



## **SOUL OF A MANIKIN**

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Problem Statement-Design Question: If a manikin could have two wishes what would they be?  
Answer: To be outdoors and to experience movement.

Design Inspiration: (1) Einstein's theory of relativity and the idea of everything being made up of particles joined by waves of energy, (2) armature that allows a form to be extremely flexible, and (3) the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Description: To achieve their goal of being outdoors, we have merged manikins with mountains using the pointillist (particle) technique to create the Blue Ridge Mountains on their bodies and "popit bead" armature to allow our anthropometrically correct, half scale, size eight, fully articulated manikins to move mountains. What fun they had! What fun we had creating them!

Techniques and Media Employed: The manikins are covered with stretch white vinyl, stuffed with wool, and internally framed with white plastic "popit beads." The pattern was created by draping a half-scale manikin. The mountains scenes were painted with acrylic fabric paint in the pointillist style of the Impressionistic painters such as Seurat.

Relationship to Conference Theme: The manikin culture connects with the outdoors and their own potential ability to move.