

FASHION SESSIONS

Issue 1 The Indiscipline of Fashion



FASHION SESSIONS

The Indiscipline of Fashion

The Fashion Sessions is the first in a series of publications and events produced to celebrate the creativity and concepts in incubation within the beating fashion heart of central London. Stemming from ideas formulated by the academic staff, students and creatives associated with London College of Contemporary Arts. This project has now developed to include collaborations with emergent creatives, fashion practitioners and established fashion voices discussing their opinions based around set topics. Welcome to volume one.

‘The Indiscipline of Fashion’

The sculpted shoulder of fashion has long provided a shelter for diverse thinkers, rebels, game changers and impassioned practitioners; expanding the boundaries of who, what, how and when fashion should be classified. Fashion as a subject has long been politicised by driven individuals forging their ideas in the manipulation of cloth, creation of provocative images, through the refined articulation of words within fashion media and the increasingly creative curation of the fashioned body within high street retail spaces. It has now splintered into a further realm which encompasses interactive media, smart fabrics, power bloggers, fashion film makers, performers and commentators within divergently much older and younger sectors. The Indiscipline of Fashion seminar and exhibition is an event which will consider these new rule breakers and past protagonists in sharp focus. We will present concepts from the provocative edge of fashion design, fashion culture, creative image-making, moving image, spatial design, research, journalism, entrepreneurship, activism and other areas which merge with fashion in a thought-provoking, rebellious or intellectually innovative way.

We hope that you will be inspired to join us on our journey of deeper exploration into fashion.

Claire Ritchie 2014.
Director of International Fashion Studies.
London College of Contemporary Arts.



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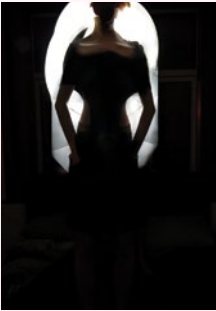
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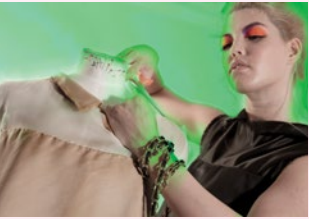
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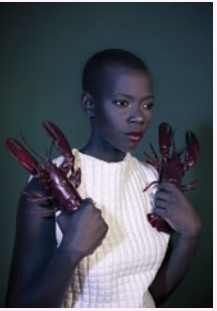
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THE SEMINAR

For a full day on Tuesday November 4th 2014, a selected group of speakers were gathered from across very different areas of fashion to discuss their views on 'The Indiscipline of Fashion'. The talks encompassed inspirations for design on the body, the exploration of 3D space, the fashioned body in the media, fashion activism, fashion trend, styling and the interlocking of fashion, photography and film.



GalleryMuse, September 2014

MARCUS TOMLINSON

“Multiverse”

Society has increasingly driven us to diversify our abilities. Are we really capable of sustaining all these demands? My discussion uses art, fashion and photography to question whether Multi-Media/Creativity gives long term gain.

Marcus Tomlinson Art

Marcus Tomlinson is considered one of the pioneers of 90’s British fashion photography and film, developing experimental animation techniques and a unique aesthetic vision. Working with designers such as Issey Miyake and Hussein Chalayan, his widely influential style captured the sensibility of digital technology when only analogue film was available. These early works were exhibited internationally, at institutions like Tate Modern and MOMA.

Now Tomlinson engages with nature as his primary subject, his various mediums involve photography to a virtual gaming program on an online gallery, to his self portrait work with film to site-specific sculptures carved from fallen trees.



Urban Turban editorial shoot, 2013

LINDSAY D'ARCY

As a multi-platform image-maker, Lindsay is inspired by the creation of project outcomes beyond garment design. Although Lindsay holds a degree in fashion, she fields concepts across an array of formats. She will discuss her work as a stylist within editorial shoots or film and why she thinks this represents her take on fashion better than ending the journey at the garment. Lindsay will also talk about her illustration work and how she believes every designer should strive for an original handwriting which transcends the language of the research behind the finished design/product.

