



KIMOCHI

Emotional, Physical And Visual Pleasure

My Atelier Signature collection looks at the Japanese expression of Kimochi which means to have a great or intense feeling. Kimochi consists of two words, 'ki'- mind, heart, spirit or feeling and 'mochi'- meaning to have or to get. This expression represents my collection because of the strong emotions I had to put forth in order to start researching aesthetics and visuals that represented them.

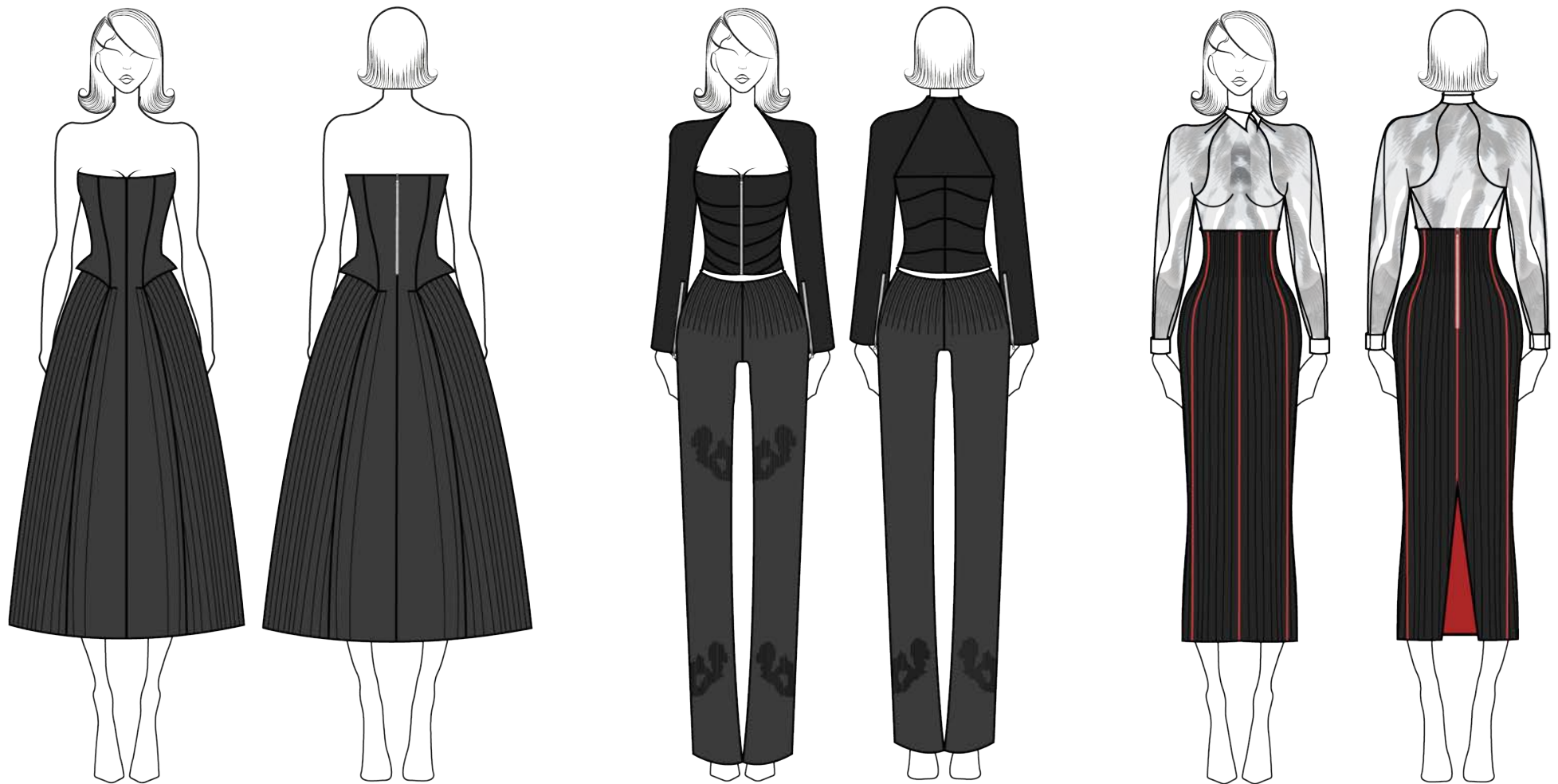
Growing up I realised there was a stigma against women who knew they were beautiful and had strong personalities, especially if they expressed these qualities without the shame we are taught to carry. I couldn't express this feeling as a young woman but now having lived it I wanted to bring those feelings to life in my collection through defiance.

