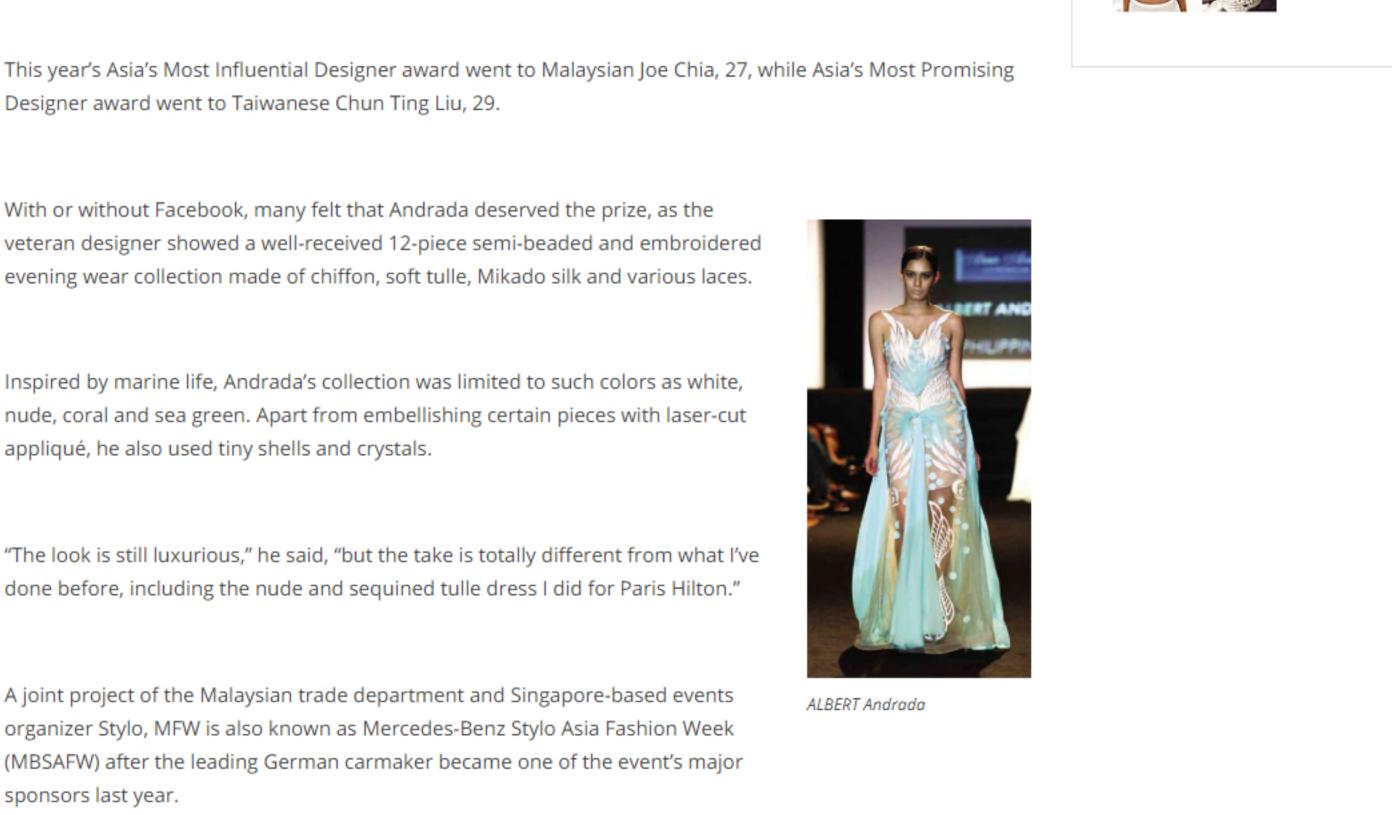


fashion design. The Filipino presence extended to Brunei-based designer Maricel Pamintuan, the daughter of Filipino and

Chinese immigrants who settled in the tiny, oil-rich Southeast Asian kingdom.

Even the Wearista Style Icon award, a new recognition handed out by Stylo to the most fashion-forward woman in the audience, went to Singapore-based Filipina fashion blogger Mary Jane Tauyan, a native of Ang sakit sa paa ay nawala sa loob ng 4 na linggo! Isang pagtuklas ng isang mag-aaral na Pilipino AcuSteps | Sponsored Subscribe to our lifestyle news Sign me Up Your e-mail address By providing an email address. I agree to the Terms of Use and acknowledge that I have read the Privacy Policy. You May Like Sponsored Links Top 10 Ways To Keep A Small Home Clean & Organized Shlop People Born 1941-1981 Get This Benefit In August Survey Compare Setka cup provider for sportsbooks BETER - leading provider 25 People Who Did Not Get What They Ordered Online Sizzlfy by Taboola





According to an MFW insider, Roland Alzate was also a strong contender for both Asia's Most Connected and Asia's Most Promising Designer awards. designer almost three years ago, reportedly came in second to Andrada in terms Like Andrada's collection, Alzate's editorial-worthy animal-print ensembles and chain mail-like metallic stretch dresses could stand on their own merits. The young Filipino designer used animal prints in such color combinations as black and blue, black and red,

plastic and raffia strips done by Aklan weavers. For his '70s-inspired metallic jumpsuits and long dresses in shiny blue, silver and lavender, Alzate sourced his fabrics from Hong Kong.

Crisostomo, a veteran Filipino-Canadian designer who once worked for Club Monaco and Ports 1961, also presented his own 12-piece spring-summer collection consisting of pleated and color-blocked dresses made of Mikado

The woven animal prints were made of cotton and others materials like

handmade elements because it's my idea of couture without resorting to

recommended by FDCP to show their respective collections in this year's MFW.



Apart from the chance of mounting a fashion show for free, participating designers had to shoulder their

Although Cua was identified as part of the Singaporean contingent, the

designer, a trained architect and building engineer, grew up and runs a

a good opportunity for me to create more impact since I'm showing with

NOEL Crisostomo Cua, who did a collection of tailored suits and formal dresses made of printed cotton and organza for the family-owned Azure brand, was representing the Management Institute of Singapore where he studied

Laguna and now married to an Australian.