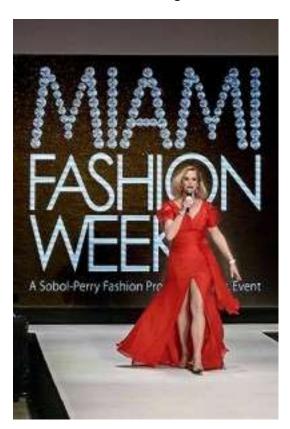
By: Hope Wilkos, Writer

**Miami Fashion Week** has earned international acclaim for the past 17+ years as it has captured audiences with its energetic variety of style and unique originality. It became an overnight sensation and huge draw to Miami Beach, largely in part because of its founder, a fashion success in all aspects of the word, **Beth Sobol**. Beth took this annual exciting week to amazing heights, and in 2015, has announced some impelling news to share with her followers and those ready to jump head first into the international fashion world.

Although her heart continues to beat heavily for **Miami Fashion Week**, **Beth Sobol** and her financial partner, **Aaron Perry**, have sold their stake in Fashion Week to a group of European investors with a vision of expanding the brand globally. Miami Fashion Week will be back with a bang.



Now, Sobol can focus on a new chapter in her life, the <u>Council of International Fashion Designers</u>. Always one of her passions, the Council has the potential to transform designers, hailing from other nations, into favored style icons right here in America. This fashion endeavor is a most beneficial business portal which has the challenging task of providing unparalleled access to information, resources and guidelines on how to enter the American marketplace. The key to achieving success as a global style brand lies in the strategy used to get to that plateau. Sobol has an extensive expertise within all aspects of fashion mainly due to her accomplishments

over the years. She is excited to share, not only for the purpose of introducing fresh international talent to America, but to show the designers the gratification that comes with determination and drive as they grow their business.

The <u>Council of International Fashion Designers, Inc.</u> is established to educate and empower international emerging and established fashion and accessory designers on the industry's business practices in the American market. The opportunity also exists to advance the status of fashion design as a branch of art and culture; to raise artistic and professional standards and to promote appreciation of the fashion and creative arts through leadership and quality programming for its members.



Access to CIFD benefits will be accessible through a virtual online hub, www.CIFD.net, which will go live very shortly in the next months. Those chosen to represent the CIFD Advisory Board, each selected for their international experience, include legal expert Bogdan Enica, Esq. and Retail Strategist Mercedes Gonzalez. Each is a star in their own right. Additional Advisory Board members will be announced shortly. Sobol has unrivaled access to influencers, executives, vendors and decision-makers throughout North, South, Central America, the Caribbean, The Middle East, India and several countries across Europe and the rest of the world. The mission of the Council of International Fashion Designers is to enable talented international designers/brands to establish a business foothold in the United States for profitable growth. "The CIFD serves a unique purpose," according to Aaron Perry. "We are a member supported organization committed to respond to their needs and to provide any assistance required to further their business objectives in the United States." With Sobol's professional network, CIFD members leapfrog over bureaucracy and red tape and are directed immediately to the resources and individuals best able to achieve member goals. "Knowing who's who and having personal relationships in the fashion industry in the American market and abroad is a significant asset that I will put to full use in service of our members," says Sobol.



So just who is the <u>Council of International Fashion Designers</u>, Inc.? The Council is a varied mix of emerging and established international fashion and accessories designers, fashion press, stylists, make-up artists, hair stylists, graphic artists, fashion photographers, fashion merchandisers, visual merchandisers, fashion retailers, international trade offices and related industry professionals who have been working in their fields for a minimum of 2 years.

Founded in 1999, the CIFD was created to promote the Latin American designers as international style creators, rather than folkloric and has dedicated its efforts to advancing the status of all international designers entering in the American market through cultural exchange, raising artistic and professional standards, promoting ethical practices within the industry and promoting fashion design as an international and creative form of art. New applicants with a desire to become part of the Council are reviewed under the terms of membership qualifications. All applicants are reviewed by the Board of Advisors for acceptance into the organization.



Most importantly in their mission and part of the extensive goal of the <u>Council of International Fashion Designers</u>, <u>Inc</u>. is to continually strive to support educational and promotional efforts for the fashion community at hand and to streamline and inform members as quickly as possible of the constantly changing and fast-paced international world of fashion, legal requirements, networking and business opportunities within the industry. Last week, on June 17, 2015, **Beth Sobol** held a webinar as a method for introducing the Council in more detail and reaching out to those with an interest in expanding their brand to a more widely recognized global name.

**Beth Sobol** puts an electrifying energy into all that she undertakes and this endeavor is one that all eyes around the world will be concentrating on. I know we will hear more about the successes that the <u>Council of International Fashion Designers, Inc.</u> tackles as the path becomes ever so clearer and the mission is even more defined in the coming months. **Beth Sobol** is once again shaping the fashion world in outstanding ways.

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