Women are expected to be humble beings who wait for others, namely men, to tell them they are attractive or worthy of anything, even then, accepting the compliments is frowned upon as it isn't fulfilling the mans need to give you validation. When women don't comply to these social ques people feel the need to 'take them down a peg' and humble them because a woman is not supposed to know her own worth, unless it has been given to her.





My collection looks at being defiant to this narrative because the feeling of being untouchable and dominant is something I believe a lot of women miss out on in life. Being unapologetically 'selfish' in order to feel this is a running theme I have visualised through influences such as Helmut Newton's photography and interest in fetishes, my own Rorschach test prints, and artists Jean Claude & Christo's obsessive wrapping.



After doing my own Rorschach tests using black and white paint, I put all 3 influences together and connected visual similarities such as: black tights, corsets, sleek black heels, and an overall theme of a dark feminine women who dominated each shot.

I connected these influences through topics such as Helmut newtons focus on fetishes in his photography, which showcases the psychological fixation or obsession they are and Jean Claude & Christo's (JC&C) obsession with wrapping buildings in fabric and red rope. This, along with my interest in corsetry led me to constriction fetishes. Going along the phycological theme of obsession I found the Rorschach test (commonly known as the inkblot test) and linked that to my experiments with trying to paint feelings/ emotions.





Faux Leather
-from the Tissue
Market

Coutil

Wool
- Misan

Wool
- Misan

Wool - Fabrix

100% Wool
Houndstooth

Soft Crepe
Lining

Wool
-from the France
Emball store

Wool - Misan

A basic colour pallet and fabric story came out of my referances as I recognized black leather, mesh, charchol houndstooth suiting and red accents in the form of red piping as key points of interest.



Helmut Newton found balance in his art, with influences from film noir and surrealism. Newton was able to create a body of work that incorporated controversial, provocative and elegant visuals. His unusual photography style gained him success in magazines and with other creatives.

Although feminists criticized Newton for being overly suggestive and unnecessarily risqué, there are many ways to interpret his photography. One of them being to look at his visuals as a way to centre women in a world where men are put first. His photography often focuses on women being dominant and sexual in an edgy style.

Newton had an interest in fetishes and the erotic to the extent of being called 'the king of kink'. His personal interest in fetishes shows through some of his photography as there are shots of women participating in fetishes he has set up.

