

MIAMI FASHION BLOG

WHO WHAT AND WHERE TO LOOK FOR EVERYTHING FASHION

Runway

All Kinds of Sexy

by Lauren Doyle on April 19, 2011 at 09:38AM



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The Marlin Hotel is newly (or, almost newly) renovated and they want you to know it. The Marlin will be hosting fashion shows monthly in their sleek, new lounge-like lobby. First up, swimwear, with Columbia's Chechy Benedetti, designer of [Pitahaya Swimsuits](#), Mexico's [Maria Lepe](#), designer of Lépe Fashion, and Miami's own Raye, designer of [MaddSexy Lingerie](#).

First down the makeshift runway was Pitahaya Swimsuits. The fun and sexy swimsuits feature special appliqués called "molas" that are handmade by Columbia's indigenous Kunas tribe. The appliqués give the swimsuits a little something extra. Because, as Benedetti says, "there are no new designs... no one is doing anything new." So she, in creating her line, wanted to both do something *new*, while helping bring money and attention to the indigenous tribe.

"My line is for a woman who likes to be sexy, who likes to be alive. [For women who are] are spiritual, cultural, educated."

So her bikinis and plunging V one-pieces are all adorned with the language and symbols of the Kunas tribe. In some places, this works; on others, the molas are a little too reminiscent of nipples or tattoos. If you roll that way, it's great. If not, stick to the belted one-pieces, the gorgeous crocheted swimsuits, or the turquoise bandeau, which places the mola square in the center of the top.

Next up, was Mexico's Maria Lepe, who's metallic two-pieces and itsy bitsy animal-print bikini pushed sexy to its sharp and daring edges. One standout, pink boy shorts with a peasant blouse top, plays on the designer's origins and gives us great ideas for lounging poolside with teasing modesty.

Last up, and breaking the all-swimwear theme, was Miami's own MaddSexy. MaddSexy designer Raye told us she *is* hard at work on a swimwear line, which will include, she says, "a lot of throw-overs," and what she calls transition wear - clothes that can take you from the beach to happy hour in MaddSexy style. But Saturday she sent her lingerie down the runway. All of Raye's pieces are different and daring, but we particularly loved the lace and leather bodysuit. Now *there's* something you're not going to see at Victoria's Secret any time soon.



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Gallery: Pitahaya Swimsuits

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