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Carlos Ramirez

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Title: 010

Design: Carlos Ramirez, Virginia Commonwealth University

Keywords: New Technologies, Functional Clothing Sustainability

Measurements: Chest: 36.5 in., Waist: 27.5 in., Hip: 37 in.

Mentor Statement

Carlos Ramirez was tasked to make a six piece collection that was influenced by some realm of sustainability. He chose to work on garments in which some could be used in multiple ways and that had futuristic qualities to them. Inspired by machinery, and the Hubble telescope, it was a pleasure to help him figure out how those pieces would work, but still maintain a wearable and sellable quality. His ideas include the use of magnets, heavy weight cottons, and 3D reflective fabrics. The idea of making collection where some of the pieces could transform was difficult, the relationship was to be used to help in the technical aspect of making the clothes, but I found he continued to use trial by error in his design process as well as how he technically put the garments together, asking only if the garment looked appropriate for the design and if the technical process was correct. I appreciated that his education had afforded him the ability to recognize and translate what goes into the process of a design.

The collection was absolutely beautiful. The quality of workmanship was outstanding, including the idea of using magnets within many of the designs to transform the looks. I am recommending two of the looks from his collection. The workmanship, research and designs are absolutely fabulous. I recommend his work for exhibition hold hardly and with out reservation.

Design Statement

Fashion should be used as a tool. In today's society, there are multiple perceptions of Fashions functionality (Garber, 2013). Some people may say that fashion is art, while others consider it a business. However, these perceptions and the spectrum in-between present different unsustainable problems. When seen as art, garments become unsustainable as they represent a waste of resources that would only be worn once or for an extremely short amount of time. When seen as a business, the purpose of clothing is to generate the most profit; sometimes overlooking the quality of the materials or the working conditions of the workers who produce the garments. This perception of fashion also presents clothing as something expiable, and not necessarily when it has been damaged. Season to season, the fashion industry revolves around the belief that clothing will fall out "of trend."

O10 is based on the concept that clothing should be seen as a tool. No different than smartphone capable of doing the task of different devices all-in-one; O10 is a smart garment enclosing multiple clothing. Clothing for clothing sake. This perception of fashion is not only more sustainable, but it also served as the inspiration for the piece.

Inspired by engineering, O10 is constructed with a cotton/spandex twill, and a jacquard weave with multicolored metallic threads. O10 is able to adapt and extend its wearability with

the help of 32 magnets and metal pieces hidden at the waist of the lining and at the hem. The configuration of the positive and negative sides of the magnets prevent the magnets to connect while OIO takes the form of a gown, and it also assist the wearer to match the magnets with their counter parts when OIO is worn as a cocktail dress.

Works Cited

Garber, Magan (2013). "What are Clothes" Ask Most Delightful supreme Court Argument in History. *The Atlantic*. Retrieved November 10, 2015.
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