

Phosphene

Grace Feely and Young-A Lee (Design Mentor)
Auburn University, USA

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Design Mentor Statement. This work was completed as part of the student's independent design project to experiment new concepts and design techniques. The student was tasked with creating a design reflecting her inner self with the integration of bio-science and technology. The student had to demonstrate understanding and ability in both the conceptual and technical aspects by developing the concept, selecting materials, creating patterns, and producing the garment. This look including three pieces represents delicate craftsmanship blended with a personal style and aesthetic. This student's work is of extremely unique and innovative. It has a strong conceptual goal, which has been met through the successful integration of her design intention with (a) contemporary, retro-futuristic look, (b) organic shapes inspired by biological cell structures, (c) use of contrast colors, and (d) consideration of the multi-use of the design. This design is cohesive and innovative throughout the design concept, design, and the construction techniques. All aspects of the garment construction are professionally executed.

Statement of Purpose. *Phosphene*, creating a manifestation of the designer's self-image, represents an alternative version of the self. The design inspiration was derived from Dame Barbara Mary Quant's popular 1960s' shift dresses with high contrast colors with bold design details combining with a costume construction technique (Marie Claire, 2019). This look, *Phosphene*, was also influenced by Hirohiko Araki, the artist who creates an entity that is a manifestation of his characters life energy (Hirohiko Araki, n.d.). This design embraces the idea of a return to childhood with the words of simple, fun, and vibrant in mind. This look was designed to be worn together, but all three pieces can be worn separately.

Aesthetic Properties and Visual Impact. Vibrant, bold, retro-futuristic, polished, and organic are the terms that best describe this look, *Phosphene*. The look embodies these descriptive terms through the vibrant complementary colors, retro-futuristic silhouette, and the organically shaped designs on the garment. The silhouette is shapeless and de-emphasizes the body's natural form. This look is cohesive in its abstract shapes, which are emphasized by layering of each piece and using vibrant solid textiles for those pieces. The three separate pieces can all be worn separately; for example, the dress can be worn by itself along with the headpiece and stockings. The abstract look of this design is unique for any individual to wear, but still applicable for everyday wear when worn separately as statement pieces. This look portrays human beings wearing arts to present themselves.



Process, Technique, and Execution. The design and development of *Phosphene* includes multiple steps: design ideation, material selection, pattern development, garment fitting, and the assembly of the final design. The design process began when collecting swatches of paint colors, where the vibrant paint strokes inspired the bold, organic color and shapes of the look. The current look of this design was derived from the multiple iterations of design sketches. Heavy knit fabrics were chosen for this design to hold the shape of the organic cut-outs layered and stretch to the head and legs. A non-stretchy twill cotton fabric was used for the dress lining for structure and a backing for the patches layered between the shell and lining. Three groups of color schemes were applied in the design: two of which were complementary and the third color being a deeper shade of turquoise color to emphasize the complementary red.



The top layer was strategically patterned as a shift dress with cut-outs that show the patching and lining layers underneath. The lining was patterned the same as the shift dress without cut-outs. The patches were patterned carefully to be sewn down to the lining and displayed through the cut-outs of the dress shell. The shift dress collar was patterned wide to create a space for a large, detailed turtleneck to complement the rest of the garment. The stockings were patterned with a low bell bottom pant leg with cut-outs carefully placed throughout the leg. The headpiece was patterned with the same cut-out technique.

Types of fabric manipulation include wiring structure, strategic fabric layering, hand-stitching, and patching. Wiring was used to keep the structure of the garment consistent with the different use of fabrics. Fabric layering was the main design component in this look; thus, strategic layering was used to add depth within the varying colors and fabrics used. Hand stitching was applied in hidden areas throughout the entire design. The patches in the headpiece were mostly handstitched to drape in specific places. Patching was used for the headpiece, dress, and stockings. The accent crimson textile was used as a patch throughout the piece. Complementary colors were used in the design to help the garment stand out and enhance the clean, bold look of the design.

Cohesion. The cohesiveness of this look is conveyed with vibrant complementary colors, organic shapes of the patches, and visualization of retro-futurism and playfulness in the design.

Phosphene creates a character of human being through the unique pieces that come together harmoniously. Each piece can be worn as separates to add a statement for the wearer. The consistent placement of red patches peeking through the cut-outs of the complementary turquoise textile of each piece meshes together harmoniously as one piece. The shapeless silhouette and organic shapes incorporated in this look flow together seamlessly.

Originality and Innovation. Inspired by Dame Barbara Mary Quant's popular 1960s' shift dresses with high contrast colors as well as bold, abstract design details, the look, *Phosphene*, is reflecting my self-image manifestation. This design is unique because it is a shell of how I visualize my inner self, which is a look into the creative space in my mind. This look can be separated into three pieces and worn alone as a statement piece.

Measurements: Female small (size 2-4) – 33"x24"x34" (bust x waist x hip)

Date Completed: June 7, 2020

References

Hirohiko Araki. (n.d.). Hirohiko Araki Biography. <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm1064632/bio>
Marie Claire. (2019, February 19). Mary Quant – the style icon who changed the face of 60s fashion. <https://www.marieclaire.co.uk/fashion/mary-quant-646366>



Image A Front

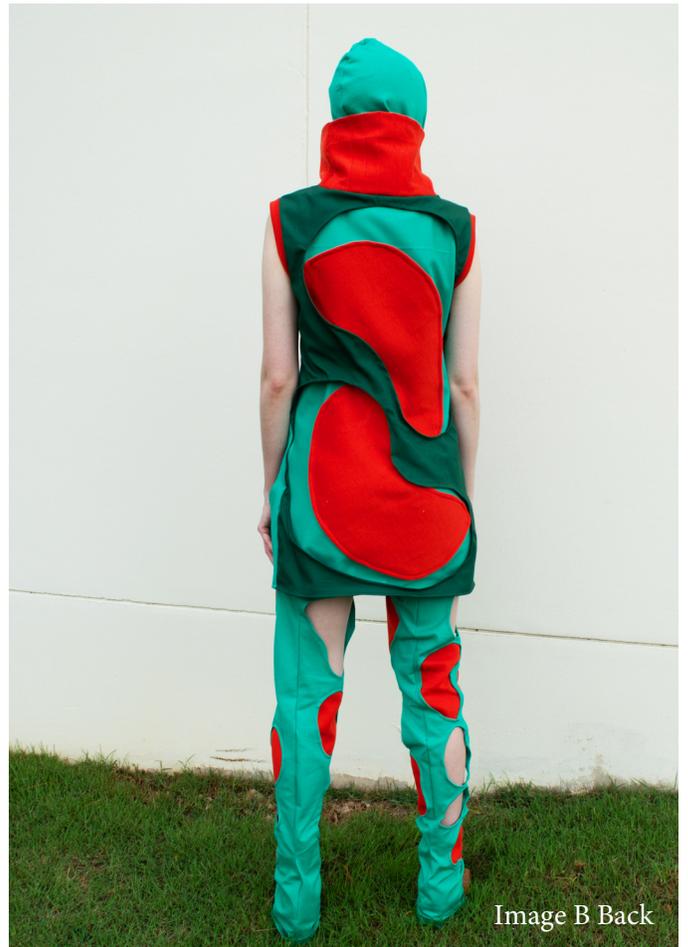


Image B Back



Image C Profile



Image D Details