

Practitioner's Statement

Cinderella Dress

Mika Goya

My first practical idea initial concept was influenced by the recently released film Cinderella. Captivated by the beauty and intricate detailing of Cinderella's gown I refined my idea that what I truly wanted to pursue was to create a gown that had strong resemblance to Cinderella. As well as exploring the Cinderella as well as other 'princess' type gown, I took interest towards paper art particularly sculptures created by Mia Pearlman. Taking inspiration from both Cinderella type gowns as well as detailed paper art influenced the decision to create an artwork of a wearable paper dress that included intricate detailing as well as resembling the style of a fairytale gown.

Diana Gamboa is an artist who creates origami couture fashion meant for the runway. Her unique approach to fashion from the application of origami and paper folds, definitely impacted on my concept for the gown and initiated the decision to use both origami and paper folds to construct the gown. Particularly Gamboa's textural elements and use of repetition and layering of similar objects. was eye-catching and effective.

The refinement and design for my dress took a while to create. As I was trialling and deciding on particular materials and origami techniques to use for my paper gown I had to take into consideration how particular origami objects would fit together as well as what structure of gown would be most aesthetically pleasing. Colleen Atwood is an Academy Award winning costume designer who I was influenced by, particularly taking inspiration from her costumes. The strong detailing, layering of different colours and textures that Atwood includes in her designs provided a new outlook on how I would construct my gown, including different textural elements, paper and origami techniques.

The intended meaning behind my artwork was to have personal relevance to me and my Japanese heritage. Origami is the art of paper folding originating from Japan which as a child I have grown up learning and experiencing the creation of different origami objects. A origami feature that is included throughout my artwork is the paper crane, this particular origami creation is significant to the history of Japan known to many a tradition and memory to Sadako Sasaki and the luck of paper cranes. As I wanted to represent my Japanese culture I considered the best way to do so was through a gown, which would also represent my passion for fashion.

The development of fashionable art has always been of interest to me and is more likely to aesthetically appeal to me rather than something simple yet meaningful. This influenced my concept of designing a origami dress that used small technical origami and paper folds to cover the gown in. I value detail in artworks and small intricate elements that add to a bigger image, which I intended to include throughout my major practical. In my final product I achieved a stylish white origami gown that both represents my Japanese background and passion for fashion.