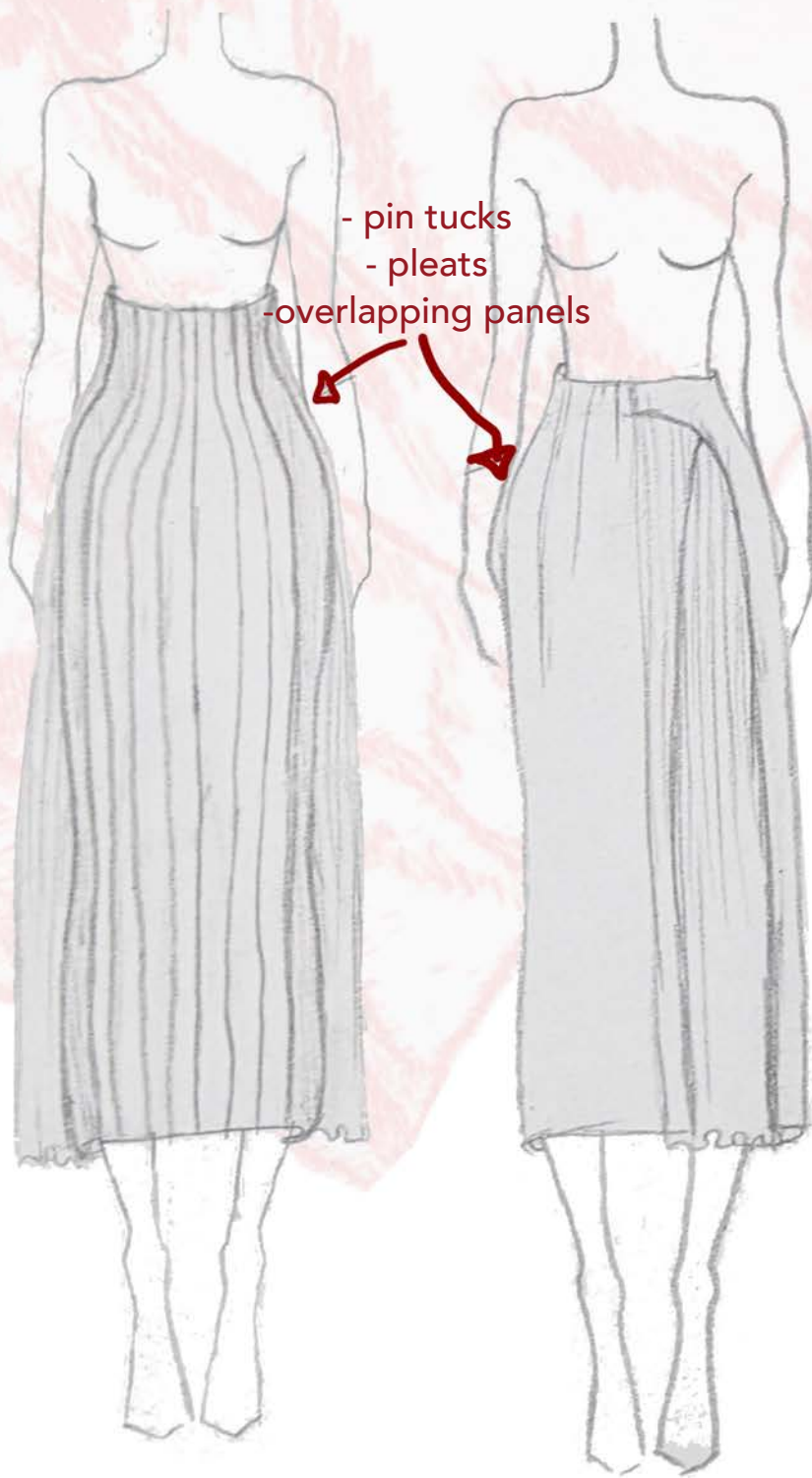


“The reason that woman is dominant is that she has this mystery in the middle of her being, this entrance