



Ghost in the Machine

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This dress is a selection from my thesis collection entitled 'Caves of Flesh and Machine.' The collection was initially inspired by the work of H.R. Giger, and focuses on the idea of biomechanicalism. The pieces combine natural and synthetic textiles to symbolize the contrast of biology and the mechanics present in H.R. Giger's dark futuristic illustrations. The predominant theme of the collection is life versus death as a greater symbol of biomechanicalism. 'Caves of Flesh and Machine' tells the story of a biological creature that undergoes a metamorphosis process in the form of a cocoon to become a being that combines biological and mechanical/synthetic characteristics conveyed through white, sheer and transparent textiles to resemble a ghost like being.

This dress is the finale look in my collection, which symbolizes an ethereal ghost like silhouette conveyed through synthetic materials. The use of sheer and transparent materials further emphasizes the ghost like quality of my piece. I constructed the dress from a silk organza shift dress, which I then hand sewed onto the plastic material (styled in the photo with a nude colored leotard.)The plastic material consists of many panels of rigged drawer liner that I sewed together and cut each rig from seam to seam with a scissors. I draped the plastic cut panels onto the dress in a manner that resembled writhing tentacles or tubes, imagery prevalent in Giger's work. The flowing nature of the fabric helps convey visual movement that leads the eye around the dress in order to create a pleasing three dimensional experience.

I like to consider that I can turn trash into treasure by using unconventional materials in new, exciting ways. By doing this, I push innovation and exploration in the pursuit of creating high fashion works. My work often has an avant garde sensibility either through silhouette, technique or fabrication.

