



ROXANNE

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"Roxanne" is a historical tour of the classic lines that make the most of the female form. Inspired by the subtly provocative push-up corset that Cyrano's own Roxanne would have worn, this innovative application of the concept of "harnessed beauty" takes a slight twist towards the Roxanne of pop artist Sting's rock ballad.

The sculptured bodice of vivid orange neoprene in this wet-suit ensemble reflects the waist and bust shaping of the 18th-century corset with modern bust darting. Traditional bust darts are released into a carved neckline which sits off the bust. The bright blue Lycra on the underside of the mock-inverted wide straps continues as a lining for the entire suit. The lining is connected only at the armseye, strap, and leg openings on the brief in the front of the suit so the protruding "corset" neckline lies undistorted but is sewn into the back neckline and zipper for a tailored finish.

Next, the modified maillot continues with a dropped, contoured waistline more indicative of 19th-century corset form. The outfit then slides straight into the 20th century by ending in a sleek mini-skirt of dark purple neoprene with a zipper slit on one side. The waistline of this skirt is cut to match the exact contour of the bodice edge. All edges are bound in black Lycra to define and highlight the curves that repeat the female form.

The effect of the ensemble is a balanced blend of the romance of times past and the sleek economy of modernity. Bold colors in stark contrast speak volumes about contemporary attitudes. The high-tech fabrics also provide a medium to re-examine old-fashioned sophistication.