Formally trained in fashion, Lindsay works mostly as a Trend Forecaster and social commentator using curated images and text. She has experience in identifying, analysing and researching fluctuating trends within different sectors of the market. Retaining a fascination with lifestyle trends; developing tribes and the identification of emerging typologies is a cornerstone of her work. She has previously worked with global forecasting consultancies including: The Future Laboratory, Trendstop, Fashion Snoops and Right Angle Studio. In 2015 she will begin an MA in Trend Forecasting at the Polimoda Institute in Florence.



Encouraging Bunting, June 2011,
Southwark, London

SARAH CORBETT

“A spoonful of craft helps the activism go down”

Sarah Corbett has worked as a professional campaigner for the last 6 years for Christian Aid, DFID(Department for International Development) and most recently Oxfam. She started doing craftivism (activism through craft) in 2008 and due to demand set up the global Craftivist Collective in 2009. Sarah works in collaboration with large charities and art institutions as well as organisations including cult-jewellers Tatty Devine and Secret Cinema. She also sells products, delivers workshops, talks and exhibits her own craftivism work. She is also a columnist for Crafty Magazine. Her first book ‘A Little Book of Craftivism’ was published in October 2013.

Sarah will talk about how she has used craftivism to engage people in the Love Fashion Hate Sweatshops campaigns through making alone, workshops together in groups, street art and formal gallery debate.



Caryn Franklin (Photography – Chris Floyd)

CARYN FRANKLIN

Caryn Franklin is a former i-D Magazine co-editor, BBC prime time fashion commentator across news and current affairs on Network TV, radio and printed matter and creator of live audience interaction body confidence roadshows, campaigns and consumer initiatives, the latest being Sizing up Britain – the future of fit, she has sought to use fashion as a self esteem vehicle whilst investigating its ability to carry messages about physical worth. Co-chairing Fashion Targets Breast Cancer since 1995, collaborating with eating disorder charity Beat for 10 years in the early 90s and co founding All Walks Beyond the Catwalk in 2009 to innovate politicised dialogue about race, age, size and the importance of normalising difference for self esteem, she has undertaken many body confidence projects alongside commercial work. She holds an Honorary Doctorate at Kingston University, is an Honorary Fellow at the Arts University College Bournemouth and is an Ambassador of the Centre of Sustainable Fashion at London College of Fashion. In 2013 she received an MBE for services to Diversity in Fashion.

Caryn will present a talk which details the rationale behind the development of All Walks Beyond the Catwalk and her future further development of this concept from a formalised psychology perspective.



Prototyping negative space, 2012

LESLEY TAYLOR

Lesley Taylor is a freelance commercial interiors stylist specialising in refurbishments of bars, clubs and hotels. Alongside her design practice she teaches visual merchandising for Winchester University, London College of Fashion and short courses for Central Saint Martins. She has 10 years experience working in retail visual merchandising from store level, through to management and head office, incorporating new store openings, brand rollouts and global point of sale co-ordination.

An on-going interest in cross disciplinary practice is the focus of the seminar discussion. The case study is of a process of exploration and experimentation resulting in a theoretical methodology for arranging an interior space. Two and three dimensional imagery and modelling, drawn from a series of fabric based intuitive experiments, became a series of images and ultimately a fresh thought process behind arranging a curated space.



Spring summer 2013 collection
Outer lined trs in jellyfish print

OSCAR QUIROZ

Born in Greater London in a small suburb of Barnet on the border with the countryside; Quiroz left a planned career in financial forecasting to pursue a career in art and design, most specifically fashion. Whilst still engaged in his studies at London College of Fashion, Oscar's early collections were picked up and stocked in the now defunct concept stores The Pineal Eye in London and Side-by-side; which was set up by leading fashion stylist Nicola Formichetti. Following the completion of his studies Oscar progressed to work with several non-conformist fashion labels including Russell Sage, Ann Sofie Back in London and BLESS in Paris. His first full collection debuted at Fashion East, an initiative set up to nurture emerging London designers. He continues to push the boundaries with his thought-provoking garment design and collaborative making process.

Oscar's talk will chart the re-emergence of androgyny in fashion and why it is more prolific now more than ever. He will focus particularly upon the last three decades of gender bending from the punk and post punk scenes to drag shows and gender illusionists. This will lead into the key connections which Oscar has made with this subcultural genre and his current creative process. He will show how his formative years as part of this scene in London in the 1980's and 90's still influence his work today.



