



# Solo flight takes off from runway

**I**ndividualism and architectural tailoring will reign supreme when local designer **Chrissie Catling's** label **S2** hits the runway for her first **Perth Fashion Festival** solo show next week.

The designer and owner of **North Perth** boutique S2 — which stocks garments created by her as well as unique pieces from across Australia and the rest of the world — is over the moon to be presenting her first stand-alone show at Fashion Paramount on Monday night.

"It's stunning and just huge," she told *Access All Areas*.

"There's a lot of clothes and I'm only a small designer so it's been quite an interesting journey creating this new collection."

Catling's Spring/Summer 2012 collection will be a fusion of archive items re-energised and pieces from her current Autumn/Winter 2011 collection, updated for the warmer months.

"I've gone back through archive collections," she said.

"I've taken almost all new fabrics for the show. Probably a third are from this season's collection and the other two-thirds I'm making especially for the show."

"I want to give it a bit of an edge so I'm using predominantly black, which is my favourite, but I'm chipping in accents of chilli — orange and red throughout," she

added.

Guests at the event will be able to buy one-off pieces straight from the runways after the show, which looks to be as edgy as the clothes.

"We're wanting to bring a really artistic element to the show and (PFF) are pretty open to turning the lights down and creating a bit of a mood and turning the music up just that little bit louder," she said.

Catling is also looking to add a touch of rock'n'roll to the show and said she was looking to secure a well-known Perth-raised rock starlet to perform on the runway.

Some of Catling's biggest fans will fly from Singapore for the show, thanks to her presence at that city's Fashion Festival in May.

"**Mariella Harvey-Hanrahan** was saying some of the Singapore crew are flying down and asked if they can please have seats in the front row," Catling said.

Organisers of the festival flew Catling to Singapore to attend

Blueprint, a key trade event at the festival, after interest was sparked by the S2 dress that PFF director Harvey-Hanrahan wore to an event. "It really opened up my eyes to the fact that the world actually is right on our doorstep and things aren't really that far away," she said.

**HOLLY RICHARDS**

**GOING SOLO** Chrissie Catling of S2.  
 PICTURE  
**MICHAEL O'BRIEN**



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