

STREETS NORTHERN **YOUR STORY**

# A piece of Shakespeare in Sekeping Victoria

**CATARINA CHEAH**  
 GEORGE TOWN  
 penangpost.com.my

**DRAMA AND THEATRE:** Designer Brandon Tan shows his splendid creations in Penang's Heritage Zone

**"T**o be or not to be" — not only is this a well-known phrase that has been used countless of times in history, it was also the theme of Bran et Daguet's recent fashion show held at an exciting new venue, Sekeping Victoria, here.

The show featured more than 30 inspiring outfits by fashion designer Brandon Tan. The theatrical designs were modelled against a backdrop of 370sq m warehouse space on the edge of the Heritage Zone.

With its raw walls and reedy indoor trees, the venue provided a stark contrast to the baroque designs.

The couture-based collection featured the designer's signature clever cutting with interesting fabrics, which were imported from Paris, in addition to his fabulous embellishments to the designs with feathers, beads and faux fur.

The models in this year's fashion show in-



Strut in this green and gold sequined dress topped with a matching feather

cluded bodybuilder Lilian Tan, who was the winner of the 2004 Miss USA Natural Body Building & Fitness competition and the runner-up in the 2011 Asian Woman Bodybuilding Championship (52kg), and Mr Penang 2012 Steven Mark, who was the 2011 Mr Malaysia Junior Champion (between 70kg).

Tan said he chose the venue because "Sekeping Victoria depicts heritage very well. It is very raw and it contrasts totally with my designs. I wanted to show everyone, both locals and foreigners, how Penang offers something different and special, not only in heritage and fashion, but in everything else, and that we should learn to appreciate and promote it."

Bran et Daguet is a high-end fashion line established five years ago by Tan and his partner Pucal Martin Daguet. Their boutique in Straits Quay Convention Centre has a dedicated clientele who are based in Penang, Kuala Lumpur and Singapore.

These socialites who are ardent fans of his elegantly-cut cocktail dresses and occasion wear, attended the fashion show.



Another elegant design by Brandon Tan

A long, elegant cigarette filter is the perfect accessory for the cheongam.



Lilian Tan muscled in on the action

No animals were harmed in the making of this faux-fur ensemble.



Brandon Tan revels in the outre, as his designs clearly reveal.



There's no one more striking than the lady in red, but which one?

