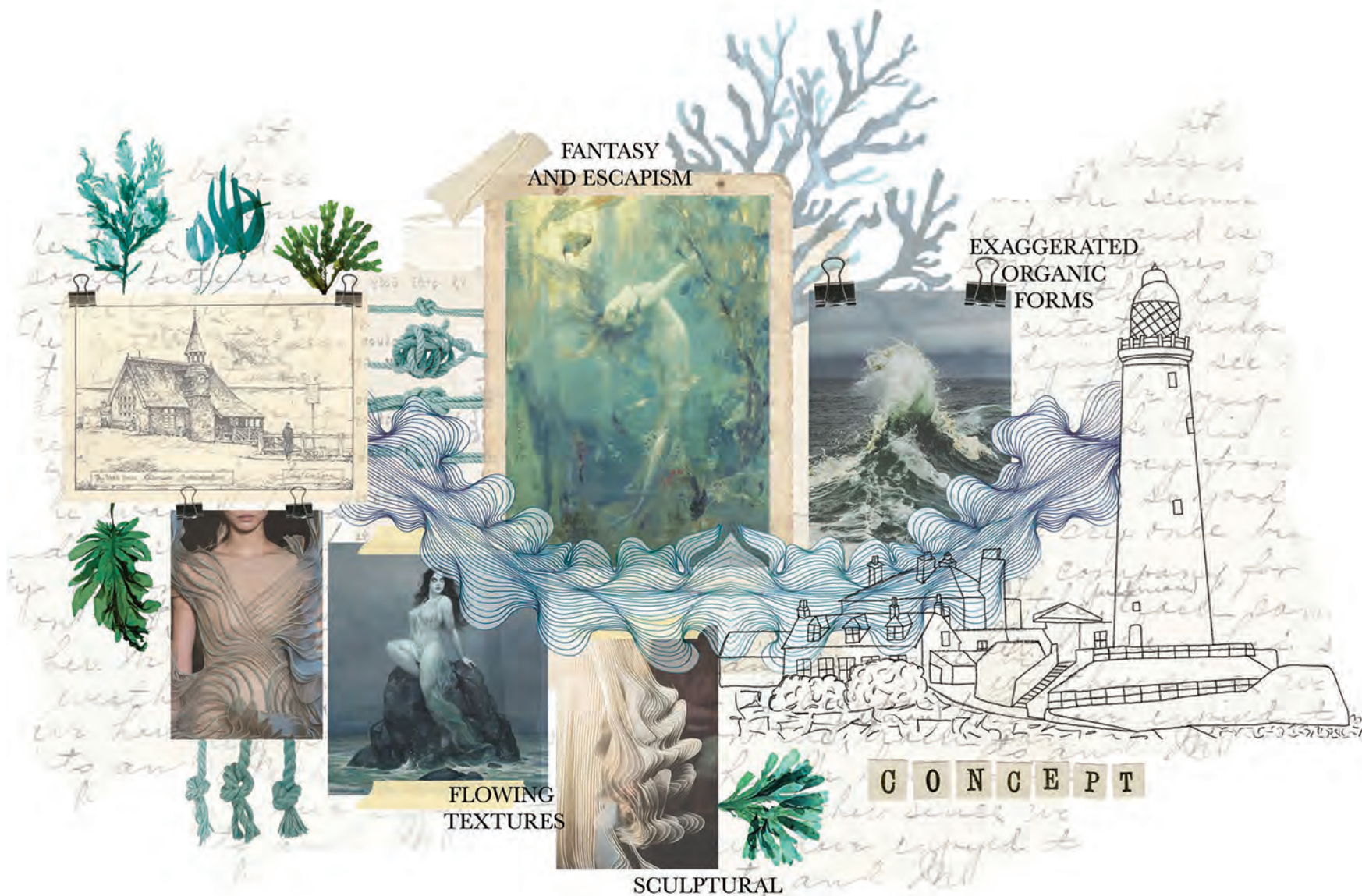




SALT AIR DANCES AROUND YOUR HAIR, COILING AND CURLING WITH A LIFE OF ITS OWN. WAVES ARE CRASHING AGAINST THE ROCKS, BREAKING AGAINST THE WALL OF THE PROMENADE. YOU BRING A SHELL UP TO YOUR EAR AND THE SOUND OF YOU LAUGHING AND SQUEALING IN DELIGHT AS A CHILD PLAYS OUT. IN THE DISTANCE, MUM IS TELLING YOUR BROTHER OFF-HE'S BEEN CHASING YOU AROUND WITH SEAWEED, ITS TENDRILS RIPPLING IN THE WIND, THREATENING TO CLING TO YOUR BODY AND MOULD AND TO YOU LIKE A SECOND SKIN. SHE'S NOT REALLY MAD THOUGH, AMUSEMENT IS CLEAR IN HER TONE AND DAD IS HIDING HIS SMILE BEHIND HIS HAND AS YOU FLAIL AROUND LIKE A BANSHEE. THERE'S SAND CRUNCHING UNDERFOOT AND YOU KNOW YOU'LL FIND IT EVERYWHERE FOR WEEKS TO COME, A CONSTANT REMINDER OF MEMORIES PAST AND PRESENT AND THE THOUGHT OF THOSE STILL TO COME. DESPITE THE GREY OF THE NORTHERN SEA THE RARE SUNLIGHT CATCHES EACH RISE AND FALL OF THE TIDE, A GLISTENING GEM LURING YOU CLOSER. IT CALLS TO YOU, TUGGING AT YOUR CHEST, PULLING YOU IN. YOUR HAND REACHES OUT OF ITS OWN ACCORD, FINGERTIPS GLIDING ACROSS THE SURFACE, ABSENT-MINDEDLY TRACING SHAPES AND LETTERS UNTIL THE OCEAN REACHES OUT ITS OWN TENDER HAND, DELICATELY GRASPING YOUR OWN WITH SUCH WARMTH AND FAMILIARITY YOU DON'T HESITATE TO FOLLOW AS IT WELCOMES YOU IN. YOU TWIST AND TURN THROUGH THE WATER, AN EFFORTLESS DANCE YOUR BODY KNOWS EVERY STEP TO, YOUR HEART BEATING IN SYNC WITH THAT OF THE OCEAN. YOU'RE HOME.

