



FEBRUARY 22, 2026 | MENSWEAR • SHOWS • WOMENSWEAR

LABRUM: READY-TO-WEAR AW26

Staged within an ornate ballroom within One Great George Street, the collection, called Threads of Osmosis, placed British tailoring at the centre: structured overcoats, double-breasted suits and sharp trousers acting as a framework for fabrics with roots in West Africa, Asia and across Europe. The point wasn't nostalgia. It was about how cloth records migration through weave, motif and cut, and how those histories can sit visibly within a Savile Row-coded silhouette.



Everything you need to know about London Fashion Week AW26: A chic, in-depth guide

At Foday Dumbuya's Labrum London, elevated collars added gravitas to stiff outer layers, sharpening already-considered west African tailored silhouettes.

LABRUM Teams Up with John Lewis for 38-Piece Capsule

The collection blends LABRUM's West African design codes with British fashion staples.



Season after season, [LABRUM](#)'s founder [Foday Dumbuya](#) has been creatively bridging the gap between Western society and African culture through powerful storytelling and standout collaborations.

The brand has collaborated with [Guinness](#) on abstract furniture, the [Shakur Estate](#) on a Tupac-inspired capsule, and [adidas](#) to design the official kit for Sierra Leone's National Olympic Committee – just to name a few. Additionally, just a few weeks ago, the British-African brand transformed Central Hall Westminster into a theatrical runway experience for [London Fashion Week](#).

Now, continuing its journey of meaningful collaboration, LABRUM has announced its next move: a 38-piece collection with British retailer [John Lewis](#).

John Lewis and LABRUM London Launch Menswear Collaboration

By Amal AlTaqi | October 21, 2025 | FASHION NEWS



A celebration of culture.

John Lewis has joined forces with LABRUM London for a 38-piece collection that merges the retailer's timeless craftsmanship with LABRUM's expressive, multicultural design language. Co-created by LABRUM founder and Creative Director Foday Dumbuya alongside John Lewis' in-house design team, the collection draws inspiration from West African artistry and contemporary British style. The result? A wardrobe of vibrant prints, rich textures, and refined silhouettes which celebrates the art of cultural exchange and modern craftsmanship.



FOR ALL THE FASHION BUSINESS

Drapers

First look: John Lewis x Labrum London

John Lewis has unveiled its first menswear collaboration in more than 10 years, teaming up with Labrum London for a 38-piece limited edition collection.

BY SABINA WESTON

2 OCTOBER 2025



Created by [Labrum London](#) founder and creative director Foday Dumbuya alongside [John Lewis's](#) in-house design team, the collection features the London Fashion Week designer's bold patterns and intricate jacquards in fabrics including lambswool, cotton, merino wool cashmere and leather.

Core colourways include navy blue, warm brown, mustard yellow, burnt orange and soft neutrals. Retail prices range from £15 for a pair of cotton socks to £369 for a leather jacket.

