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NSZ



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SEA OF DECAY

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SUB TOTAL:  
TAX: \$\$\$

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MISHA SUMIKO BLACK

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# Concept Statement

The tide lowers and heightens, waves form and crash, the ocean pushes and pulls; endless impermanence. Nature's intent will always conquer. How naive and egotistical we must be to think we have reign over the Earth. We are powerless at nature's mercy and yet we continue disrespecting it.

The Earth is decaying and we shall decay with it.

The collection, Sea of Decay, explores this concept. Using a series of symbols which are derived from various oceanic textures and occurrences, this collection explores the complexity of cosmic insignificance in the face of nature's power.

Vertical Chinese calligraphy on the left side of the page.

Horizontal Chinese calligraphy at the top of the page.

7 Days Guaranteed  
3

Large horizontal Chinese calligraphy in the lower middle section.

01 958  
See reverse for details



Horizontal Chinese calligraphy at the top right of the page.

0236 1712  
Produced in China for  
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com

Large horizontal Chinese calligraphy at the bottom of the page.

Vertical Chinese calligraphy on the right side of the page.

# trend research



vetements  
spring 2024  
silhouette:  
oversized



the royal  
danish academy  
spring 2024  
silhouette:  
oversized



vetements  
spring 2024  
silhouette:  
oversized



dsquared2  
resort 2024  
texture:  
distressed denim



diesel  
resort 2024  
texture:  
distressed



dsquared2  
spring 2024  
texture: denim  
distressed



dominnico madrid  
fall 2023  
silhouette:  
pleated mini  
skirt & eyelets



paolina russo  
spring 2024  
silhouette:  
denim pleated  
mini skirt



the royal danish  
academy  
spring 2024  
silhouette: mini  
skirt & eyelets



fendi  
spring 2024  
texture: denim  
distressed



dsquared2  
resort 2024  
texture:  
distressed denim



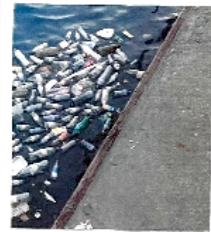
louis vuitton  
2024 menswear  
texture: bleach  
& decay

# development



## Oceanic Pollution

**LITTERING**  
New research has found that plastic litter from plastic waste dumped into the world's oceans is riddled with green degradation, which occurs when the plastic's chemistry is altered as CO2 is absorbed by seawater. This process reduces water pH and the amount of dissolved oxygen available to marine organisms and shells. Increased ocean acidity is also caused by CO2 emissions being dissolved into the sea.



The study describes how after three weeks of leaving discarded water bottles in the sea, the bottles become sources of harmful bacteria and microorganisms. The study was conducted off the coast of Japan's Shikoku Island, known for its natural presence of undersea CO2 seeps, using a combination of biological analysis and data regarding the weather was used to discern that an increase of CO2 will further accelerate bacterial distribution.

200 million tons of plastic is produced every year. Estimatedly, approx. 8 million pieces of plastic are discarded within the ocean. Consequently, scientists predict there could be up to 5.3 billion pieces of macro and microplastic when oceans around the world.

Marine life is at risk of increased acidity within the ocean— acidity can cause drops in metabolic rates and immune responses to other organisms like parasites. Additionally, the decline of calcium carbonate and increased ocean acidification as a result of plastic pollution cause damage to shells and skeletons. This then affects larger predators like whales and sharks, who struggle to find food, starting from the bottom.

The most visible impacts of plastic debris are the ingestion, suffocation and entanglement of hundreds of marine species. Marine wildlife such as seabirds, whales, fish, and turtles mistake plastic waste for their most prized diet. Starvation as their stomachs become filled with plastic, they also suffer from infections and internal injuries. Floating plastics also help transport invasive marine species, thereby weakening marine biodiversity and food webs.

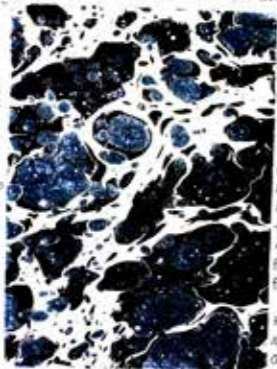


## OIL SPILL

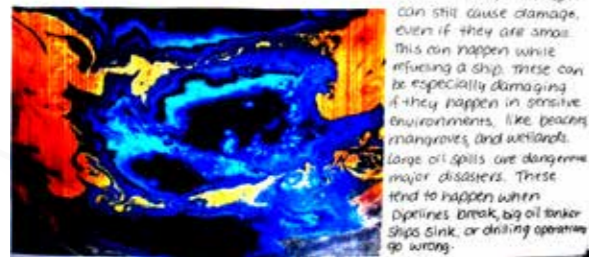
Oil spills have a devastating effect on marine life. The oil prevents sunlight from reaching the surface, and it also reduces the level of dissolved oxygen. Oiled oil kills the insulating and buoyancy properties of feathers and fur, and thus oiled birds and marine mammals may die from hypothermia. Ingested oil can be toxic to affected animals, and damage to their habitat and reproductive cycle may occur.



