

HARMONIOUS COEXISTENCE

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Background of work: Just like various discrete members in human society, dense forests have their own versatile members; trees, flowers, moss, mushrooms, and so on. They are inhabiting harmoniously together in forests. Mushrooms are the typical ones which are showing a coexistence rule well enough to share roots with trees without damage. Among all species of mushrooms, crinoline stinkhorn (Binomial name: dictyophora indusiata) shows us the overlay of transparency through its own nets. On the other hand, a swarm of flowers and leaves in a forest show us the overlay of repetitiveness and rhythmic sense. This costume represents this kind of the overlay of repetitiveness, transparency and continuity by using hand knitting technique and leather materials from the designer's own aesthetic point of view. Knitting is the most flexible and easiest way of creating shape by using any colors, sizes and textures at a maker's own free will. Thus, hand knitting is more meaningful since it possesses a maker's soul and intention.

Process of work: The motif of this costume is a thick peaceful forest. I was inspired by trees, flowers and mushrooms as the inhabitants of a forest. The various colors in forest also inspired the color palette in this work. Brown and blues are the main colors and other various colors were used as supporting the color theme. The upper part of costume symbolizes the firm stems of trees. The front part of sleeveless top was made by lamb skin and the back side was knitted by hand. Although lamb skin is soft touch leather, it is enough to show strong and cold stems image by selecting dark brown color. By using hand knitting technique for the back side blue knit, it is represented as calm and flexible images of a dense forest. All the layers of the skirts were made by overlay technique using navy and brown mesh material on the top of the inside crinoline. These overlay-techniques were used to show the transparency as inspired by the nets of crinoline stinkhorn. The hand-knitted blue skirt also represents the net-shape through symbolization of the form of crinoline stinkhorn. The holes of net are outlet to show the inner skirts and also used as adhesion method putting the motives of flowers and leaves into the hand knitting skirt. The flowers and the leaves were overlapped each other, resembling the image of coexistence harmoniously in a forest. Utilizing yellow green, green, orange, red and deep maroon colors is to indicate the changing season and splendid inherent seasonal colors in forest. There are an extreme contrast between the rich and colorful front panel and the plain back panel of the blue hand knitting skirt in order to show the two contradictory faces of forest. While the front panel shows the bright, and vibrant forest image, the back panel represents the calm and virtuous image.

Use method of work: Leather sewing technique and crochet hand knitting technique were mainly utilized for the use method of work. The upper part leather had hole in order to connect with the waist line of the skirt by the use of crochet hand-knitting technique. Princess line on the upper part was cut by a skiving machine to make the seam allowances clean and narrow. After sewing the upper panels, the seam allowances were bonded onto the inside of the garment. The crinoline of inside skirt foundation was made by wide wires and circular thin wires to fix the crinoline shape firmly. The net skirts was made by stiff mesh fabric and the hand crochet knitting skirt was also knitted by poly propylene yarn to give a stiff feel of the outer skirt shape. By utilizing the short crochet and the long crochet knitting together, the skirt could form just like the form and the details of crinoline stinkhorn. The motives of flowers and leaves were made by crochet hook knitting technique using wool material to create warm feel.

Measurements: Bust 32 1/4", Waist 25 1/2", Hip 51", Length 47"