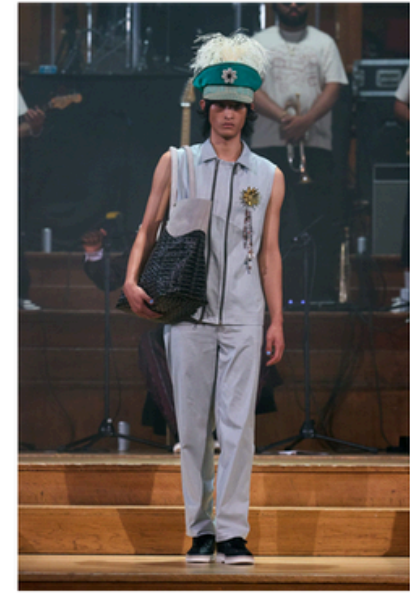
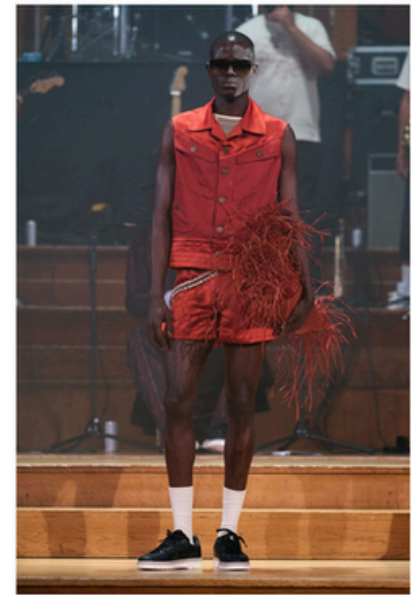
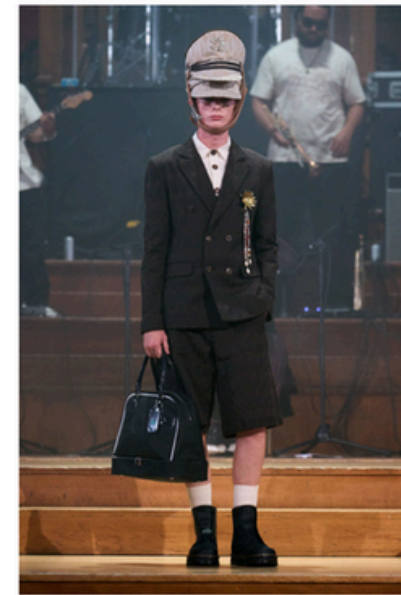
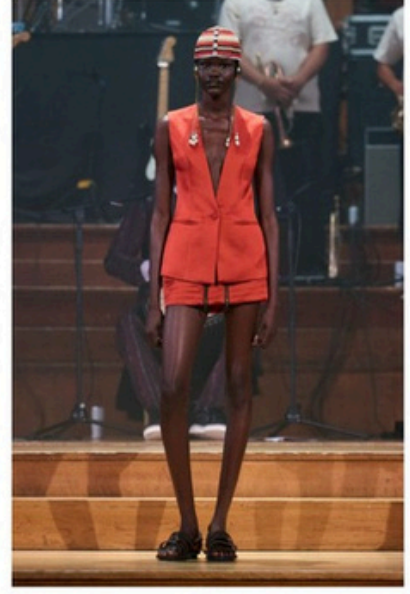
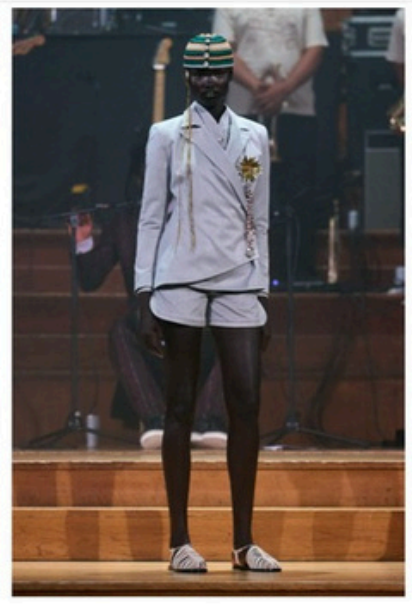
Launching on 21 October, the collection will be sold online at [johnlewis.com](#), as well as in five John Lewis stores: Oxford Street, Peter Jones at Sloane Square, Westfield Stratford City, Leeds and Manchester's Trafford Centre.

James Hawkes, head of menswear design at John Lewis, said: "[Labrum London's] brand ethos – crafting honest, practical clothing rooted in simplicity, fit, and a passion for detail – immediately resonated with our own values at John Lewis.

"We knew our customers would value Labrum's commitment to celebrating the rich, untold stories of west Africa through design. It was a privilege to collaborate closely with Foday and his team, we are incredibly proud of the result."

LFW: Labrum London Spring/Summer 2026 Collection

By Fernanda Callejo | September 22, 2025 | FASHION NEWS, Fashion Shows





The Long Wave
London fashion week

This article is more than 1 month old

From the catwalk to the closet, Black designers are using fashion as an antidote to growing division

In the same patch of London that saw far-right mobilisation, designer Foday Dumbuya provided an expansion on the cultural influences of immigration

London fashion week is always an exciting and vibrant time for the UK capital but this year, as far-right protesters sweep the streets, it felt more significant than ever as a visual counter against those images. And naturally, Black designers led the way in offering alternative visions of Britain..

I was lucky enough to attend the spring/summer 2026 show by Labrum, the label of British-Sierra Leonean designer Foday Dumbuya, which was titled Osmosis. As Dumbuya writes in an essay expanding on the show: "Cultural osmosis represents the profound exchange of cultural elements that occurs when diverse communities interact and inspire one another."