It is reminiscent of my pattern work, particularly the patterns created by the nature of oil and water itself. It would be cool if to dye an actual oil in water pattern into a fabric. Could try put oil in the water with the dye to see if the pattern transfers? Will need to experiment with this.



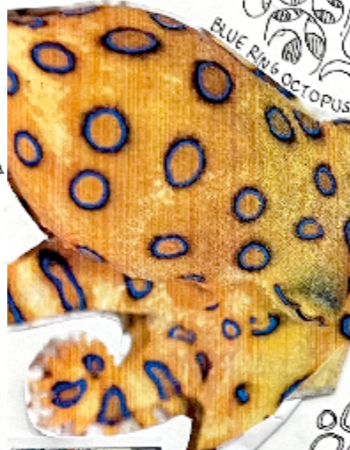
How do oil spills happen? Most of oil spills occur each year. Most of these spills can still cause damage, even if they are small. This can happen while refueling a ship. These can be especially damaging if they happen in sensitive environments, like peatlands, mangroves, and wetlands. Large oil spills are dangerous major disasters. These tend to happen when pipelines break, big oil tanker ships sink, or drilling operations go wrong.



## moon's life force



- previously used in Tru
- a power greater than us
- represents cyclical nature of life
- controls ocean



BLUE RING OCTOPUS

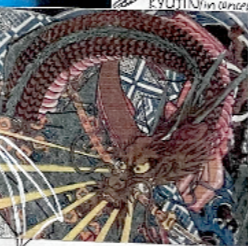
Put on a threat display using cells and iridophores, a specialised type of light-reflecting chromatophore that gives their blue rings iridescence. Blue ring = threat warning sign.



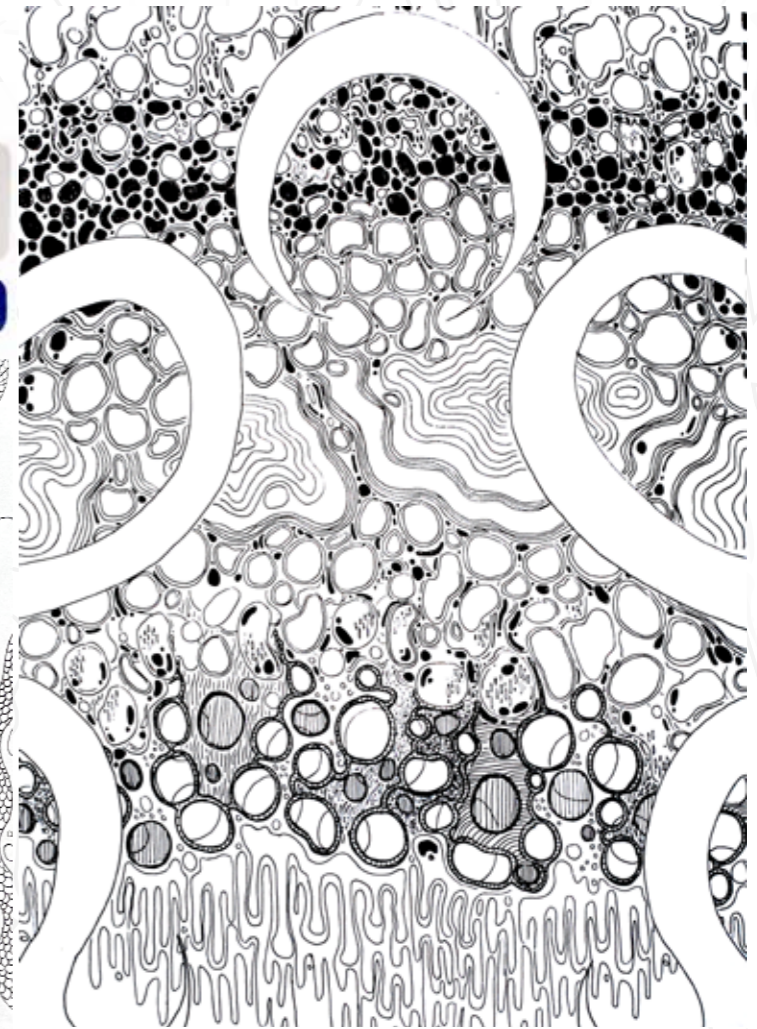
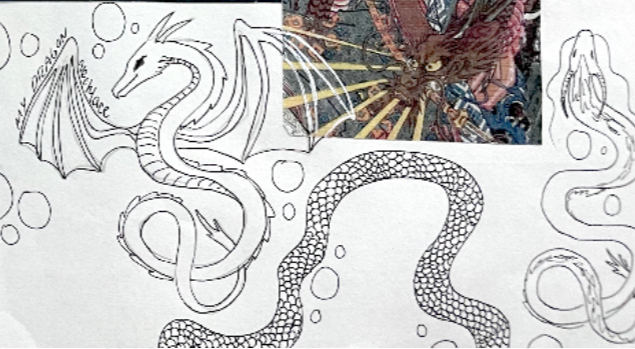
Tsunami warping to humans



