

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **2017 KERING TALK FEATURING MARCO BIZZARRI AS GUEST OF HONOUR AT LONDON COLLEGE OF FASHION**

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*On 11<sup>th</sup> October 2017, Marco Bizzarri, President & CEO of Gucci, will discuss how a culture of purpose, respect and responsibility in business needs to be at the heart of the sustainable movement at the 2017 Kering Talk hosted by London College of Fashion.*

*On the same day, Kering and the CSF at LCF will reveal the winners of the 2017 Kering Award for Sustainable Fashion.*

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Kering and the Centre for Sustainable Fashion (CSF) at London College of Fashion, UAL (LCF), are pleased to welcome, Marco Bizzarri, President & CEO of Gucci, as their guest of honour to the annual Kering Talk. In line with Kering's principles, Gucci is committed to a culture of purpose, putting positive environmental and social impact at the very heart of the brand. As such, the brand operates in a transparent, ethical manner and encourages its supply chain to adopt similarly responsible business practices. Marco Bizzarri will be in conversation with Livia Firth, Founder and Creative Director of Eco Age.

The 2017 Kering Talk is part of the five-year partnership between Kering and London College of Fashion, UAL. This ongoing commitment, set up in 2014, includes a joint curriculum of co-developed academic modules, in addition to the Kering Talk and the Kering Award for Sustainable Fashion. Kering and LCF bring together the knowledge and expertise of industry and academia to empower imagination with the goal of shaping a better future through fashion. Now in its fourth year, the annual Kering Talk has welcomed fashion designers and business leaders to share their perspectives on sustainable fashion and its importance for the future. The award gives an unparalleled opportunity to identify and honour exceptional student talent in the field of sustainable innovation.

During the 2017 Kering Talk, Kering and Centre for Sustainable Fashion (CSF) at LCF will also reveal the winners of the 2017 Kering Award for Sustainable Fashion. This annual competition is open to all LCF final year undergraduate and Master's students and requires students to provide creative and achievable solutions to a project brief defined by two of Kering's luxury brands participating in the 2017 programme: Gucci and Stella McCartney. A jury consisting of members from Kering leadership teams, Stella McCartney and Gucci, as well as LCF and CSF, selected 10 finalist projects, from over 100 applications. The 2017 projects explore sustainability in various ways from the use of alternative materials to reduce fashion's impact on the planet (for example, using microbial pigments, cork, bio-

resin and apple fibres) to the use of new technologies and digital tools to educate the public and industry on the necessity of sustainable development in fashion (conscious care and consumption, a circular lifecycle for clothes, improved supply chain transparency). The winners will receive a €10,000 grant to support their work, and / or an internship at Gucci or Stella McCartney.

**Béatrice Lazat, Kering Senior vice-president, Human Resources**, commented: *“Kering is immensely proud of our partnership with London College of Fashion, UAL. Through our successful partnership, we, as a business, have had the opportunity for a truly meaningful exchange with tomorrow’s thinkers and creators, and to help nurture their development with direct mentoring and support. We were truly impressed with all the projects this year; what the winning students have in common is the breadth and depth of their commitment to innovation. These talented students imagine a future for our industry that draws on art, science and technology, with the aim of preserving and improving our environment and the craftsmanship that is the mark of true luxury.”*

**Dilys Williams, Professor of Fashion Design for Sustainability and, Director of Centre for Sustainable Fashion**, commented: *“The collaborative partnership between London College of Fashion, UAL and Kering continues to create unrivalled opportunities for innovation. By uniting business and education in this unique way, we are helping to realize our joint ambition of changing the way fashion approaches design for sustainability. As the incredible ideas that have come out of this year’s awards illustrate - it is possible to radicalize practice and change perceptions and safeguard fashion and its industries for future generations.”*

**Watch the 2017 Kering Talk** live streamed on the Kering Facebook page from 6.30 pm GMT on 11 October 2017: [www.facebook.com/keringgroup/](http://www.facebook.com/keringgroup/)

**Follow the official hashtags:**  
#LCFxKering #Gucci #EmpoweringTalent

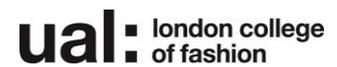
#### **About Kering**

A global Luxury group, Kering develops an ensemble of luxury houses in fashion, leather goods, jewelry and watches: Gucci, Bottega Veneta, Saint Laurent, Alexander McQueen, Balenciaga, Brioni, Christopher Kane, McQ, Stella McCartney, Tomas Maier, Boucheron, Dodo, Girard-Perregaux, Pomellato, Qeelin and Ulysse Nardin. Kering is also developing the Sport & Lifestyle brands Puma, Volcom and Cobra. By ‘empowering imagination’, Kering encourages its brands to reach their potential, in the most sustainable manner. The Group generated revenue of €12.385 billion in 2016 and had more than 40,000 employees at year end. The Kering share is listed on Euronext Paris (FR 0000121485, KER.PA, KER.FP).

#### **London College of Fashion: Shaping Lives Through Fashion**

London College of Fashion, UAL is a world leader in fashion design, media and business education. In boundary-pushing research where fashion intersects with science, engineering, and technology, and in enterprise, where it partners with top brands and helps launch new businesses. It has been nurturing creative talent for over a century, offering courses in all things fashion. Across every subject, it encourages students to examine the past and challenge the present. To have inventive, assertive ideas that challenge social and political agendas. It gives them the skills, opportunities - and above all, the freedom - to put those ideas into practice.

LCF moves fashion forward, by looking beyond it. We partner with fashion’s most successful brands and labels - both high street and luxury. LCF graduates are in key positions across every dimension of the fashion industry, from established designers like Jimmy Choo OBE, Sophia Webster and JW Anderson to rising stars like Ryan Lo and respected entrepreneur and former Chairman of the British Fashion Council, Harold Tillman CBE as well as fashion journalists Melanie Rickey and Sarah Harris.



### **Centre for Sustainable Fashion**

*Centre for Sustainable Fashion (CSF) is a Research Centre of the University of the Arts London based at London College of Fashion which was founded in 2007 by Professor Dilys Williams. Their work explores vital elements of Better Lives London College of Fashion's commitment to using fashion to drive change, build a sustainable future and improve the way we live.*

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### **Websites**

[www.kering.com](http://www.kering.com)

[www.arts.ac.uk/fashion](http://www.arts.ac.uk/fashion)

<http://sustainable-fashion.com>

[www.gucci.com](http://www.gucci.com)

### **Social media**

Twitter: @KeringGroup, @LCFLondon, @sustfash, @gucci

Instagram: @kering\_official, @lcf\_london\_, @gucci

Facebook: Keringgroup, London College of Fashion – Official, Centre for Sustainable Fashion, Gucci

LinkedIn: Kering, London College of Fashion, Gucci