MY MOTHER THE SEA IS A S/S 2025 WOMENSWEAR DEMI-COUTURE.

HEAVILY INFLUENCED BY MY OWN PERSONAL EXPERIENCES OF GROWING UP WITH THE COAST AT MY DOORSTEP AND USING IT AS A PLACE OF COMFORT AND GROUNDING WHEN FACING MY OWN STRUGGLES, I'VE CREATED A NARRATIVE OF A WOMAN WHO HAS TRIED TO ESCAPE THE PRESSURES BY RUNNING AWAY TO A SMALL COASTAL TOWN WHERE SHE HAS BEEN ENTHRALLED AND SWEEP UP INTO THIS FANTASY-ESQUE WORLD WHERE EACH PUDDLE CONTAINS A WHOLE OCEAN OF LIFE AND TREASURES.



FANTASY AND ESCAPISM

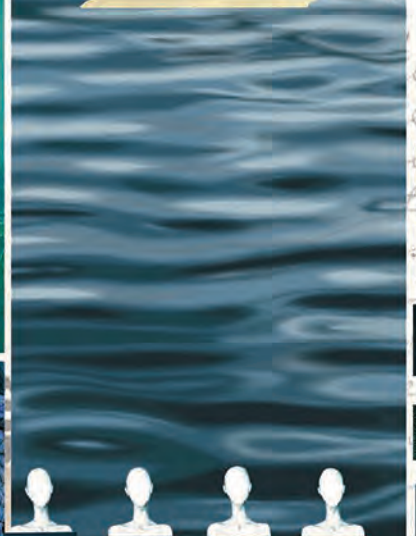
EXAGGERATED ORGANIC FORMS

FLOWING TEXTURES

SCULPTURAL

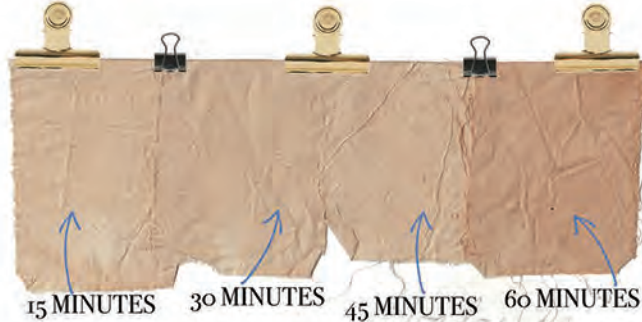
CONCEPT

F A B R I C



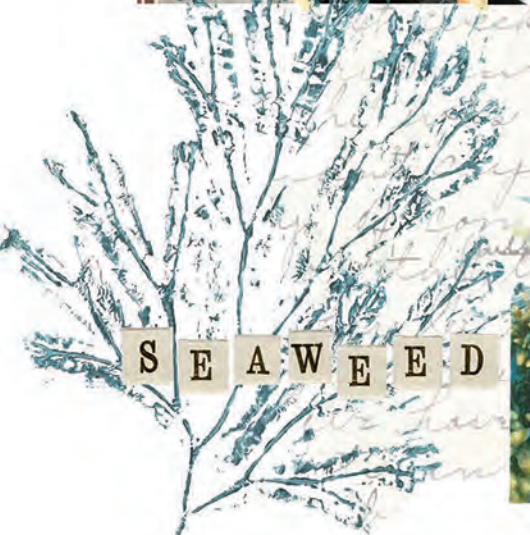
- NORTH SHORE
- TEMPEST
- HIGH TIDE
- MARINE SHOALS
- DEEP SEA GREEN
- SEA GLASS TEAL
- TIDE POOL
- SEA FOAM

C O L O U R



S E A W E E D D Y E

THE PROCESS OF CREATING THE DYE INVOLVED COLLECTING A SMALL AMOUNT OF WASTE SEAWEED THAT HAS BEEN WASHED UP FOLLOWING STORMS. THE SEAWEED WAS WEIGHED AT 1KG AND ADDED TO 500ML OF WATER-FOLLOWING THE 2:1 DYE RATIO. ONCE THE SEAWEED HAD BOILED DOWN FOR AROUND AN HOUR THE SEAWEED WAS REMOVED AND THE FABRIC ADDED.