Cthulu (in concept)



Pyutin (in concept)



This is a pattern and motif I first developed during my grade 12 literature class with my visual art diary hidden from my teacher by my notebook.

I had always loved serpentine imagery and dragons, beginning with the snake drawing below, I began doodling around it.

It honestly was just absent-minded doodling as I listened to *Hamlet* go over the themes of *King Lear*.

As I listened to her deconstruct this Shakespearean play, her voice began to fade in the background and I was absorbed into this drawing. I knew it back then that I had stumbled upon something truly special.

Everytime I thought I was finished, I'd go back and add smaller little details: dots, lines, stars.

Eventually I produced this very drawing which I have cut directly from my year 12 visual art diary. You can see elements of it throughout.

Every DRJ since. Even just looking at the right page, you can see how it has evolved.



The page to the right is a collage of different iterations of this original drawing which I have created over the years.

This has become a key motif in my work.

Something about the high contrast, high density pattern really interests me.

A woman with long, dark, wavy hair is lying on her back on a thick, white, fluffy surface, possibly a rug or a bed. She is wearing a light-colored, possibly white, lace-trimmed top. Her eyes are closed, and she has a serene expression. The lighting is soft and even. Overlaid on the image in the center is the text "the Ocean" in a white, cursive, handwritten-style font. The word "the" is lowercase and smaller than "Ocean", which is also lowercase but larger. The text is centered horizontally and vertically across the woman's chest and upper abdomen area.

*the Ocean*



**DISTRESSED DENIM COAT**

Oversized fluffy denim coat with bleached patterns.

**DENIM TOP**

Strappy halter neck top with boning and distressed denim texture.

**PLEATED DENIM MINI SKIRT**

Pleated low-waist mini skirt with distressed denim texture. Bleach gradates travelling up the skirt.

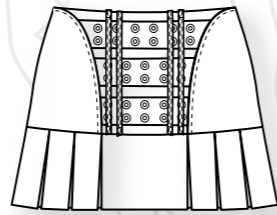
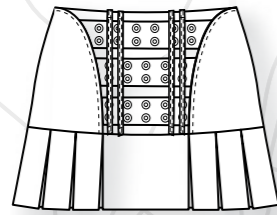
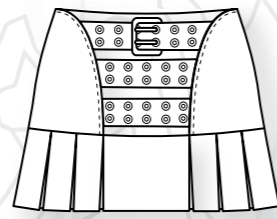
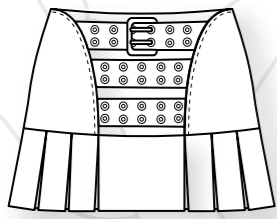
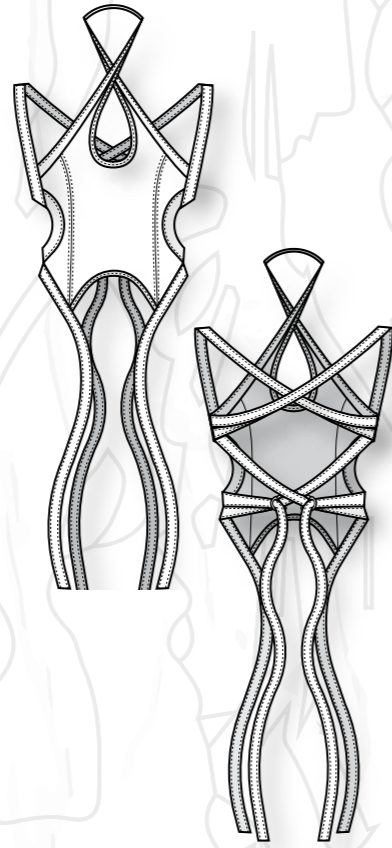
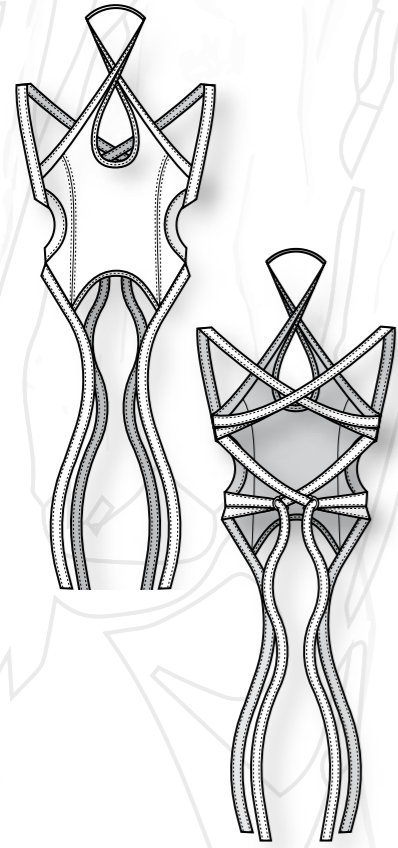


