

## Coral Skeleton

Rachel Frantz, Radford University, Radford VA

Laser, Design, Avant Garde

Coral Skeleton was created from the inspiration of combining death and life. This process was quite meticulous. First, a draped version of this dress was made on to a size 6 PGM dress form. From that, a paper pattern was modified for better fit. Once the paper pattern was finalized, it



was photocopied into the computer to be modified once again, using Adobe Illustrator. Necklines, hemlines, and cut-outs emerged within the design. Once the CAD drawing was finished, it was then set to be flat bed laser cut. This process was consumed with trial and error. Too much power from the laser would burn the material, and too little power would only scratch the surface. The laser had to be set to cut through two layers of fabric. One being, a polyester micro suede, and the other being a polyester satin lining.

Both had to be thermoplastic, so that when the laser cut the material, they would then fuse together. This created a stiffer drape, a sturdier design, as well an appearance of lining. The front was then finished off with a simple hook and eye.

