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Electric Prism Coat

Pamela Vanderlinde
Illinois Institute of Art-Chicago

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Electric Prism Coat

Pamela Vanderlinde, Illinois Institute of Art-Chicago, USA

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The inspiration for this piece is Sonia Delaunay's 1904 "Electric Prism" painting.

The design process for the coat is based on a 3D pattern insertion technique where the design is developed directly on the body. The practice of pattern insertion has infinite design possibilities, as the toile becomes a canvas in which to explore the concepts of color blocking, and the principles of dividing spaces in an innovative way.

The new pattern is drawn directly onto the fully sewn muslin with all style-lines crossing through apexes and dart points. This creates new pattern pieces while eliminating the original darts. Once the new design is drawn onto the muslin, the muslin is cut apart to make the new pattern, and then taped back together to aid as a sewing guide. The original shape of the garment is not altered during the patterning, so proper fit is essential before creating the new design lines.

The coat is made of cashmere and alpaca, is a woman's size 8 with a center back length of 40 inches. It was completed June 2012.