# OCEAN

Like an ancient tapestry, this coat preserves a narrative. It tells a cautionary tale of the fate that awaits those who do not respect nature's power. This was achieved through the use of a code of symbols. Pollution, warning signs, wrath, and finally decay are all depicted. As well as reference to some mythical creatures of the sea, and above it all, the moon.



# OCEAN





# OCEAN



# *the Siren*





**QUILTED SPRAY PAINT BOLERO**

Quilted bolero with spray painted pattern.

**DENIM STRING TOP**

Boned crop top with denim string texture.

**DENIM STRING MINI SKIRT**

Low-waisted mini skirt with string denim texture.



# SIREN

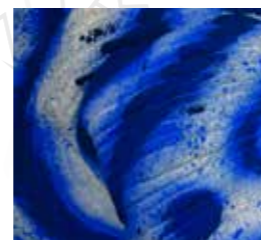
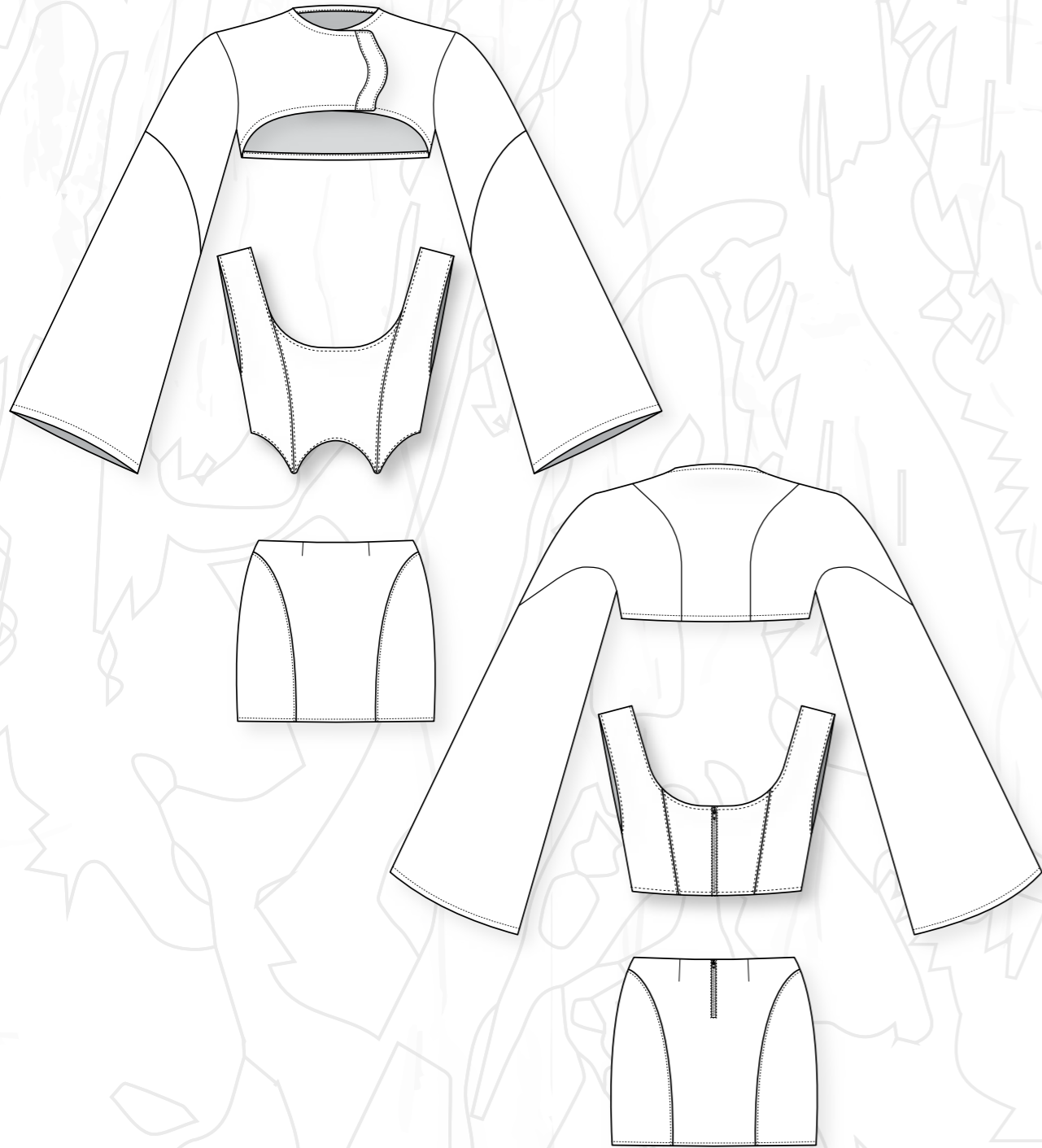
The siren; ethereal, bewildering, and cunning. She uses her siren song to lure lowly sailors into the depths of the ocean. With the strength to tempt even the likes of the great Odysseus, her deadly beauty is a testament to *The Ocean's* power.