to the underworld of confusing feeling” - Helmut Newton

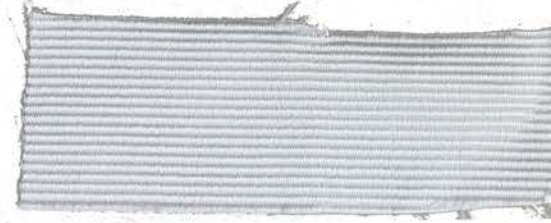
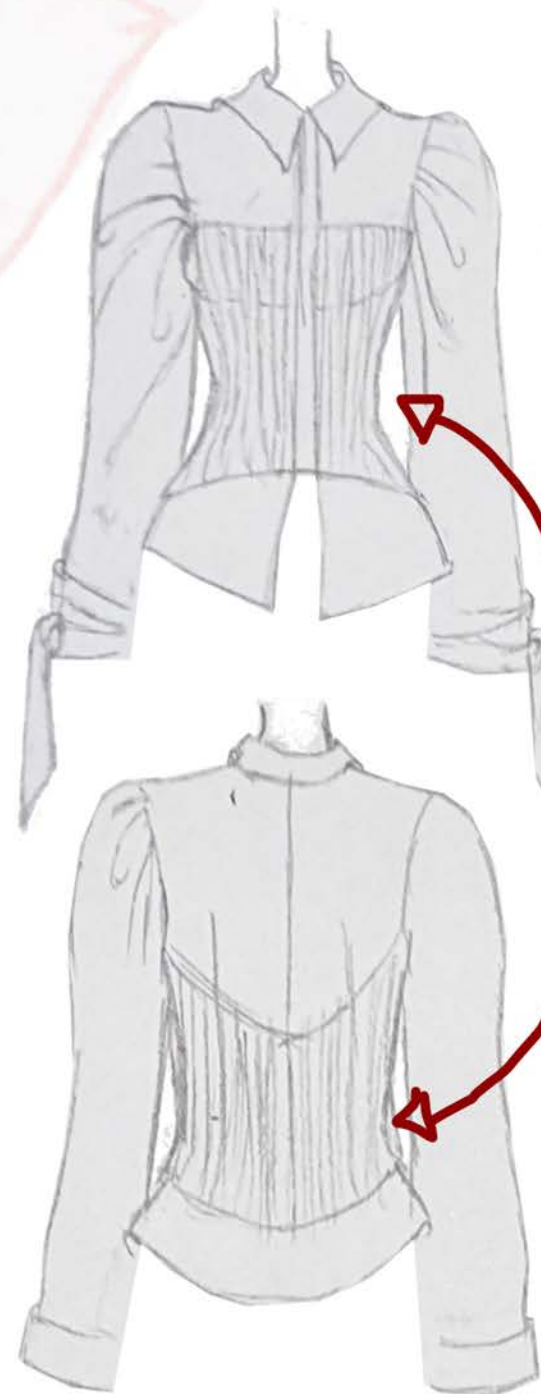




