

# SOLE WINNERS

A Singapore sneaker design duo who go by the moniker Hypethetic ([www.hypethetic.com](http://www.hypethetic.com)) clinched second place in a Nike Air Force 1 (AF-1) sneaker customisation design competition organised by American sneaker magazine Sole Collector last month.

The two – who call themselves TwistedJoe (real name: Joe Cher, 30) and Yen (Shaun Chua, 27) – came in runners-up in the fabric category with a design dubbed Sole Warlord (above). Their winning design was constructed from pale gold silk embroidered with a traditional Chinese dragon motif. It earned them a US\$300 (\$457) cash prize sponsored by American sneaker retailer Footlocker.

“When we heard the news, we were really speechless,” says Yen.

He hopes the win will help the brand establish its reputation in



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the international streetwear scene.

Yen, a full-time web and graphic designer, and TwistedJoe, an assistant engineer, have been customising sneakers for three years and were inspired by Han dynasty Chinese general and warlord Lu Bu for their prize-winning design.

Their third version of the design, dubbed Sole Warlord III, has already been sold for a whopping \$680.