COME TO ME  
CHANT ON WHO COULD  
ANY ONE UNWARILY  
CLOSE AND HEARS THE  
E SIRENS, HIS WIFE  
WILL NEVER WELCOME  
N, FOR THEY SIT  
ELD AND RIBBLE H  
THE

THE OCEAN  
AND AS THE  
ING SAILORS  
BUT ANYONE WHO  
IS, BEWITCHED  
AND THEY ARE  
LIKE A TON TO A  
SHIP SMASHES UPON  
AS SPEARS, AND THOSE  
JOIN THE MANY VICTIMS  
SIRENS IN A MEADOW FILLED  
SKELETONS.

See reverse for care instructions

# SIREN



The image shows a close-up of a light-colored, textured fabric garment, possibly a t-shirt or tank top. The fabric has several circular and crescent-shaped patches of a different material, likely a smoother fabric or leather, attached to it. These patches are arranged in a pattern: two circles on the left, two circles on the right, and two crescents at the bottom. Vertical lines of stitching or thread run down the center of the garment, passing through the patches. The overall aesthetic is minimalist and textured. The text 'the Gailor' is overlaid in a white, cursive font in the center of the image.

*the Gailor*



they were always in view  
impossible to reach  
but still there.  
a thin scar of land,  
and me,  
a staying sailor



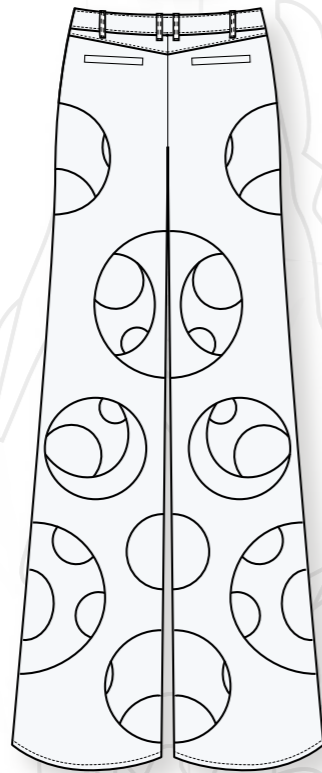
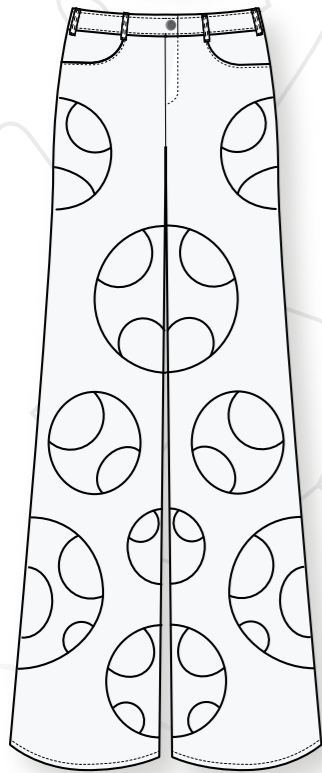
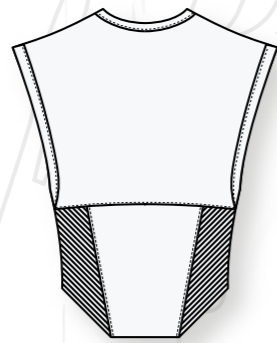
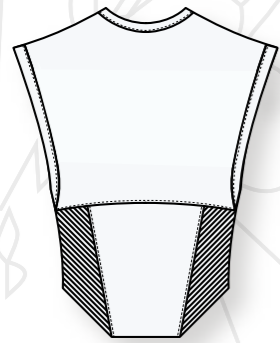
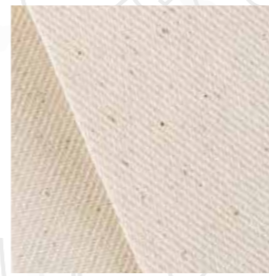
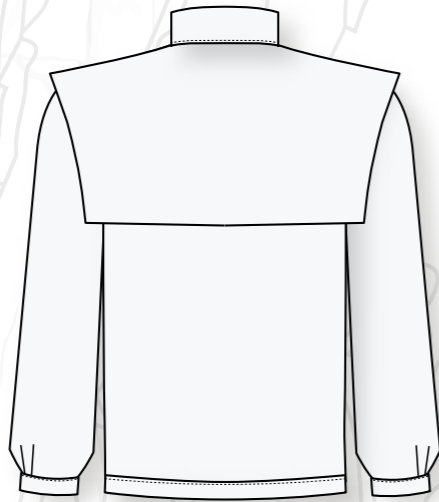
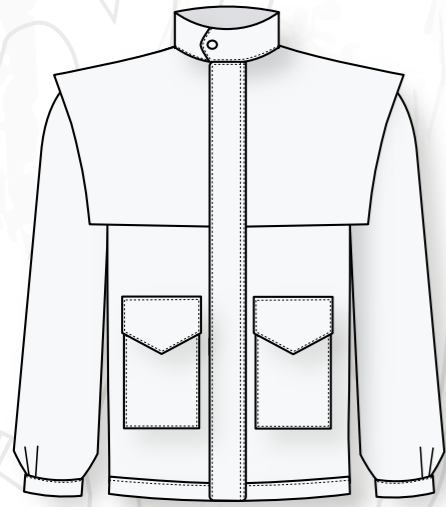
# SAILOR