I take you as you walk away,
mobile phone photograph, 2007

JENNIFER ANYAN

Jennifer Anyan is a Principal Lecturer in Media & Fashion Styling at Southampton Solent University. She has research interests based in the area of personal image and identity construction; encompassing style, beauty and notions of the gaze. The nature of this research is interdisciplinary; it investigates the construction of image and identity through the production of artwork and styled image; this is presented mostly within an academic context.

'Boredom & Reinvention for the Female Gaze in Personal Fashion Blogs'

Focusing on the work of three prolific personal fashion bloggers, themanrepeller (Leandra Medine), stylebubble (Susie Lau) and thestylerookie (Tavi Gevinson), within the context of metamodernism, this lecture will explore how the genre of personal fashion blogs are part of both the cause and potential solution to the characteristics of metamodernism. Boredom (with reference to Phillips definition of it being connected to 'a wish for a desire' (1993, 71)), reflecting the pace of web 2.0, twenty-first century fashion production and the emotional response to the pendulum swings of metamodernism is explored as a motivating state (supported by enabling technology) that has facilitated the activity of frequent reinvention by young western personal fashion bloggers in terms of the identity they express in the public online domain. With reference to post feminism; the twenty-first century interactive media of the personal fashion blog reinforces a value system that prioritises qualities that are identified as feminine and preference a reciprocal relationship with the blog reader.

Alongside the discussion seminar, a range of creative collaborations has been developed. These involve cross-disciplinary student projects from the London College of Contemporary Arts departments

THE EXHIBITION

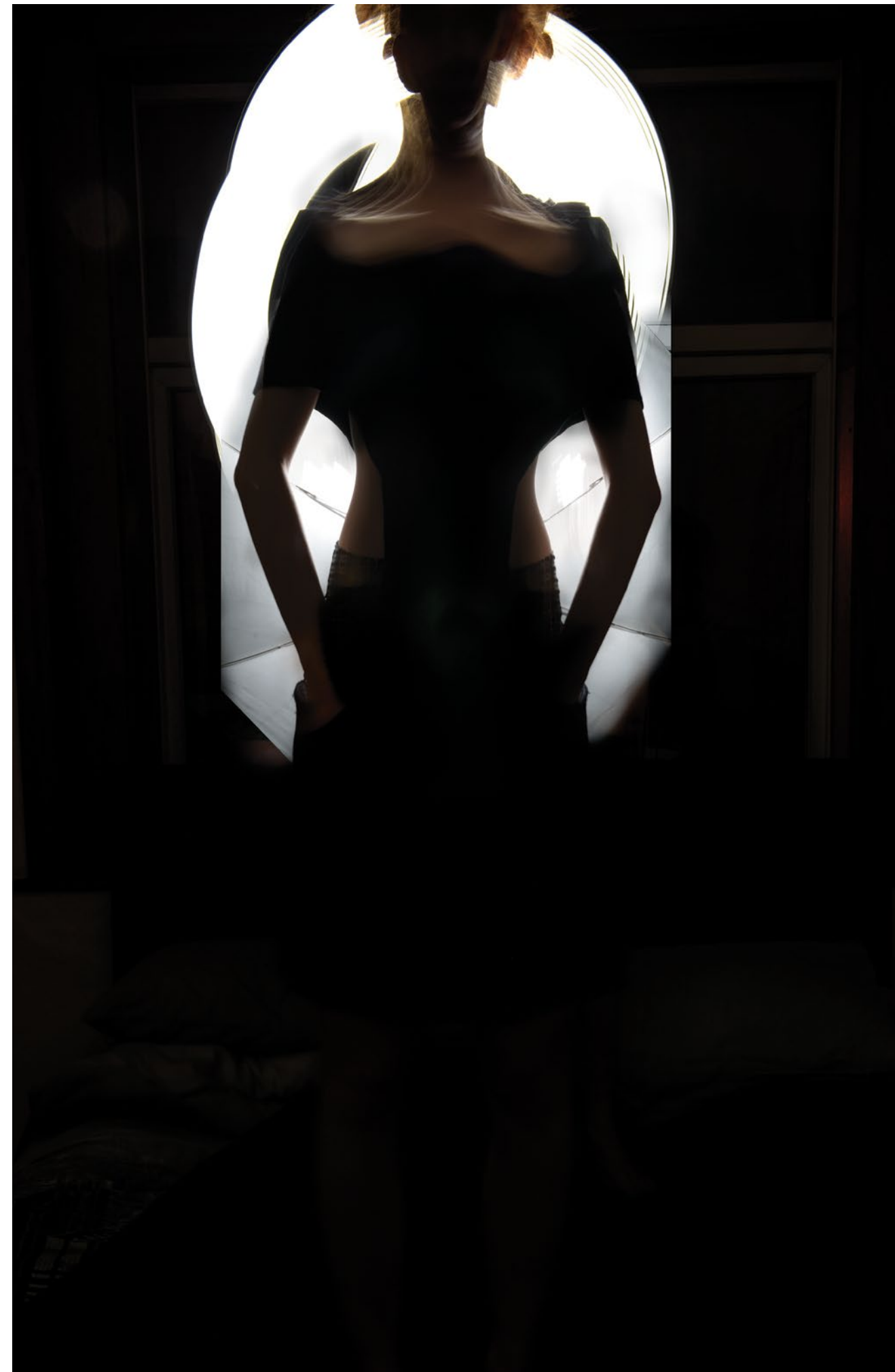
of Photography and Fashion Design. The cohorts worked together to produce styled photographic outcomes responding to ‘The Indiscipline of Fashion’ theme. External creative practitioners working at the edges of the fashion discipline were also invited to contribute pieces which complimented this theme. The project culminates in an interdisciplinary month-long exhibition which features fashion-derived concepts including fashion garments, fashion film, photography, drawn elements, trend monographs and fashion-inspired 3D installation work.

