



Golden Bee

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Inspiration/ Design Purpose: Elizabeth Taylor was considered one of the last, if not the last, major star to have come out of the old Hollywood studio system. She was known internationally for her beauty, especially for her violet eyes, with which she captured audiences early on in her youth and kept the world hooked on with since. This dress was mainly inspired by Elizabeth Taylor and the movie she starred, Cleopatra. Several techniques were used to communicate the inspiration and the techniques will give new design ideas to designers who want to create innovative design.

Process: Dress was first sketched along with several other designs and the mood board. After this design was chosen, fabric selection was made. Muslins were transferred to paper patterns and then the muslin dress was made to fit the model. Finally, dress was made out of final fabric and embellished with the glass beads on the top front and honey bee ornaments over the skirt part.

Technique: The dress was designed using draping technique. The top front is pleated. Dress has princess cut. Skirt part has six pieces and four godets, each in shape of circular sector to achieve very wide bottom. Dress is long gradually extending to a train in the back. Top part has one strap that is secured on the neck and bare upper back. It is closed with the zipper in the back. Dress is embellished with golden glass beads on the black top front, every other row to achieve the image of a bee stripes. The skirt has two godets each in the front and back, that are constructed out of contrasting fabric used for the top. Godets are also embellished with two sets of gold chains for the glam effect. The actual honey bees embellishments were placed all over the skirt as on a bee hive. Skirt has a petticoat for ball gown effect and to show the beauty of the skirt pattern.

Materials: The main fabric used is brocade, honey golden color with large golden medallion pattern with the black symbol in the middle. The skirt was cut from this fabric. Contrasting black fabric dull brocade is used for the top front and back, strap and skirt godets. The black godets are giving the dress “edgy twist”. Dress is lined with black lining. Petticoat is attached to the dress and made out of black tulle. The stole is made out of gold shimmer tulle. The top front of the dress is embellished with the golden glass beads and framed with the black/gold organza which is extended in the back to a bow that ties in the back. In addition to the beads, dress embellishments also include golden chains and honey bee 3D stickers.

Date Completed January 5th, 2015

Reference:

Crawford, C. A. (2012). The art of fashion draping. 4th edition. New York: Fairchild Publications.



FIGURE 1. FRONT VIEW