The naive sailor goes to sea to explore uncharted waters and to experience the romance of life on the water. However, the reality of such a lifestyle is not what meets the eye. Will they return with spun tales of their great adventures or, do they tell the truth?





# SAILOR



# *The Pirate*





**UPCYLED BUTTON UP**

distressed shirt texture made of second hand button ups.

**MESH TOP**

Custom printed mesh top.

**BLEACHED DENIM PANTS**

Wide-legged denim pants with large pleat. Bleach pattern on pants grows up the legs and slowly fades.



**THE MAD  
PIRATE**

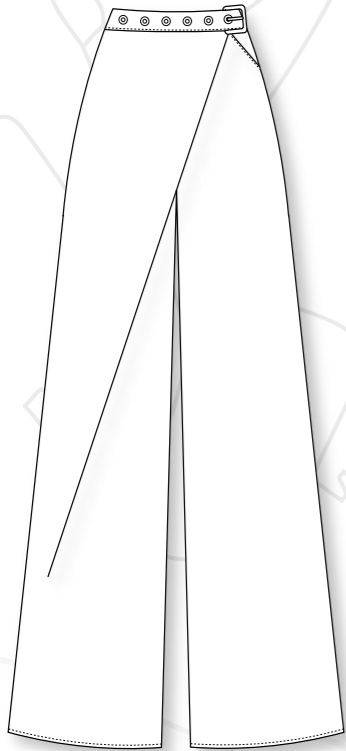
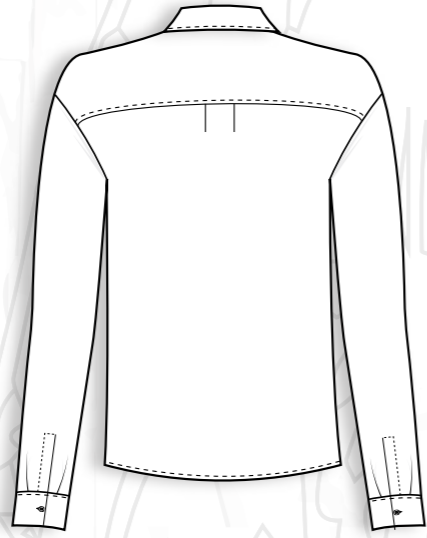
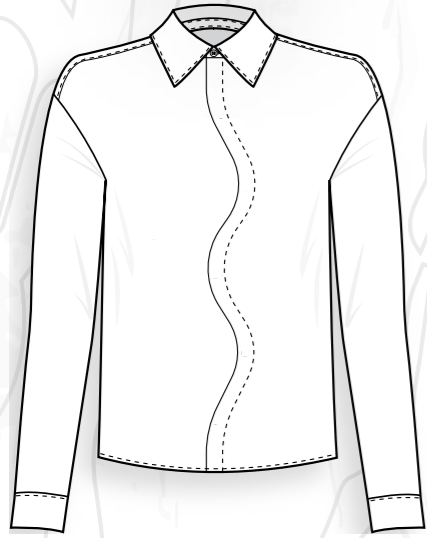


The romance of pirate life advertises freedom, adventure, and great treasures. However the great perils of such a lifestyle are vast. Enemies of the law and of each other, they must learn to be one with the sea. The ocean is an old friend; understood and respected.