Designer

MURAT KALE

Photographer — Daniel Balica

This garment collection presents a past perception of what the future female silhouette would look like from the viewpoint of the 1960's. Inspiration has been drawn from the newly invented 'future' materials of the time, Perspex, plastics and metallic reflective surfaces. Also the more contemporary considerations of wearable technology and portable systems. Elements of these pieces shimmer sculpturally, whilst others utilise the more natural bold lines afforded by raw felt to offset the lightness.



Designer

TAJAH SOAREZ

Photographer — Denisa Silas

1950's Hollywood glamour provides the inspiration for this elegant contemporary collection. The contrast of monochrome is enhanced by the use of peplums and pleats to build structural detail and shaping. This collection is all about the intersection of fine fabrics with the curves of the female form. The materials have been sympathetically draped and cut to enhance a traditional feminine silhouette.



Designer

NATALIE DOUGLAS

Photographer — Lota Dascioraite

Western female heroic icons and street inspired fabrics have inspired this hybrid collection of interchangeable separates. Corsetry is juxtaposed with the rounded forms of upholstered materials and a bold palette of black and white. This collection links to current, more street-inspired fashion trends yet it is firmly rooted with historic reference points.



Designer

CHANEL LAWRENCE

Photographer — Iraide Navarro

This stylistically challenging collection combines references to the subservient housewife of the 1950's who was exploring the celebratory styles of Dior's new look, with the edgier deconstructive influences of designers such as Martin Margiela and Rei Kawakubo from the 1990's. This is elegance meets grunge with an unexpected aristocratic twist. Beautiful satin fabrics have been left to elegantly unravel and fall as they please.



Designer

TANYARADZWA STEPHANIE MADZIMA

Photographer — Cristian Sebastian Sandu

Bold shades of deep grey-black and wine red combine with creative draping and angular forms to create a future-focused collection drawing upon inspirations taken from 1990's music videos versus the garments of the everyday. These are very workable garments which hint at unexpected points of glamour and the functionality of the transient wardrobe.



Designer

NIMY THETIKA

Photographer — Ieva Vait

Movie research from the 1960's was the inspiration for this bold collection. Floral motifs in synthetic shades battle to draw your attention. Clever fitting and consideration of the stream lined female form also helps to create the feeling of future retro. Red, white and blue also add a patriotic undercurrent to the championing of this era of cool in British fashion.