The show was at Central Hall Westminster, and on my way in I couldn't help but reflect on the scenes that took place here just a week prior, when more than 100,000 people mobilised under the direction of the far-right activist Tommy Robinson, spouting hate speech, racist conspiracy theories and anti-migrant rhetoric. I live a few stops away on the London underground, so I had compelled myself to witness the protests, their numbers and their narrative - which left me questioning what hope there can be for those of us who by birth, journey or heritage are still considered "other".



Honouring heritage ... the fashion show at Westminster hall was a 'profound exchange' of cultural elements. Photograph: Shane Anthony Sinclair/Getty Images



LABRUM LONDON

Labrum's Foday Dumbuya certainly knows how to put on a spectacle. Whether he's taking over Arsenal's Emirates stadium or Abbey Road studios, he's always got a trick up his sleeve. Set inside Westminster's Methodist Central Hall, this season's spectacle came via performances from Obongjayar, Odumodublvck, Tawiah, Che Lingo and Julianknxx. The 45-minute show seemed to unfold in chapters, with live music performances breaking up the



TEXT ELLIOT HOSTE

TEXT ISOBEL VAN DYKE



different groups of looks. That said, sometimes fashion and music became one, with the musicians serenading models as they walked. Titled *Osmosis*, Labrum's SS26 offering was based on ideas of cultural osmosis, continuing his ongoing relationship with movement while weaving in West African references such as the Cowrie shell. For a show that didn't finish until well after 10pm on the second day of LFW, it still managed to move several editors to tears.