AND FOUL, PRO-  
RUNNING OUT,  
AND WHAT  
NOW I TELL  
YOU, I NEVER SEEN GOOD  
COME O' GOODNESS YET.

# PIRATE





*the fisherman*



### OVERSIZED JACKET

Oversized jacket with organic shapes and frayed denim.

### CARGO SHORTS

Printed cargo shorts. Custom print derived from image of 'ocean' coat.

### MESH SINGLET

Mesh off-white fitted singlet.



## FISHERMAN

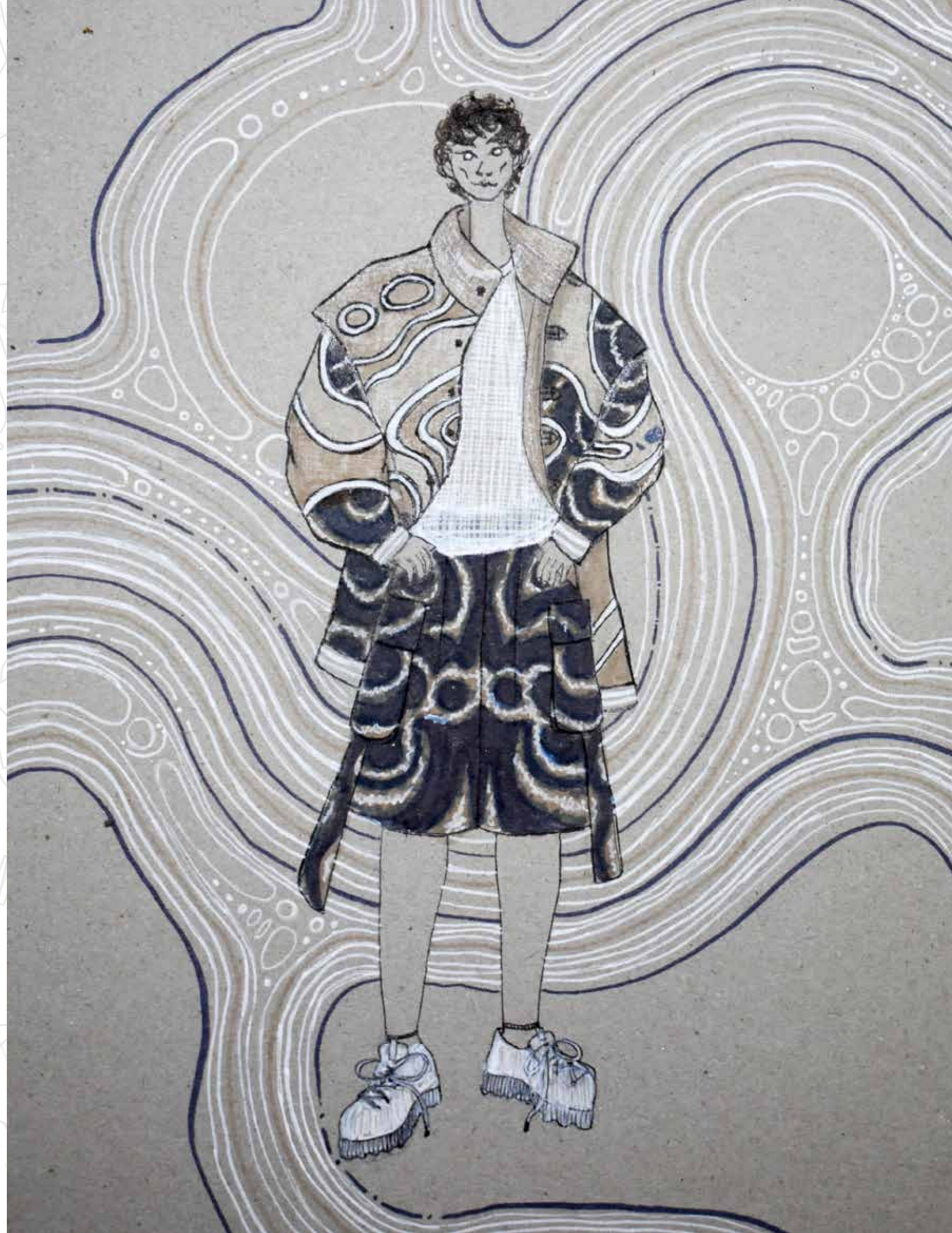
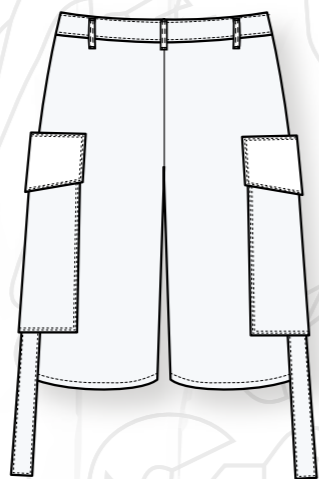
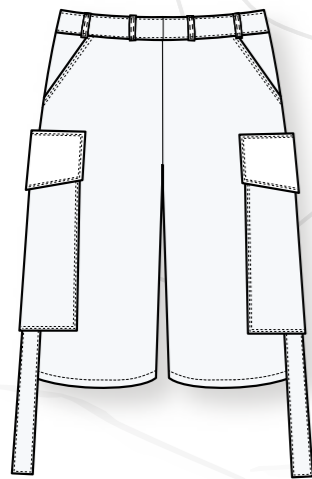
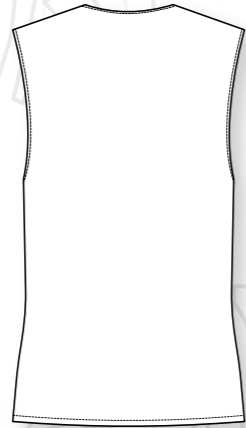
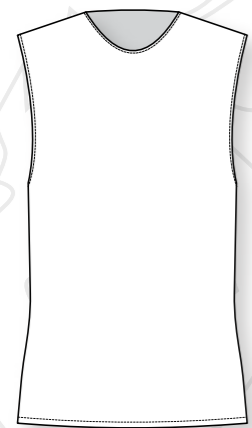
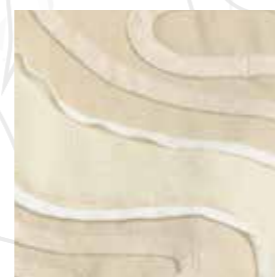
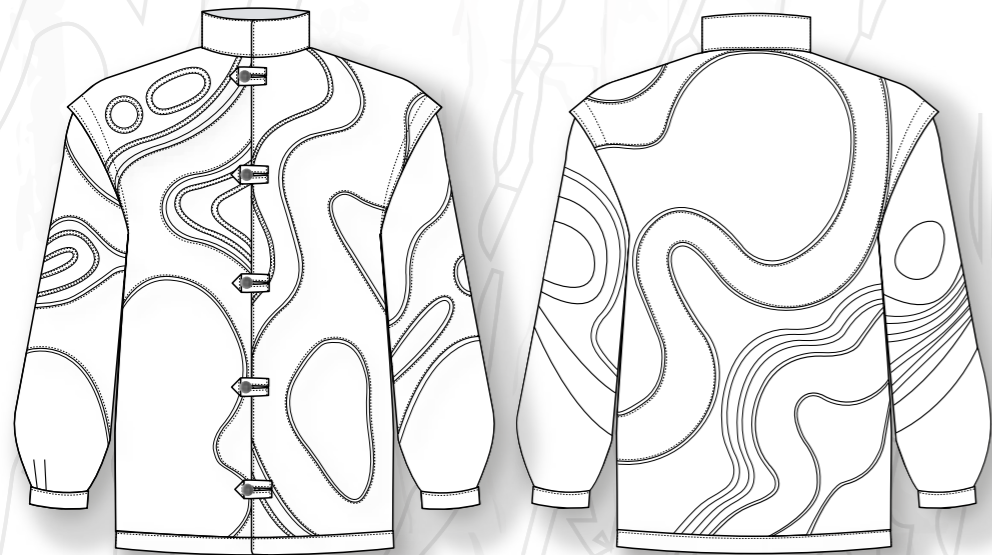
The fisherman lives off the land, using the ocean to his advantage. But when does resourcefulness turn into greed? Their livelihood depends on the sea but what happens when there is nothing left to take?

YOU DID NOT KILL THE FISH ONLY TO KEEP ALIVE AND TO SELL FOR FOOD. YOU THOUGHT YOU KILLED HIM FOR PRIDE AND YOU ARE A FISH. YOU LOVED HIM WHEN HE WAS ALIVE AND YOU KILLED HIM AFTER. IF YOU KILLED HIM IT IS NOT A SIN. YOU LOVED HIM. OR IS IT?





# FISHERMAN





# CREDITS

SEA OF DECAY

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MODEL (SAILOR)  
MODEL (SIREN)  
MODEL (FISHERMAN)  
MAKE UP  
HAIR

SUB TOTAL:  
TAX: \$\$\$

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