Polyfrost

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Key Words: Textile innovation, Sustainability, Couture techniques

Measurements: Bust 34", Waist 25", Hip 26", Length 57"

Design Statement

The purpose of this project was to create a contemporary upcycled garment driven by the concept of the golden ratio through the use of re-purposed and post-consumer material which in this case came from used knit socks. The fabric for this dress was created by placing and sewing together different size triangle shapes of socks by following golden ratio and the surface of the jacket was embellished by various sized fiber berries from socks materials. This design project shows the designers interest in the ways of in which object becomes entangled with the concept of deconstruction and reconstruction. Through this design process, designers were able to give a new life to old clothing and raw materials through recreation practice and couture techniques as a form of a cultural and critical practice (Loscialop, 2009).

The golden ratio, also called the golden section or the golden mean, is a mathematical ratio of 1.6818 existing in nature as well as our everyday lives including human body, plants, geometry, shells, art, and architecture, etc. The golden ratio has been interpreted as the universal constant behind the perceived value of beauty, attractiveness, and aesthetically pleasing views that can be found in architecture, paintings and has become one of the important principles of design elements for designers (Page, Thorsteinsson, & Ha, 2010). Therefore, designers of this project used golden ratio as a guide to piece together the majority of the fabric surface of the dress using small pieces of materials cut out from socks.

There are many different methods to incorporate sustainable practice into fashion design. For example, in the early 1990s, Martin Margiela, a fashion deconstructionist, used re-purposed and post-consumer material military socks and turned it into a contemporary military sock sweater. His military sock sweater is not only just beyond recycling the material, but it also allows us to rethink the function and meaning of garment itself by altering, manipulating, deconstructing, reconstructing, and working through the practice of subtracting, which are the central and essential philosophical concepts of fashion deconstruction (Loscialop, 2009). His design gave an

inspiration for these two designers to rethink the design process of fashion deconstruction and recreation and motivated them to create this original deconstructed design project.
Fifty pairs of socks were used in this design to explore an innovative way to use post-consumer recycled clothing items. Each and every part of the socks was used in this design in an effort to be sustainable. The main foot part of the socks was cut into triangle shapes and seamed together to create a dress. The ribbed cuffs parts of the socks were sewn together to create a bolero jacket. The toe parts of the socks were used to create fiber berries to embellish the bolero jacket.
The pattern pieces for the jacket and dress were developed by using both flat patterns and draping methods.

The critical component of fashion deconstruction is far more than recycling old clothing or materials. It is not just working through cutting and assembling, but it is about re-thinking, re-interpreting, and reconstructing. It provides an authentic experience of what true originality means. Two designers worked together to create an innovative, contemporary and sustainable outfit using recycled socks that incorporated the concept of a deconstructive philosophy, sustainability and the universal constant-value of the golden ratio.

The materials used to create this design include cotton white socks. This garment was completed on January 29th, 2016.

Loscialpo, F. (2009). *Fashion and Philosophical Deconstruction: A Fashion In-Deconstruction.* Retrieved from http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/wp-content/uploads/2009/08/flavia.pdf.

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