Hi-ro-eh-rok Blaction

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Jennifer Kim, Virginia Commonwealth University

Keywords: 1. Ready-to-Wear 2. Textile Innovation 3. Sustainability

Measurements: Height 6', chest 40”, waist 32”

Mentor Statement:
Jennifer Kim approached her senior collection excited to combine her talents of fine art and design. I worked incredibly close with Jennifer to develop her prints and senior collection over the past year. As her professor, I instructed her in understanding the importance of scale and repeat in pattern design and creative design ideation and development. She challenged herself by considering non-traditional fabrics and style development for menswear. She has an intense drive for perfection and continually sought out advice, accepted the advice and criticism, then immediately applied it to her work. I recommend her work for exhibition wholeheartedly and without reservation. Miss Kim is an exceptional talent whose designs are perfectly suited for ITAA competition.

Design Statement:
This look is inspired by my artwork called, “Hi-ro-eh-rok,” which consists of four paintings that each represents the feelings of happiness, anger, sorrow, and pleasure. This design mainly focuses on emotion of anger and sorrow. Originally the artwork was more colorful, however, black and gray tones are used throughout to emphasize the deep and dark feelings. The abstract faces showing emotions in the painting were transferred onto the fabric using low impact digital textile printing on organic cotton. During the process of transferring print from painting onto the fabric, the pattern was slightly altered to resemble camouflage to convey a more fashionable look, but individual faces of expression can still be seen. The organza blazer is layered over the print top allowing the layering of sheer fabric to create new shades of the print on the fabric to expand range of emotion and its depth. The use of organza fabric in a men’s suit is unexpected. All the seams are bound with satin bias tape, so it looks clean on the inside as well as the outer appearance. The lines, created by satin bias tape, seen through the organza fabric, is also part of intention of the design.