PROFOUND ENERGY
Kyoung-Hee Cho
Mokpo National Univ., South Korea

The purpose of this project was to create a dress that explored the use of straight and bias grains in stretch fabric. The dress was inspired by a big tree in the Pocono Mountain that symbolizes being alive. It involved the expression of visual perception and potential energy in which the deep roots and trunks of the tree produce energy for new life. The irregular flaring hemline symbolizes the roots of the tree. The fitted bodice following the body line expresses the tree's trunk. The rosette trimmings on the bodice symbolize the photosynthetic energy to create new leaves and flowers.

To implement brown tone wrinkles on the surface of the fabric, a brown tone gradation from ivory to dark brown was prepared through tie-dyeing and spraying techniques. Then, it was reproduced by machine sewing inside of the fabric by making smocking shaped squares with very fine elastic threads. In order to create the look of motion in the shape of the dress, draping was mainly used with bias or straight pieces of stretch fabric. The various sizes of rosettes were separately made by hand, folding horsehair strips and satin bias bands together. They were naturally arranged from the darkest brown dye to the lightest individually and collectively.