

Catamaran

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This garment was inspired by the traditional origami catamaran; a basic boat often used as a child's toy. I wanted to create a garment that captures the simple elegance found in origami. The garment features an hourglass silhouette, accented with notches in the neckline and two asymmetric peplums.

The initial inspiration for this collection, entitled FOLD, was the Japanese art of paper folding, also known as origami. This form of art centers on the use of paper, and I wanted to incorporate that into my garments. Tyvek is a specialized material that exhibits a combination of paper and fabric like qualities. Tyvek is most commonly used for graphics, packaging, and industrial applications such as house sheathing. After conducting research, I found a supplier that specializes in providing a variety of Tyvek materials. From the samples, I selected two different types of Tyvek, 1443 and 1025 D. The bodice and lining of the dress is made of Tyvek 1443 and the peplums are made of Tyvek 1025 D.



The dress is fully lined and features a white metal zipper, located at the center back seam. A second metal zipper, located near the hem of the dress serves as a zippered vent. Both of the peplums are made up of six panels and feature an asymmetric hem, supported by a thin nylon coated wire to provide structural support. The bodice of the dress was interfaced to create a crisp surface with structural qualities. The final garment was completed on April 2013.



The material specifications are as follows: Tyvek 1443 (3 yards), Tyvek 1025 D (2 yards), nylon coated wire (10 feet), lightweight fusible interfacing (1 yard), and two white metal separating zippers. The measurements of this garment are: 32 ½-inch bust, 25-inch waist, and 37 ¼-inch hip.