

the jaw is blue, and the mouth is a solid pink. Black symbolizes hair and stress, Green symbolizes joy and hope and a brighter future, blue depicts different emotions, yellow represents accomplishments, and pink represents empowerment. On the sides and shoulders of the dress, braided t-shirt stripes were used which conveys the appearance of black hair in various ways. The intentional fraying textures from the crocheting throughout the dress symbolize the daily struggles of youngsters from broken homes.

Process, Technique, and Execution: Different colored secondhand T-shirts were utilized in all project procedures. The T-shirts were cut to a width of 0.5 inches using a laser cut, which was used for the dress's crochet and hair braiding. Before attaching the spiral-shaped breast cup, the body was crocheted intermittently in all the required colors. Once the desired silhouette was achieved, braids were applied to the sides and shoulders. The garment was crocheted wholly by hand in accordance with the design. The entire garment's body was crocheted from a green, yellow, pink, and blue, finish with the black braids attached to the sides, sleeve, and back. The garment was designed to reflect the contemporary lifestyle, hairstyle, and strength of a child from a damaged home, therefore, the garment's design depicts an abstract face.

This garment's front depicts a face, with the breast cup representing the two eyes. Its varied colors signify the youth's many opportunities. Yellow depicts the nose, pink the mouth, and blue the jaw. The braided hairstyle on the clothing represents one of a black woman's multiple hairstyles; some of the hair drapes on the dress's back and sleeves. Golden jewels were added to the end of each braid to illustrate how black hair has been adorned in both ancient and modern times, as well as to illustrate the enjoyment of wearing jewelry. The breast cup was crocheted using a new technique in a spiral shape, and the side was twisted like hair and joined to the side panel. The inspired outcome was achieved using various methods on different portions of the garment.

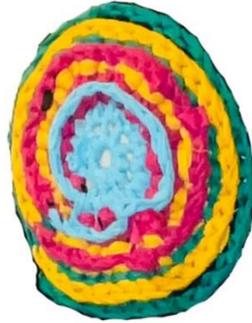


Figure 1. T-shirt cut into yarns. Figure 2. The spiral breast cup. Figure 3 Braided fabric stripes.

Cohesion: Crocheting and narration transform a cotton T-shirt into a hairstyle narrative. By incorporating hairstyling, fashion, and recycling into its execution, this unique method creates a unique and distinct appearance. In addition, crocheting was utilized to add a narrative dimension and a personalized touch to the final product.

Design Contribution: This design research explores how art and fashion can effectively tell a story in a visual and abstract way. The design communicates aspects such as African black hair, an abstract face incorporated into the dress, and the intricate crochet work, all of which collectively narrate a life story. The garment's creation process was done intuitively, and the design process was inspired and evolved by open-minded engagement with the materials and techniques. The ability to maintain a mindset open to using any resources that come up along the route is essential to this strategy. The look represents the hairstyles in the narrative of a single parent. Future research could include various ways of exploring design research of 3D fashion design, laser cutting, and other techniques, in different narratives to examine how stories can be incorporated in designs to inform the audience.

References

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