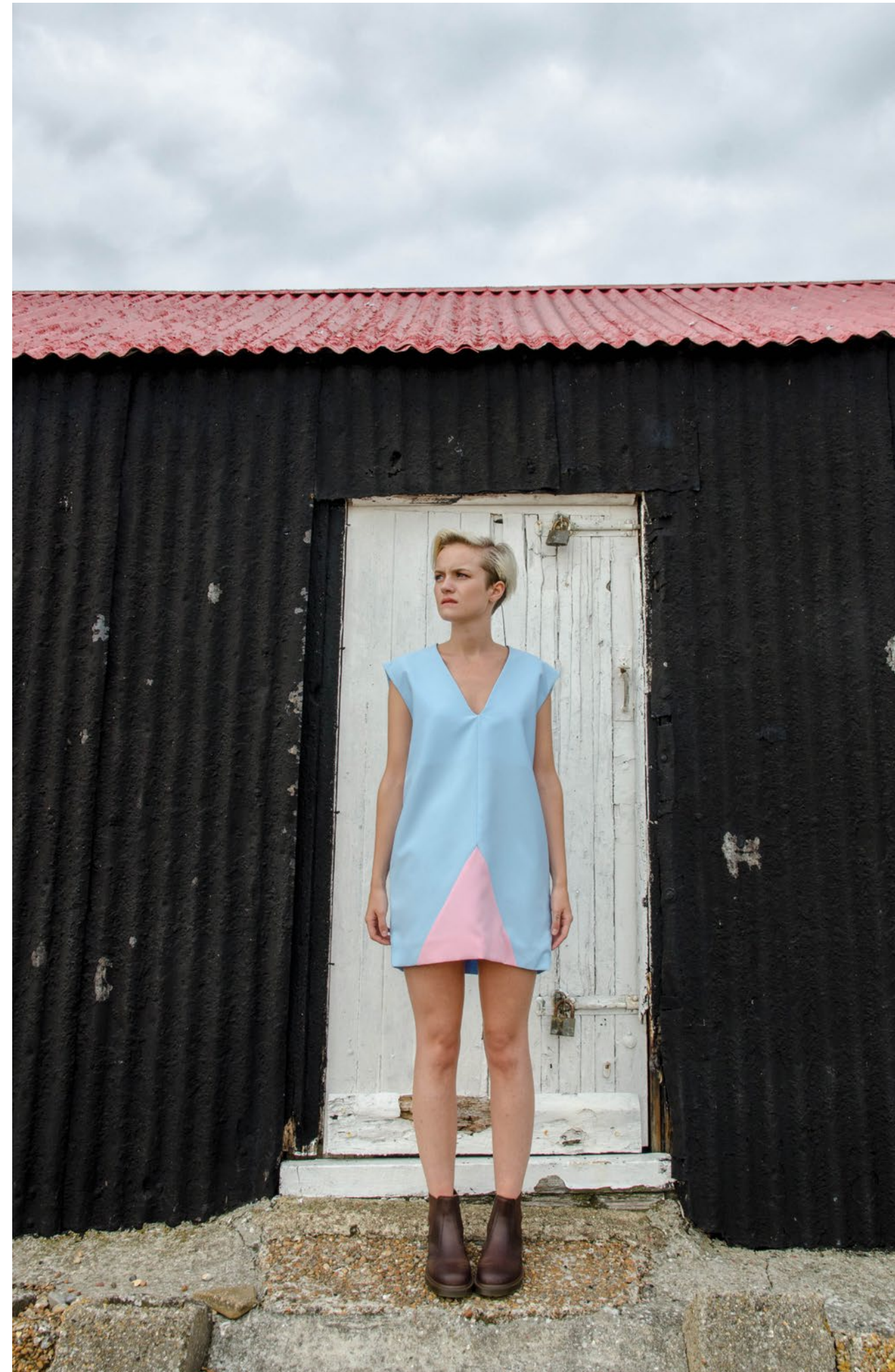


Designer

TAYLA LANGSDON

Photographer — Emily Faulder

Pastel Mods and the youth cultural explosion of the 1960's was a key inspiration behind this collection. The palette is boldly saccharine sweet with feature pockets and clever detailing providing a refreshed look at a bygone decade. These skirts are short short short and snappy with a real undertone of the impatience and optimism of the young.



