A Japanese fashion designer and former boxer Arashi Yanagawa may be making a challenging switch from boxing ring to catwalk. His new menswear label, "Power and elegance" will see Yanagawa put his skills to work in textiles, and "the biggest challenge when I started two decades ago was finding reliable and fabric mills to work with," he said.

"As with any new designer it is very important to find people that you have good chemistry with, who you trust and are right for the brand."

After several years in an ultra-competitive business, Yanagawa began making a name for himself in Tokyo and was selected in 2010 as the Business of Fashion's "Breakthrough Businessman". He credits his success to his ability to "continually learn". "I incorporate each season, expressing power and elegance in new ways," he said.

In essence, fashionistas of the 21st century are demanding "virtually impossible" to create separate shows for men and women. "The timeframe work into a January show and a February show, with men followed straight by women, is virtu-

Melanie Reid, fashion editor at the Sunday Times, noted that the February show, with men followed straight by women, is virtually impossible for male and female collections to exist independently on the catwalk. Reid pointed out that the trend is "a natural way to reinforce the connection between the two sexes."

On the face of it, menswear and womenswear collections are on separate runways, but as Reid noted, "The changes we are making will allow us to build a closer connection between the audience that we create with our runway shows and the moment when people can physically explore the collections for themselves."

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