MIX OF FLOWING SHAPES AND NATURALLY OCCURRING STRUCTURES- ORGANIC SHAPES

MOUNTAINS OF SEAWEED WASHED ASHORE FOLLOWING VIOLENT WINDS AND STORMS, OFTEN RIPPED AWAY FROM THE ROOTS.

R E S E A R C H



BLADDER WRACK GROWS AT THE MIDPOINT OF THE INTER-TIDAL AREA ALL ACROSS THE BRITISH COAST. THE ROUND BLADDERS HELP THE SEAWEED TO FLOAT. IT HAS ANTI-BACTERIAL QUALITIES AND WHEN EATEN CAN LOWER BLOOD SUGAR AND CHOLESTEROL LEVELS.



AS SEAWEED DRIES IN THE SUN IT CURLS AT THE EDGES AND HARDENS. FROZEN IN THE POSITION IT WASHED UP IN.



TOOTHED WRACK IS A BROWN SEAWEED THAT GROWS JUST ABOVE THE LOW TIDEMARK ALONG THE ENTIRE COAST. BROWN SEAWEEDS ARE HIGH IN IODINE AND RICH IN VITAMIN C.

at baby is

# F Y K E N E T S

SHALLOW WATER FISHING METHOD

ALEXANDER McQUEEN S/S '13

CHIKA KISADA F/W '19

LONG CYLINDRICAL NETTING BAG MOUNTED ON RINGS, CONTAINING A SERIES OF FUNNEL-SHAPED OPENINGS

OPERATIONAL FISH QUAY - NORTH SHIELDS

at baby is

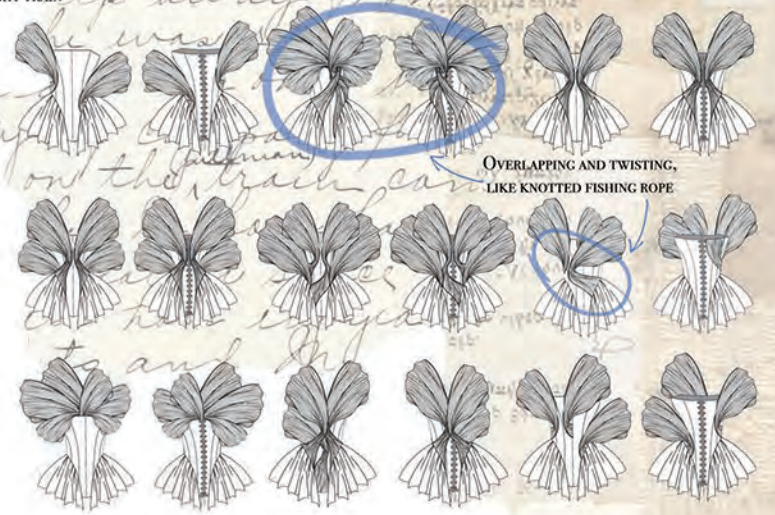
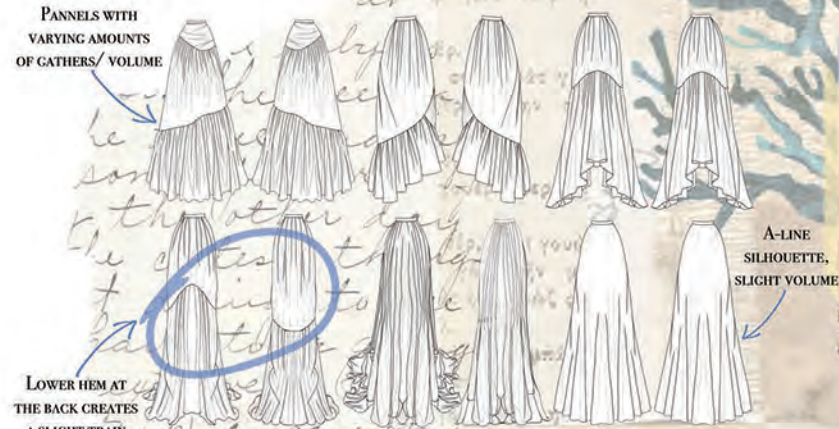
# T E X T U R E

