VIVIDO DÉÉSSE

PURPOSE: The purpose of this design was to integrate various apparel construction techniques used throughout history in one creative garment.

PROCESS: Inspiration for the design came from recent trips to Paris, London, and Milan. My imagination was sparked while I was engrossed in the stories and images of these historical cities where people have lived their lives and fashion evolved over hundreds of years. Drawing inspiration from a boat ride down the Seine River in Paris and the miles-long network of canals, the monuments and carvings at Westminster Abbey, the Wedding Dress 1775-2014 exhibit at the Victoria and Albert Museum and many other historical locations, the cut, proportion, and details of the garment came into fruition. Graffiti seen throughout Paris and Milan along with the stained glass windows and vivid colors at Westminster Abbey, and cloud formations was the inspiration for the unique textile design on the garment, which is meant to stimulate thought and emotion in an organic way. A simple two-piece garment was created to go underneath to cover the body but not take away from the flowing over garment. The cut of the over garment is a combination of a caftan and a cape creating a unique cut and style.

TECHNIQUES: The textile initially was created by using the famous Ellensburg wind to deposit dye onto the fabric in a random organic way before the draping process began, the dye was tossed into the wind to create the random patterns. Creating the back neck bodice of small even pleats was a long and precise process. The size, placement, and angle of the pleats was detailed work to assure that flowed over the body correctly and would open up so the viewer could clearly see the textile design. French seams were used throughout the garment to finish off the seams to assist with seam slippage, a major issue with gauze.

CONTRIBUTION: Combining the draping, pleating, bold textile art and specific details the garment has a unique and unseen design combination and aesthetic to contribute to the design community.

MATERIALS: 100% plain weave fabric, polyester thread, dye