- Rorschach test and pin tucks
- Jacket with a structured bodice
- creative seaming



- pin tucks
- pleats
- overlapping panels



- Gathered bodice
- classic white shirt
- clean seams
- linear

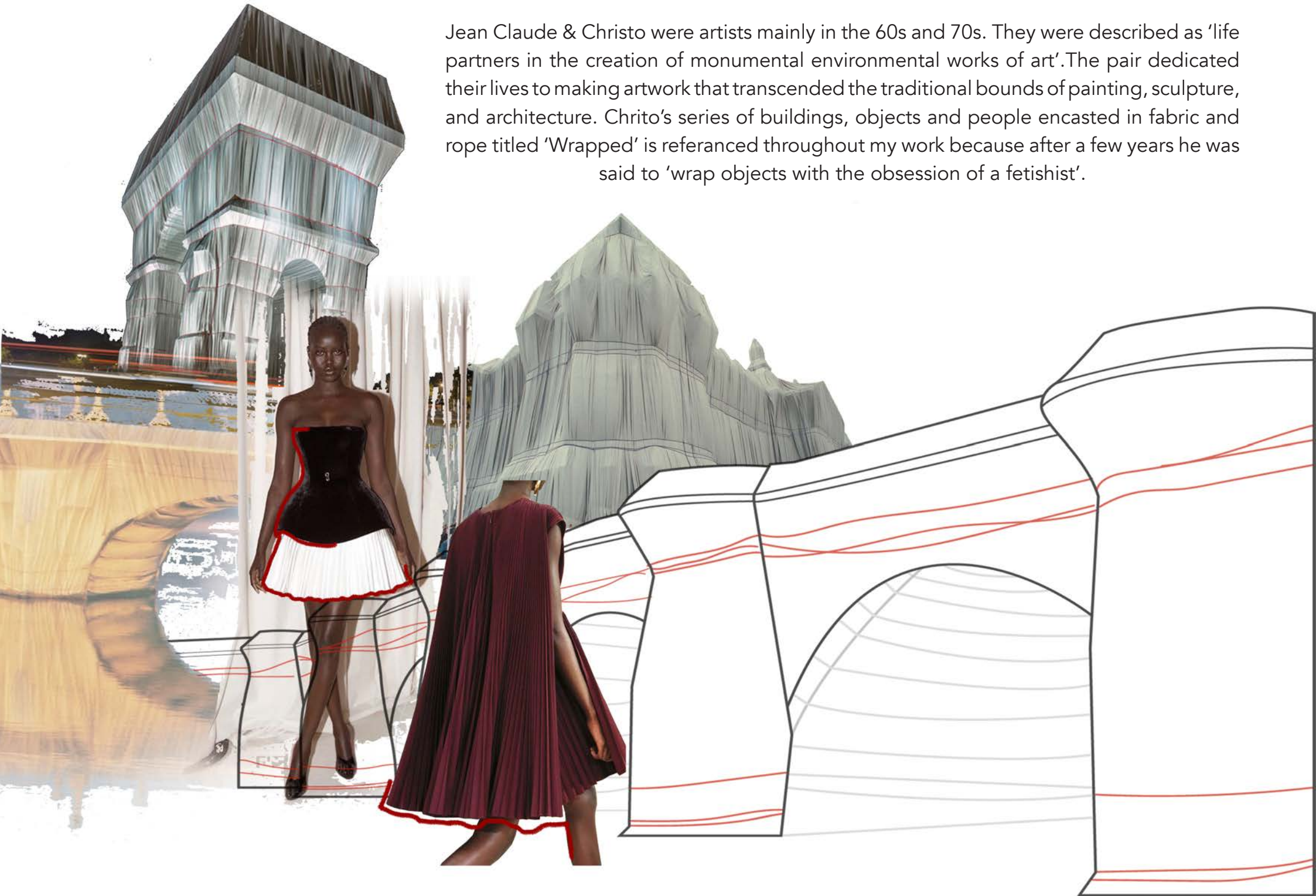
Christo and Jeanne-Claude

gathering samples

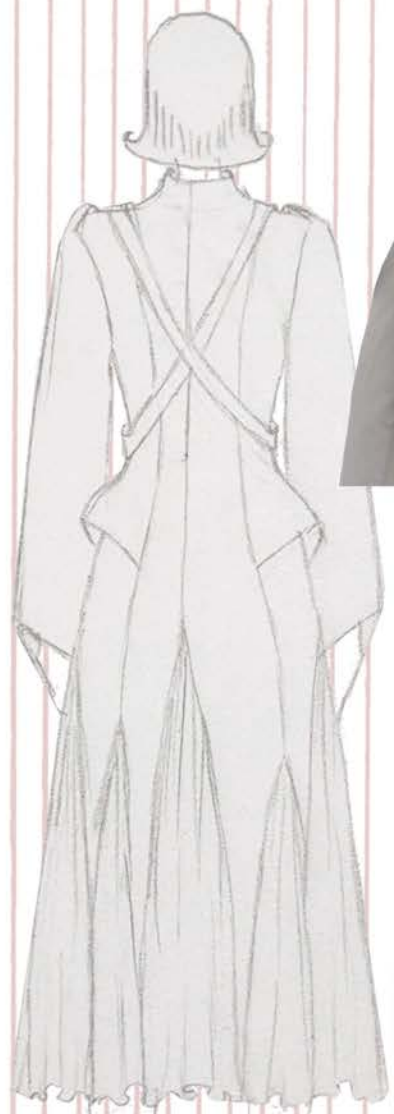
JeanClaude&Christo's obsessive wrapping of buildings lead me to experimenting with fabric techniques that could emulate the wrapped texture. I found the link between their art and gathers, which I sampled using light calico layered with chiffon. I then experimented with giving more structure to the texture by sampling pin tucks



Jean Claude & Christo were artists mainly in the 60s and 70s. They were described as 'life partners in the creation of monumental environmental works of art'. The pair dedicated their lives to making artwork that transcended the traditional bounds of painting, sculpture, and architecture. Christo's series of buildings, objects and people encasted in fabric and rope titled 'Wrapped' is referenced throughout my work because after a few years he was said to 'wrap objects with the obsession of a fetishist'.