FOUND ON THE ROCKS LEADING UP TO ST. MARY'S LIGHTHOUSE

BEACH-COMBED FINDS OF SHELLS AND SEA GLASS

CLUSTERS OF LIMPETS CROWDED INTO ERODED SECTIONS OF ROCKS

# LOOK ONE

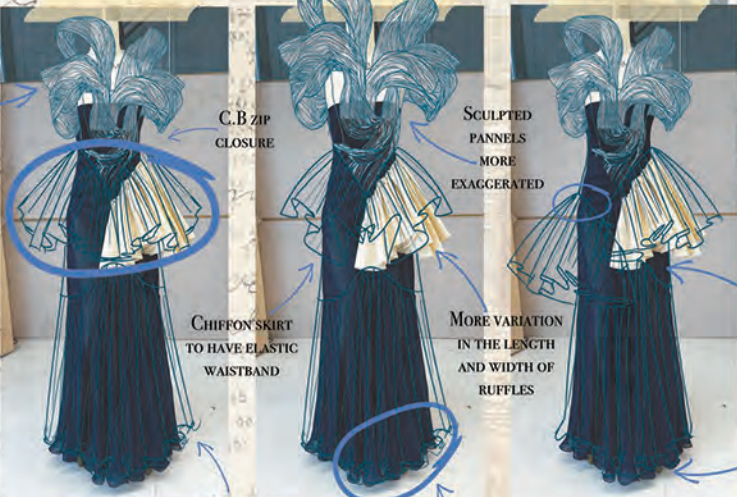


## FITTING NOTES AND DEVELOPMENT

CURVES ROUND THE ARM LIKE A SLEEVE, COCOONING IT

SYMMETRICAL RUFFLES LOOK TOO NEAT AND PRINCESS LIKE

NEEDS TO LOOK MORE ORGANIC AND FREE-FLOWING



ASYMMETRICAL RUFFLED PANNELS. ON SITS AT WAIST HEIGHT, ONE FOLLOWS THE HEM OF THE BODICE

FRONT HEM OF THE SKIRT JUST BRUSHES THE FLOOR

# DEVELOPMENT

# TECHNICAL PROCESS

TO LENGTHEN THE CORSET HALF OF THE CORSET BLOCK PATTERN WAS CUT OUT AND CONSTRUCTED USING PAPER

THE FIRST CORSET TOILE WAS CONSTRUCTED WITHOUT A LINING OR BONING TO ENSURE THE FIT WAS EXACT



PAPER WAS PINNED ONTO THE HEM AND THE NEW DESIRED LENGTH WAS DRAWN ON. THE SEAM LINE OF EACH PANNEL WAS THEN EXTENDED DOWN TO MEET THE NEW HEM

ONLY HALF OF THE PATTERN WAS NEEDED AS EACH PANNEL CAN BE CUT AS A PAIR SINCE THE CORSET IS SYMMETRICAL

THE PATTERN WAS KEPT HIGH AT THE HIPS AND LENGTHENED AT THE FRONT AND BACK

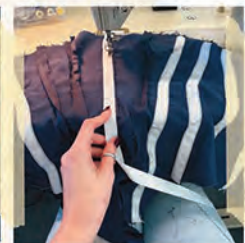
NEEDED SHAPING AT THE C.B SEAM

RUFFLES ARE TOO NEAT AND PRINCESS LIKE- LOOKS ALMOST BALLERINA. NEEDS MORE VARIATION IN THE LENGTH TO ADD A MORE ORGANIC AND NATURAL FEEL.

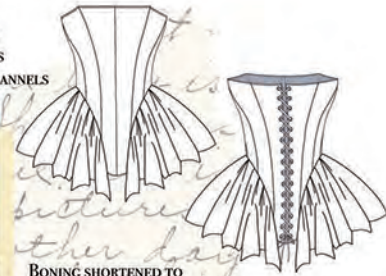
ONCE THE CORSET TOILE HAD BEEN ALTERED IT WAS DECONSTRUCTED SO THAT THE PANNEL PIECES COULD BE USED AS PATTERN PIECES TO ENSURE THEIR ACCURACY



GROIS GRAIN TAPE WAS SEWN OVER THE PRESSED OPEN SEAMS ON THE LINING TO CREATE BONING CHANNELS



BONING SHORTENED TO THE WAIST LINE TO PREVENT IT CURLING INWARDS



PLASTIC PIPING CORD ADDED TO A CHANNEL ALONG THE HEM TO HELP SUPPORT THE SHAPE



THE WRONG SIDE OF THE FRONT FACIN FABRIC WAS FUSED WITH HEAVY WEIGHT FUSIBLE TO ADD STRUCTURE TO THE FABRIC.