Designer

MINOO ABDOLRAZAGHI

Photographer — Daniel Balica

Architectural forms and the free movement of the female form are the main inspirations for this fluid collection of citrus coloured garments. The pieces have an elegant fluidity which is offset by the geometric cutting and shaping of collar pieces and shoulder embellishments. The elegance of posed fashion photography and voyeurism of the female body combine perfectly here to provide a bold and sleek silhouette.



Designer

GURTEJ SAGOO

Photographer — Botond Bartha

India in the roaring 1920's has been captured perfectly in this collection, the rich embroidered surfaces, elegant scarves and jewel colours are all reminiscent of a bygone era and of a heady warm climate. This collection is embellished and shaped to fit an historic silhouette, yet with the subtleties of styling, it can transform into something which resonates more so with contemporary festival culture.



Designer

LEILA MOUTABI

Photographer — Ivana Puchlova

Visual innovators such as Coco Chanel and Marlene Dietrich have provided the inspiration for this vivid collection of modern garments. Bold pattern cutting and creative use of fabric selections have all helped to create a dynamic collection which makes a bold statement about the female and unisex form, whilst remaining true to the current mainstream marketplace. An inspired collection which fully embodies the spirit of the 1920's.



Designer

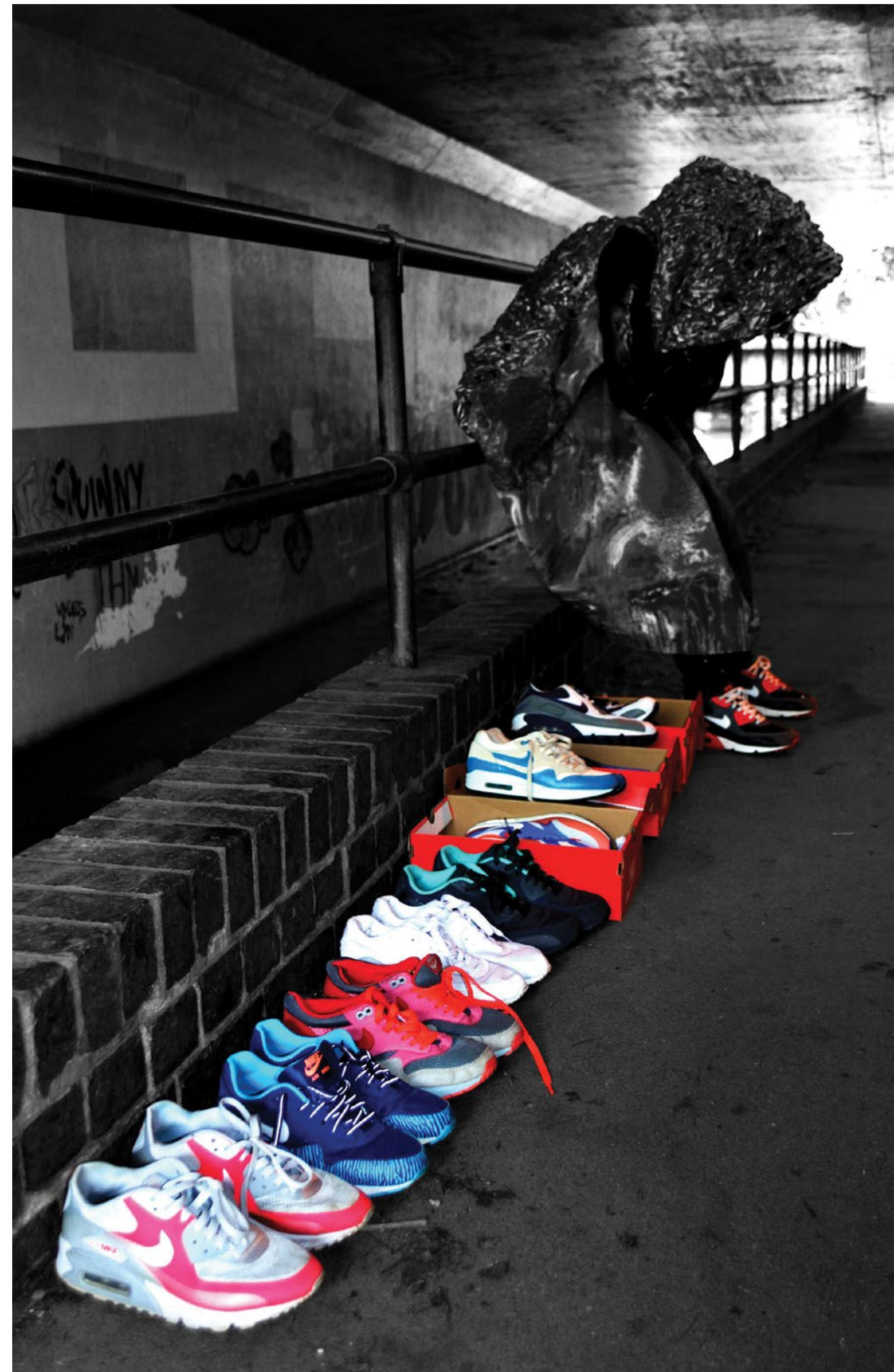
LINDSAY D'ARCY

Film producer: Eduard Claudiu Vasile

Lindsay uses trend books to showcase her work. Her books feature a balance of visuals and text which talk you through trends, working as an offline blog. Lindsay chooses to work in a book format, as she likes her graphics to work across pages, rather than an online scrolling format. These publications exhibit a wide span of potential creative responses to trend including; illustration, print design, styling, photography, collage, fabric references, colour and typography.

This exhibition will also feature her film collaboration with multi-media artist, film producer and anthropological commentator Eduard Claudiu Vasile.

Film, alongside the books, extends the narrative behind the isolation of pure trend; again taking 'Fashion' beyond the garment design journey.