FASHION

W

The Best Looks From London Fashion Week Spring 2026

Labrum London

by **W Staff**

Updated: Sep. 22, 2025

Originally Published: Sep. 19, 2025



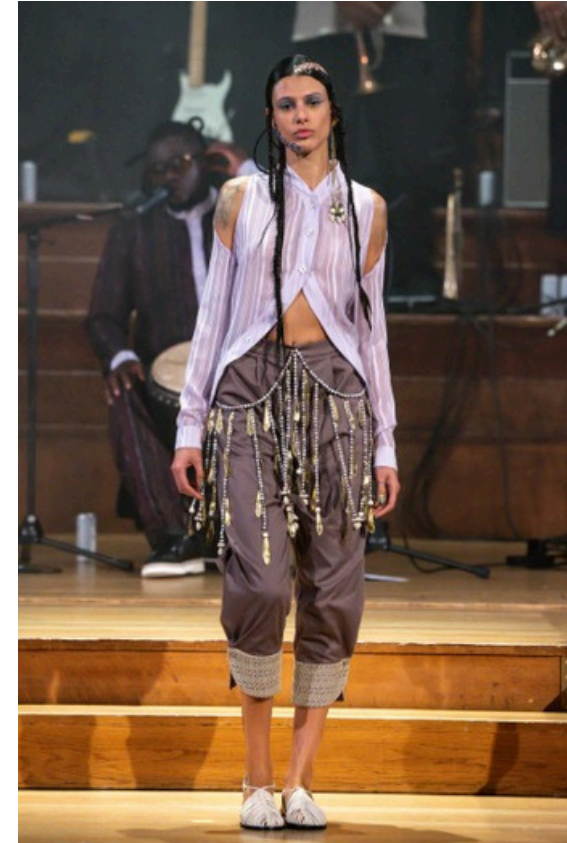


All The Highlights From London Fashion Week SS26

By Charlie Colville

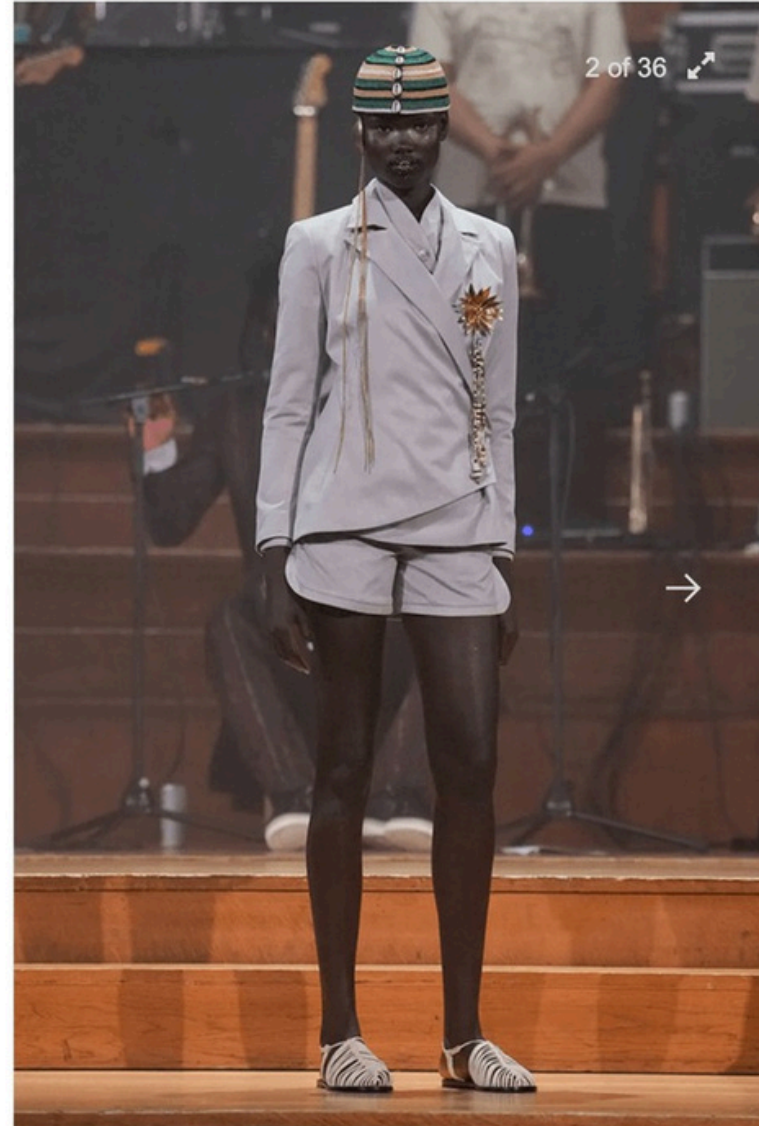
Rounding off the second day of London Fashion Week was Labrum London, headed up by designer Foday Dumbuya. Moving away from the traditional runway show, Dumbuya chose to showcase his SS26 collection as part of a live musical performance – featuring artists Tawiah, Obongjayar, Odumodublck, Julian Knox and Che Lingo – blending Mandé music, UK jazz, street soul and contemporary improvisation.

The inspirations behind Labrum's collection similarly drew on a melting pot of cultures and inspirations, rooted in the global diaspora, and how culture moves and influences new spaces. Key reference points included cowrie shells, a West African symbol of wealth and currency, as well as military-inspired hats stacked in the traditional Ekonda Botolo style and echoing Zulu headdresses – blended with contemporary tailoring, tinkling accessories and rich colours.



Foday Dumbuya Starts a Conversation at LABRUM SS26

The African-born designer continues to champion the next generation of cultural leaders at London Fashion Week.



Fashion

Sep 20, 2025

845

0 Comments

TEXT BY

Andrea Sacal

Titled “Osmosis,” LABRUM’s SS26 collection places immigration front and center, spotlighting traditions that transcend countries, generations, and identities. The runway became a timeline in motion: opening looks referenced the early days of tailoring, with sharp suiting pulled and deconstructed on classic foundations. Braided rope and gilded embellishments added a poetic nod to African craftsmanship, while passport-stamped blazers told tall tales of new beginnings. Military-inspired co-ords marched in next, complete with commemorative brooches — a reminder of heritage, resilience, and pride.

Labrum's Epic "Osmosis" Collection



Clementina Jackson Fashion Editor

A collection that felt like a tale of two halves, yet ultimately was a cohesive study in delightful discord—true to Labrum’s world, where art, fashion, music, and culture intersect to create magic. Ultimately, wearability becomes key and looking beyond the playful styling, Labrum SS26 is full of clothes you’ll actually want to wear. Jewel tones—opal, ruby, and amethyst—appeared in bold blocks of colours offset by utilitarian neutrals like khaki, muted lilac, and beige. Silver, shell-like stones, and rope embellishments became conversation pieces, adorning jacket hems, headwear, and ornate body jewellery.