FUSED BEFORE CUTTING OUT THE PANNELS TO AVOID SHRINKAGE



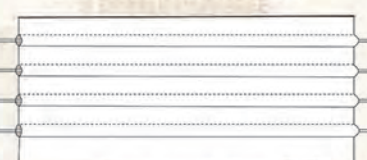
1 LAYER OF ZIGZAG STITCHING



2 LAYERS OF ZIGZAG STITCHING

3 LAYERS OF ZIGZAG STITCHING

## DIAGRAM EXAMPLE



FISHING LINE IS SECURED TO FABRIC THROUGH PIN TUCKS. FABRIC IS FOLDED OVER THE LINE TO FOR A TUCK, THEN SECURED WITH A ROW OF STITCHING AS CLOSE TO THE LINE AS POSSIBLE.

TECHNICAL BENDY PLASTIC IS INSERTED INTO CHANNELS ALONG THE LONG EDGES OF THE FISHING LINE PANNELS TO HELP WITH SHAPE AND SUPPORT



RAW HEM WITHOUT STITCHING



THIS METHOD OF FINISHING CHIFFON CREATES A CURLING HEM- GIVES THE EFFECT OF WATER



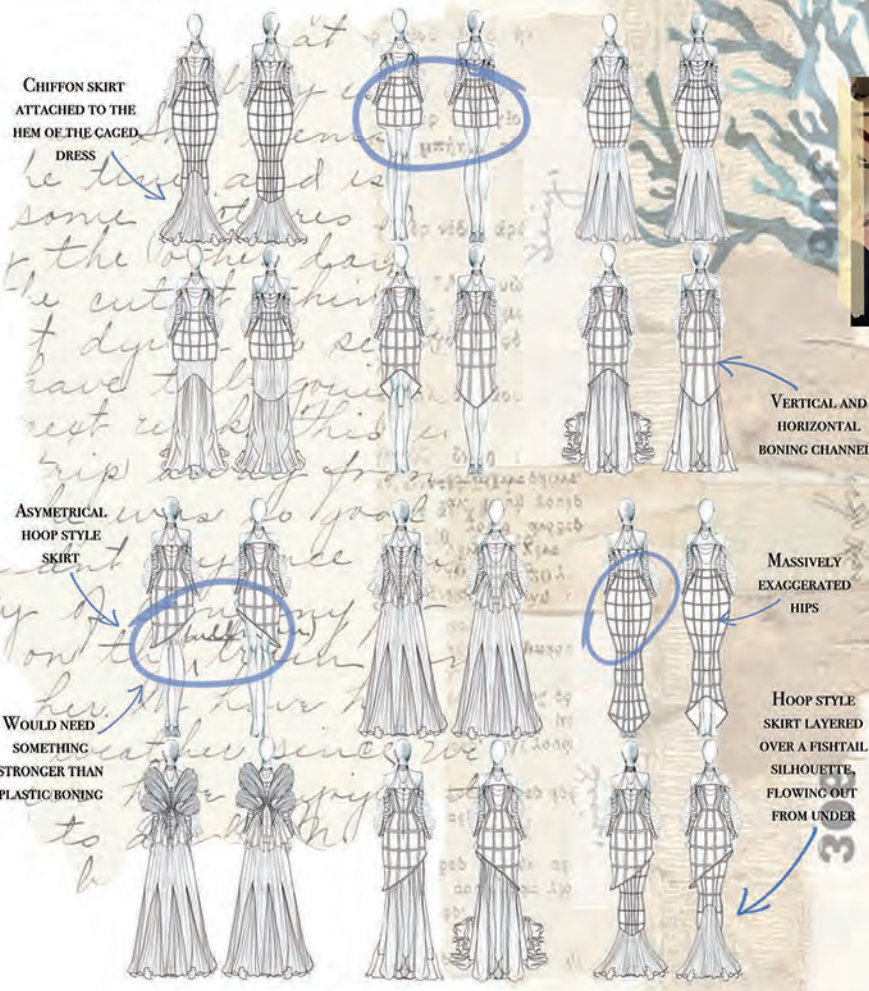
THE LOWER CURVE AT THE BACK OF THE SKIRT CREATES A SLIGHT TRAIN WITHOUT HAVING TO ADD ADDITIONAL LENGTH TO THE CIRCLE SKIRT PATTERN USED TO CREATE THE BOTTOM PANNEL

PARTS OF THE RUFFLED PANNELS HAVE BEEN PICKED UP AND TACKED INTO PLACE TO CREATE A MORE ORGANIC SHAPE AS NO PATTERN WAS FOLLOWED AND IT WAS JUST DONE BY EYE/FEEL