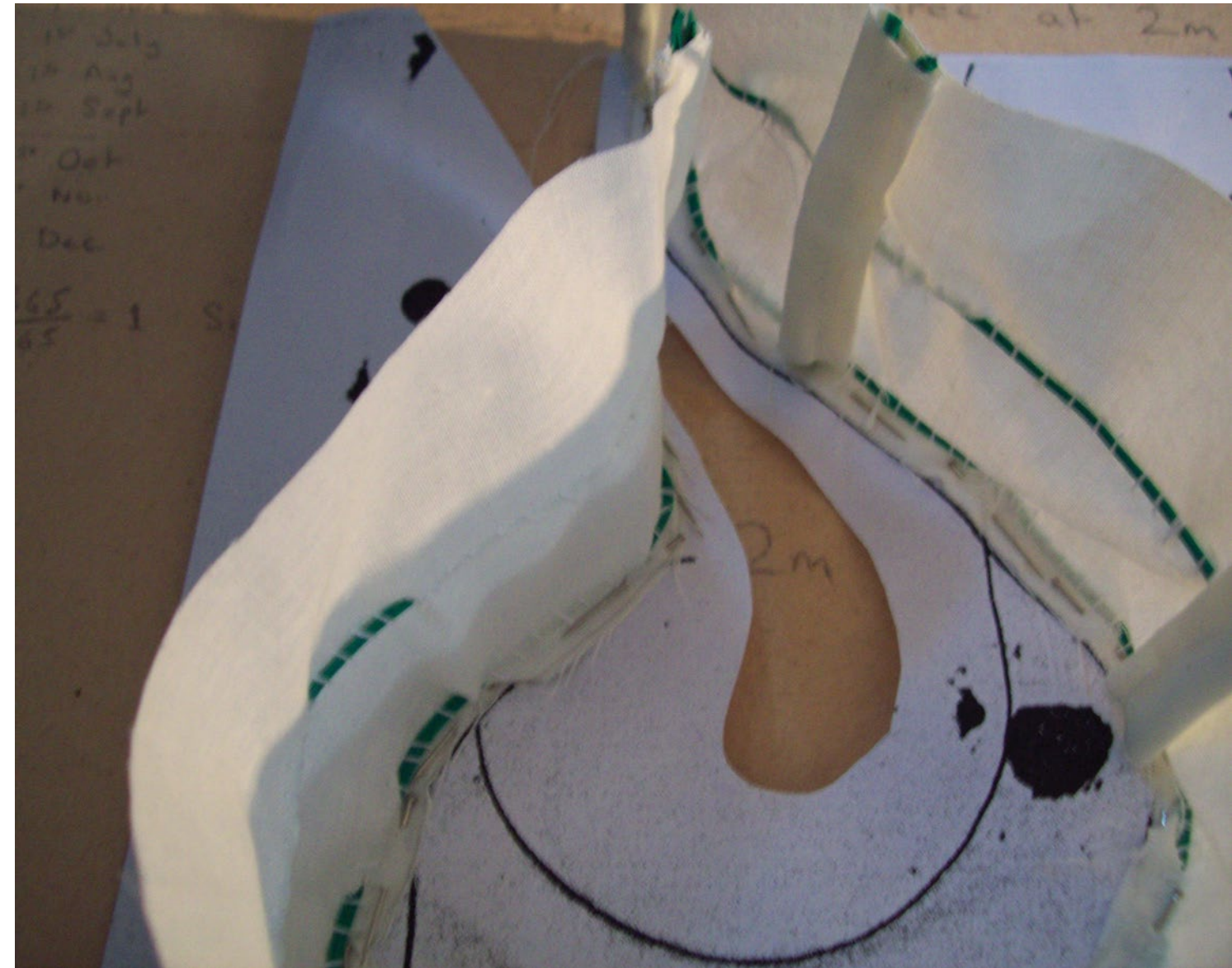


Designer

LESLEY TAYLOR

Boundaries, edges and methods were ultimately questioned bringing two disciplines' methods – that of the dressmaker and the spatial designer – together.

Building upon the subject of alternative intervention within a space raised within her lecture, Lesley aims from the outset to work in a non conformist fashion, the free flowing drawings and models using positive and negative space have resulted in abstract imagery that could be utilised in a similar way to that of the traditional floor plan.



Screening the City, 2012

Designer

SARAH CORBETT

“A spoonful of craft helps the activism go down”

Sarah Corbett set up her campaigning global Craftivist Collective in 2009, following 6 years working within more mainstream charitable bodies including Christian Aid, DFID(Department for International Development) and most recently Oxfam. Since then she has focused upon the power of stitch as a unifying and political creative messaging forum.

As an illustration of the varied formats of her Craftivism projects, Sarah has chosen to exhibit a range of images of recent interventions; with photographs showing the work actually in situ on the street. This is alongside a range of embroidered artefacts and ephemera which highlight the diversity of her practice and the simple but effective nature of her messages.