LABRUM LONDON SPRING 2026 READY-TO-WEAR

By Foday Dumbuya

The positive effects of migration are never far from the mind of Foday Dumbuya, the Sierra Leone-born, London-based creative director of Labrum. “I’ve always used my work to talk about movement and migration and how, through it, we give birth to new generations and new ideas of culture,” he said before his spring show. “When you come to somewhere like the UK as a young person—when you leave Sierra Leone at, say, six years old—you retain a part of where you came from, but you also embed yourself within a new cultural context, and something new is born of that.”

Which, naturally, meant tailoring—lots of it. Wide-set suits were cut with swagger in hefty cowrie-shell motif-bearing cloth; slinky wrap jackets were constructed with open backs in jewel-toned satins. A poetic softness came through in gauzy caftans striped with vertical felled seams, offering a more figurative riff on the idea of movement that was at the collection’s core. That theme was broached more literally in suiting crafted in passport stamp-bearing jacquard and an array of trench coats and tailored twinsets in khaki green canvas, styled with stacked officers’ hats. “I was really thinking about the military men you see when people cross borders,” Dumbuya said.

That was perhaps heavy-handed, but, at the same time, the point being made here warranted blunt underscoring. The “cultural osmosis” of which Dumbuya spoke is not a case of one force conquering another; it’s a process that instills an organic sense of balance—harmony, even. And if you really want to dig into the osmosis analogy, you could remark that it is an essential precondition to life.

BY MAHORO SEWARD
September 20, 2025



Look 1



Look 2



Look 3



Look 4



Look 5



Look 6

RUNWAY / LONDON 2026 SPRING READY-TO-WEAR

Labrum London Spring 2026: The Sound of Culture



"I translated the idea of cultural osmosis into my collection by fusing traditional textiles and motifs from various cultures with modern silhouettes and techniques," brand founder Foday Dumbuya explained. "This blend highlights the connections between cultures, celebrating diversity while creating a fresh, unified aesthetic."

Building on the label's legacy of blending West African heritage with British tailoring, suiting, eveningwear, and more casual pieces, such as bombers and jogging pants, came in everything from earthy browns and tans to exuberant reds, turquoise and greens.

Cowrie shells, a symbol of wealth and currency in various African regions, were dotted throughout the collection, as a print on tailored blazers, shirts and shorts; as embellishments, and as intricate headpieces and jewelry fit for royalty.

There were also plenty of military references, from sculptural hats to sharply tailored jackets.

The designer said those referenced military marching bands from West Africa and the Caribbean, but they also recalled the King's Guard's uniforms or British drumming boys.

Accompanied by the thrum of bongos, bass and ethereal vocals, the collection was a study on cultural appreciation.

Labrum London Spring 2026 Ready-to-Wear Collection at London Fashion Week

By VIOLET GOLDSTONE



SEPTEMBER 20, 2025 | MENSWEAR • SHOWS • WOMENSWEAR

LABRUM: READY-TO-WEAR SS26

BY EMILY PHILLIPS

Continuing in his exploration into the dissemination of culture and its ability to affect everything that surrounds it, [Foday Dumbuya](#)'s SS26 [Labrum](#) showcase, *Osmosis*, was of major musical magnitude. With live performances by [Odumodu Blvck](#), [Obongjayar](#), [Tawiah](#), [Che Lingo](#) and [Julianknxx](#), underscored by the [Balimaya Project](#)'s euphoric score directed and composed by [Yahael Camara Onono](#), the show unfolded like a ceremonial act. Culture didn't just walk the runway – it pulsed through the floorboards.

Labrum's *Osmosis* flower bloomed in woven hemp, wheat and raffia, punctuated with Cowrie shell embellishments – ancient symbols of wealth and continuity across West Africa. Suits, headwear and utility-inflected outerwear were imbued with cultural signifiers, grounded by the Adidas x Labrum footwear collaboration and the tactile weight of [Dr Martens](#). A marching band silhouette appeared, followed by nods to the *Ekonda Botolo*, a ceremonial head ornament and Zulu headdresses, stitching tradition into the futuristic spiral of a global diaspora.