# LOOK ONE

# LOOK TWO



CHIFFON SKIRT ATTACHED TO THE HEM OF THE CAGED DRESS

ASYMETRICAL HOOP STYLE SKIRT

WOULD NEED SOMETHING STRONGER THAN PLASTIC BONING

VERTICAL AND HORIZONTAL BONING CHANNELS

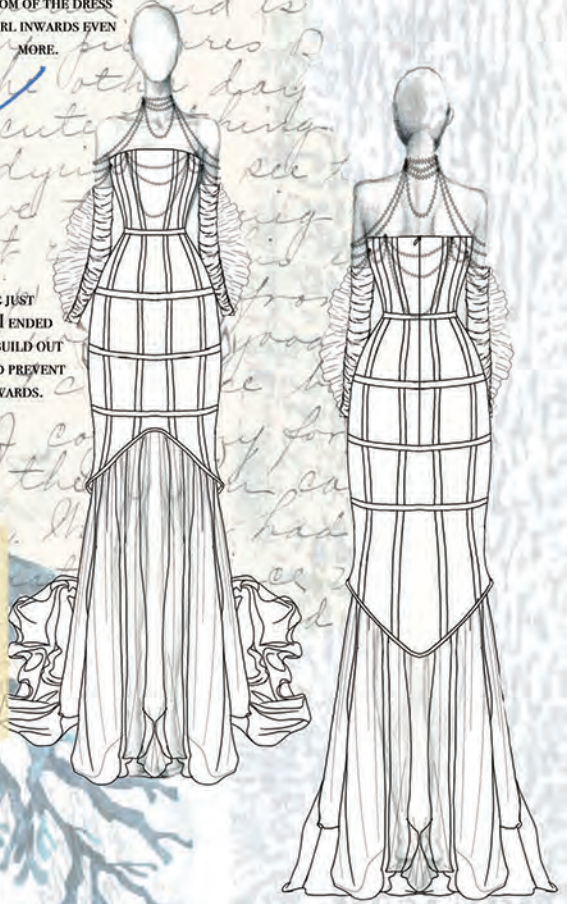
MASSIVELY EXAGGERATED HIPS

HOOP STYLE SKIRT LAYERED OVER A FISHTAIL SILHOUETTE, FLOWING OUT FROM UNDER



TO STOP THE HEM OF THE MAIN SECTION OF THE DRESS FROM CURVING INWARDS I TRIED SEWING BONING ALONG THE HEM BUT THIS ENDED UP CAUSING THE BOTTOM OF THE DRESS TO CURL INWARDS EVEN MORE.

INITIALLY, THE BONING JUST COVERED THE SEAMS BUT I ENDED UP ADDING MORE TO HELP BUILD OUT THE CURVE OF THE HIPS AND PREVENT IT FROM COLLAPSING INWARDS.



DRESS LINING, CHIFFON SKIRT COMES OUT FROM UNDER THE CAGED SHELL

FRONT

SIDE

BACK



## FITTING NOTES AND DEVELOPMENT

TOILE MADE FROM MEDIUM WEIGHT CALICO AND LINEN. SHOULD OF USED FABRICS CLOSER TO MY FINAL ONES TO GET A BETTER GAUGE ON HOW THEY WOULD ACT WITH THE BONING.

BODICE NEEDS TO BE LINED AND FUSED- LOOKS TOO THIN AND FLOPPY.

HORIZONTAL BONING NEEDED TO HELP PULL OUT THE HIPS/ ADD SHAPE.

BONING SEWN ONTO LINING SO ONLY SEAM LINES ARE VISIBLE.

BONING CHANNELS IN CONTRASTING COLOUR AND FABRIC.

NECKLINE SHAPED TO MIMICK ITEM.

NEEDS MORE VOLUME- LOOKS FLAT.

CENTRE FRONT SEAM REMOVED.

CURVE MADE MORE SHALLOW. SKIRT FABRIC TO BE GATHERED FOR MORE VOLUME.

TRAIN LENGTH EXTENDED- NEEDS MORE DRAMA.

HIGH/ LOW SKIRT SO THAT THE FABRIC DOESN'T SWAMP MODELS FEET- MAKE IT HARD TO WALK IN?

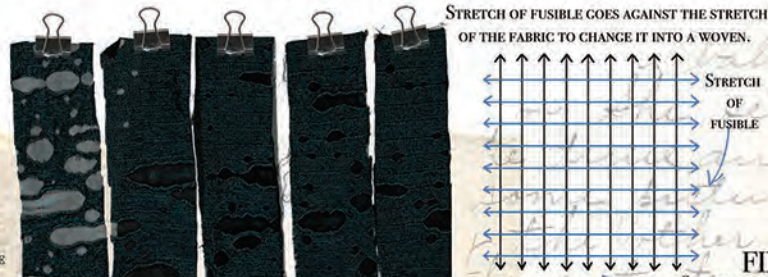
CRINOLINE ADDED TO THEM SO THE SHAPE DOESN'T COLLAPSE?



# DEVELOPMENT

# TECHNICAL PROCESS

## FABRIC DEVELOPMENT



## FINAL GARMENT IN FITTING

ALL STRETCH IS ELIMINATED. ALMOST LIKE A WOOL. CUT OUTS ARE TOO DARK, TOO MUCH BLACK.

### DRESS SKIRT AND BODICE

FRONT SKIRT PATTERN IS CUT ON THE FOLD, SO THAT THERE'S NO SEAM LINE DOWN THE CENTRE FRONT.



NEEDS MORE STRUCTURE TO HELP CREATE THE DESIRED SHAPE. VERY DELICATE AND HARD TO WORK WITH.