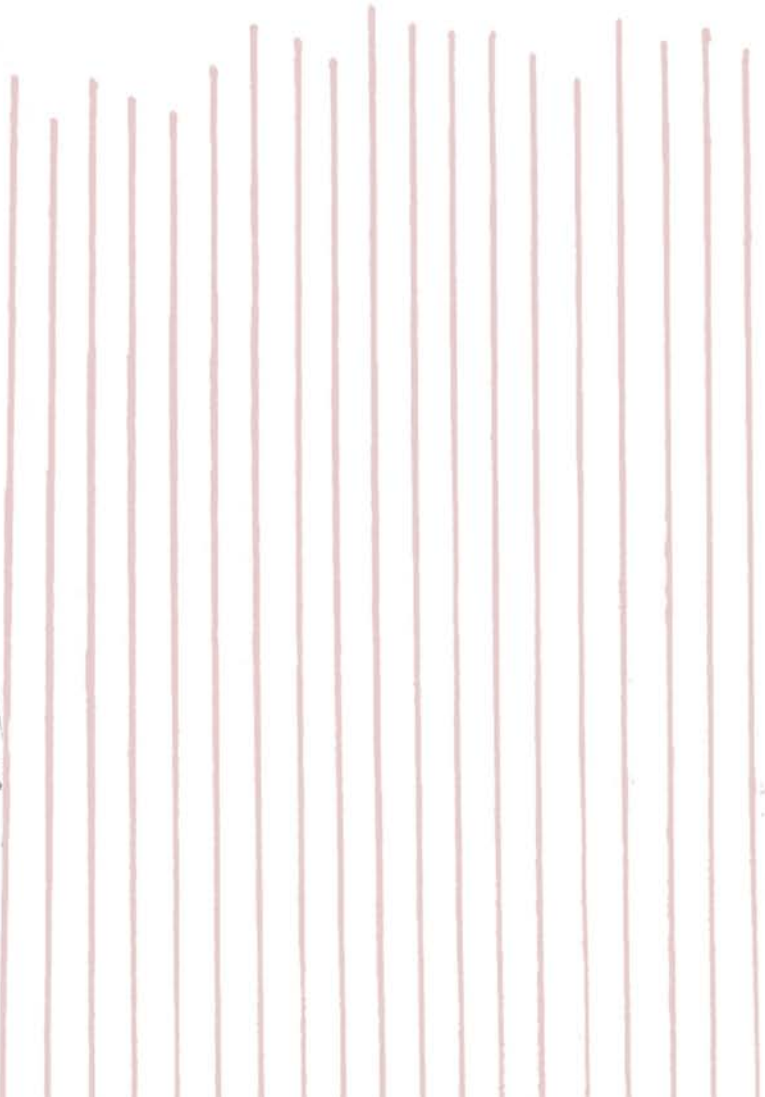


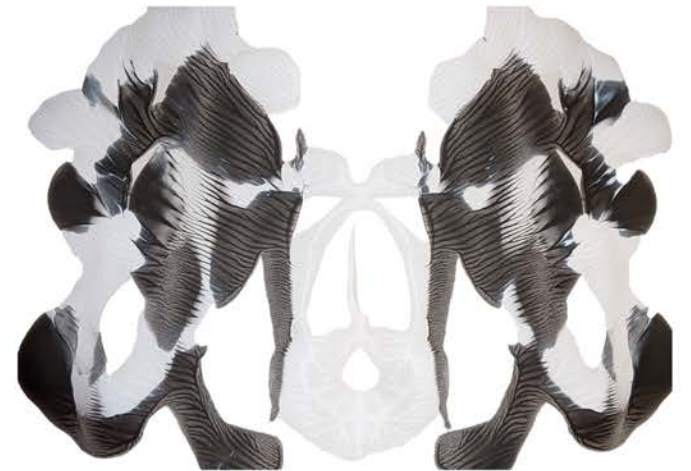
Inspired by the Japanese art of Kinbaku-bi, meaning the art of rope bondage



Alternative
Back

- Alternative back designs to the gathered dress
- mesh sleeves
- fabric covered buttons





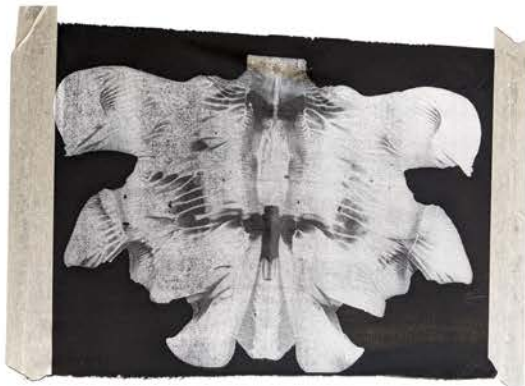


Looking into draping with screen printed fabric



Using heat pressing to print fabric and the print itself as a pattern piece

I wanted garments that are inspired by the Rorschach test to make consumers and anyone who saw the garments to think about what they could see in the print



Georgette



Light organza



Heavy organza





Taking fragments of printed fabric and draping over a corset with it







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