

Forgive Me Never

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Confessional blogs proliferate on the internet and have become a contemporary sounding-board for those who wish to release a secret that might otherwise be castigated. These websites are anonymous and allow individuals to speak their secrets without the risk of personal embarrassment. These websites allow others to comment on these confessions often forming a connective community around any one particular issue. In most instances comments surrounding a confession are supportive or reassuring. These online communities, facilitated by the internet, fascinate me as they are at once about shared emotions yet exist because they are anonymous.

While voyeuristically reading a confessional blog, I came across what looked to be a conversation between two people that knew of the other's identity. In a bizarre twist of what these confessional websites are traditionally used for, a couple displayed the fissure of infidelity to all. One partner confessed to having an adulterous affair. The other partner found the confession and used it to publically humiliate and express anger. This exchange was quickly removed from the website for its explicit nature.



The heated online conversation inspired this piece as well as my own (and millions of others) inquisitive inclinations. Three layers of silk organza are digitally printed with the exchange of conversation, each layer becoming a different voice or position within the argument. The silhouette suggests exposure and ineffectual anonymity with the flaps exposing the figure beneath. The top layer is cheap polyester felt that is dyed at the seams and was used to indicate the sense of decay and lack of care. The sleeves and length of the piece are purposefully long as a symbol of the inability to touch, heal or connect with the other. It is also meant to call attention to the frontal exposure of the figure.

These garments are not meant to be wearable, rather they are an artistic exploration of identity presentation that has so much significance in the realm of fashion. Designers such as Hussein Chalayan and Rei Kawakubo are major influences on the way I approach my creative work.