IN MY INITIAL DESIGN THE HEM SAT FLAT AND THE UNDER-SKIRT WAS ATTACHED TO IT. THROUGH SPLITTING THE BONING IT CREATED A VERY EFFECTIVE SHAPE AND FLICKED OUT THE HEM AND GAVE IT THE STRUCTURE TO HOLD ITS SHAPE. I PREFER THIS TO MY ORIGINAL DESIGN.

REDUCES THE STRETCH WHILST MAINTAINING THE TRANSLUCENCE OF THE CUT OUTS.

STRETCH REDUCED GRATELY AND THICKENS THE FABRIC. CUT OUTS ARE NO LONGER TRANSLUCENT.

SIDE VIEW OF THE DRESS SHOWING THE ADDITIONAL VERTICAL BONING CHANNELS. VISIBLE DIFFERENCE IN THE SHAPE OF THE HIPS COMPARED TO THE TOILE.

WHEN FIRST ATTACHING THE HORIZONTAL BONING I FOUND THAT IT PULLED THE FABRIC IN AND RESTRICTED THE SHAPE. THE BIAS BINDING WAS ALSO TWISTING DESPITE KEEPING IT FLAT AND TENSION EVEN. THIS MEANT IT TOOK NUMEROUS ATTEMPTS TO GET THE CHANNELS ATTACHED WITHOUT THE FABRIC BEING PULLED.

TO STOP THE FABRIC FROM PULLING WHEN ATTACHING THE BONING IT'S IMPORTANT TO PULL THE FABRIC AND KEEP AN EVEN TENSION SO THAT THE CHANNELS LIE FLAT AND THE FABRIC IN BETWEEN DOESN'T BUNCH UP.

IN THE FINAL FITTING YOU CAN SEE THAT THE FABRIC ISN'T PULLED OR BAGGY IN THE SPACES BETWEEN THE BONING CHANNELS. THE GARMENT FITS BETTER ON A SLIGHTLY CURVIER MODEL AS THE CHANNELS ACCENTUATES THE CURVES OF THE BODY.

TO FINISH OFF THE HEM OF THE SKIRT I FIRST ATTACHED BIAS BINDING IN THE SAME WAY YOU WOULD IF YOU WERE GOING TO BIND THE EDGE BUT INSTEAD OF FOLDING IT OVER IN HALF I FOLDED OVER THE WHOLE WIDTH SO THAT NONE OF THE BINDING WAS VISIBLE FROM THE FRONT AND THE RAW EDGES WERE HIDDEN. IT WAS THEN SEWN AS IF IT WAS A NORMAL 1CM HEM. THIS PROVIDED ME WITH A REALLY NEAT AND CLEAN FINISH.

MORE BONING CHANNELS WERE ADDED THAN ORIGINALLY PLANNED. THE ADDITIONAL CHANNELS SHOULD HELP TO STOP THE SHAPED HIPS FROM COLLAPSING INWARDS.



TO PREVENT THE BONING FROM POKING THROUGH OR RIPPING THE FABRIC, THE ENDS ARE CUT ROUND AND THEN THE EDGES ARE MELTED WITH A LIGHTER.

COLLAPSES IN ON THE HIPS, THE SHAPE DOESN'T HOLD HOW IT SHOULD. THE ADDITION OF HORIZONTAL BONING SHOULD HELP TO PULL IT OUT.

ALTERNATIVELY MIGHT, NEED TO CREATE A PADDED KNICKER OR LINING TO SUPPORT THE SHAPE.

ALTERNATING SIZES OF BONING CHANNELS TO GIVE IT A MORE ORGANIC/TEXTURED LOOK.

20MM SATIN BIAS BINDING.

15MM SATIN BIAS BINDING.

TO FINISH THE HEM OF THE CHIFFON SKIRT THE RAW EDGE IS STITCHED OVER USING A ZIGZAG STITCH. IT'S THEN ROLLED OVER SLIGHTLY AND ZIGZAG STITCHED AGAIN. THIS IS REPEATED 2 MORE TIMES.



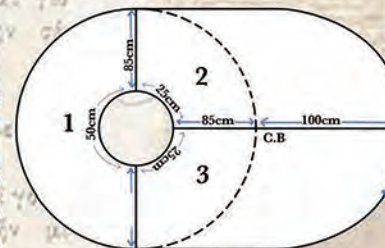
CHIFFON HEM FINISH CREATES AN ORGANIC RIPPLE AND CURL.



BACK PANELS EXTENDED TO CREATE TRAIN.

THE NORMAL CIRCLE SKIRT PATTERN IS MORE EFFECTIVE AS IT PRODUCES VOLUME WHILST ALSO ALLOWING FOR THE FABRIC TO MOVE ON ITS OWN WHEN THE DRESS IS IN MOTION. THIS METHOD ALSO REQUIRES LESS FABRIC SO WON'T NEED A CENTRE FRONT SEAM.