The creation of The Fashion Sessions; the accompanying seminar event and *The Indiscipline of Fashion* exhibition was undertaken with the energy and involvement of many people within a very short timeframe. I would like to thank all of the following people; many of whom gave their time and expertise for free in order to help me to produce all three parts of this project.

Sagi Hartov, Dean and
Director, LCCA
Nana Varveropoulou
Ian Price
Maëlle Christien
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Natalie Douglas
Murat Kale
Tayla Langsdon
Chanel Lawrence
Tanyaradzwa Stephanie
Madzima
Leila Moutabi
Gurtej Sagoo
Tajah Soarez
Nimy Thetika

Guest speakers

Caryn Franklin
www.allwalks.org
Marcus Tomlinson
www.marcustomlinson.com
Oliver Quiroz
www.oscarquiroz.com
Sarah Corbett
www.craftivist-collective.com
Jennifer Anyan
Lesley Taylor
Lindsay D'arcy

Additional exhibitors

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www.gloss-interiors.co.uk
Sarah Corbett
www.craftivist-collective.com
Lindsay D'arcy
Eduard Claudiu Vasile

Models

Marina Bucur
Georgina Holt
Karen Bengo
Karolina Bladowska
Amarillis Szoboszlai

Make-Up Artists

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Georgina Holt
Lucie Strong
Elena Rivas

Hair Stylist

Maurizio Bonfini

Photographic Assistance

Fabrizio Virdone
Sarah Diana Marchant

**Concept, Project
Management and
Creative Direction**

Claire Ritchie,
Director of International Fashion
Studies, LCCA. 2014

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2056-9807