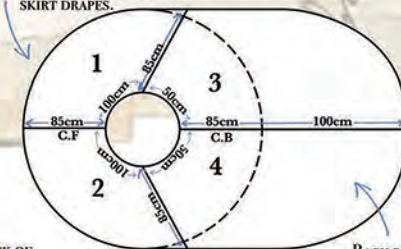
### CIRCLE SKIRT PATTERN



### GATHERED CIRCLE SKIRT PATTERN

GATHERING REDUCES THE MEASUREMENT BY HALF SO THIS METHOD REQUIRES THE MEASUREMENT OF THE GATHERED AREAS TO BE DOUBLED.

THIS METHOD WOULD REQUIRE A CENTRE FRONT SEAM WHICH WOULD AFFECT HOW THE SKIRT DRAPES.



## LOOK TWO



PLEATS ARE MORE UNIFORMED AND CLEARLY DEFINED. MORE ROOM FOR THEM TO MOVE AS IT WALKS.

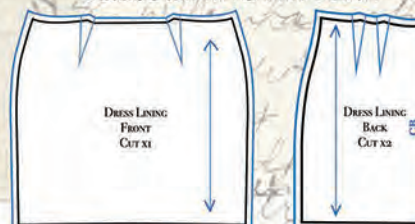


PLEATS ARE TOO CROWDED, LOOKS MESSY.

LACK OF DEFINITION- PLEATS COLLAPSE IN ON THEMSELVES.

BACK PANELS EXTENDED TO CREATE TRAIN.

### DRESS LINING PATTERN



DRESS LINING BODICE CUT X2

# LOOK THREE

FABRIC HANGS DOWN AND BOUNCES WITH MOTION/MOVEMENT

at

at a baby is

She seems

he time and is

some pictures

the other day

he cut things

to see

going

rest

from

at

at a baby is

She seems

he time and is

some pictures

the other day

he cut things

to see

going

rest

from

SILHOUETTE INSPIRATION CAME FROM LOBSTER POTS AND FYKE NETS

FOLLOWS THE CURVE OF THE BODY AND EXAGGERATES THE FORM

ARMS TRAPPED IN THE SKIRT

COCOONS THE WHOLE BODY-TRAPPED IN A NET

STRUCTURE SUPPORTED WITH STEEL THREADED THROUGH BONING CHANNELS INSIDE THE GARMENT

## FINAL FITTINGS

at

at a baby is

She seems

he time and is

some pictures

the other day

he cut things

to see

going

rest

from

FITTING NOTES AND DEVELOPMENT

LOOKS TOO SYMMETRICAL AND NEAT

NEEDS MORE VARIATION IN THE WIDTH AND SIZE OF THE PANNELS

CHIFFON UNDERSKIRT LOOKS SQUISHED AND TRAPPED BY THE HOOPED HEM

CHIFFON SKIRT ATTACHED TO WAISTBAND

SIDE ZIP CLOSURE

WIDTH IS REDUCED SLIGHTLY

SITS FAR AWAY FROM THE BODY

VOLUME OF UNDERSKIRT IS REDUCED SO THERE'S SPACE BETWEEN IT AND THE HOOPED HEM

VISIBLE BONING CHANNELS OR CONCEALED ON THE INTERIOR OF THE GARMENT?

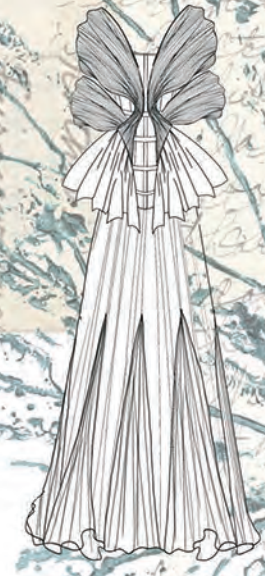
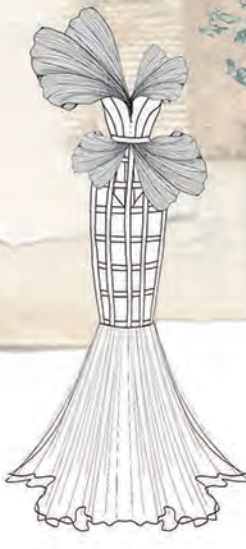
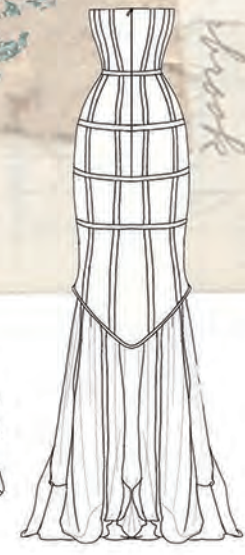
CONTINUES PAST THE ANKLES AND THE HEM JUST SKIMS THE FLOOR

TRAIN EXTENDS OUT THE BACK

## DEVELOPMENT







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306