

Mindful Intersections: Charting the Course Less Travelled

Singapore, Singapore
103.83E 1.42N



JAMELA LAW

Baëlf Design - Founder

WHO IS BAËLF DESIGN?

Baëlf Design was founded in 2017 by Fashion Artist/ Self-taught Technologist Jamela Law, together with her partner, Industrial & Interaction Designer / Researcher Lionel Wong.

Through a cross-disciplinary practice, Baëlf demonstrates how technology can be a medium for art, design, culture and craft. Computational means and procedural strategies are heavily explored, offering novel ways of seeing and making. Ever curious, Baëlf is intrigued by hidden significances and meanings in our environment, both natural and artificial, and sees a mission to bring them to light.

Outside of Singapore, Baëlf has showcased internationally in New York, San Francisco, Shanghai, Hong Kong, London and Tokyo. Notable collaborators include Glenfiddich, Swarovski and Vogue Singapore. Jamela was named a CFDA+ Graduate '17 Finalist, IFFT1 '18 2nd Runner up and InkuVision Winner of the Hong Kong Human Rights Prize '21.

Mindful Intersections: Charting the Course Less Travelled

Baëlf Design's collection is inspired by the Astrolabe; an important scientific instrument refined by the Islamic community.

It measures the position of heavenly bodies to illuminate many things, such as one's position, latitude, and time. It is a map of three-dimensional heavens projected stereographically onto a palm-sized image; a minute representation of things far larger. This useful device helped kickstart a heritage of trade and in Singapore and established it as a centre of a global trading network.

Such artistic devices highlight the travel-yearning and curiosity of past peoples. Similarly, at Baëlf, our experiments with technologies and techniques characterise our search for knowledge and enlightenment through art, science, and the spiritual.

Baëlf Design is intrigued by the idea of the micro and macrocosm, that within the human body lies a meta-physical map of the universe. We explore how we may use the intriguing line-play of these maps to encapsulate the human body, to convey larger-than-life visual spectacles, literal embodiments of the cosmos and forged pathways seen from humanity's viewpoint.

This collection represents our tiny efforts to make sense of the intangible, of things far larger than our physical selves.



The Astrolabe and Singapore's Heritage as a Port City.



Photo credit to National Archives Singapore

This Astrolabe was one of the earliest analogue mathematical devices employed by Muslim travellers from the 8th to the 17th century. As one of the most important scientific instruments for maritime trade, it kickstarted the heritage of trade and crossing of cultures, with Singapore as one of the centres of a global trading network where cultures and civilisations interact.

This fashion collection, 'Mindful Intersections: Charting the Course Less Travelled' is also a commentary of Singapore's heritage as a global, multicultural cosmopolitan port city. It studies Singapore's interconnections with the world and the constant flow of people and practices, and harnesses nautical elements as visual motifs, such as latitudinal and longitudinal coordinates of maritime networks, geographical topological maps and Kevin Wave patterns created by ships navigating through our waters.





Baëlf designer Jamela has always been frustrated by the limitations of her human mind and inadequacy of hand sketches in capturing her ideas. Convinced that the kind of intricacy that intrigues her can only be achieved with the help of computers, all the dresses in the collection were built virtually. Not only does it streamline the 3D printing fabrication, the dresses will also be Metaverse ready.

The project has a parametric design approach, with the digital mannequin as a topological reference to position hundreds of structural elements to aid the building of organic forms, smooth surfaces and transitions. As the base silhouettes are modified by altering a series of parameters, the sizes and layouts of the individual components on the garment façades will vary and adjust simultaneously in real time.



20:31 GMT +8 ■ PANTONE 6C
Velvety Black Abyss with Glittery Beams
Jewelled with Pallid Moons and Sensual Orbs



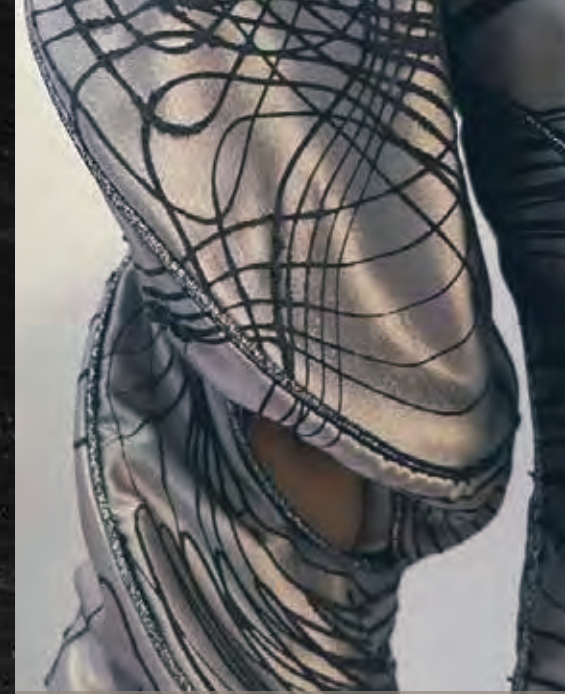
^ 3D Printed Chrome Choker connected to Silver Rings and Chest Adornment

~ Helical Sleeves composed of Polyester Mesh Fabric with air cleaning 3D structures extending outwards





02:45 GMT +8 ■ PANTONE 425C
Constellations of Stars and Boats - Guiding, Gilding
Transient Lines Filling up Space and Time



^ Vortex Sleeves with accentuating, sensual cut-out hole



✓ Dress Panels are meticulously joined such that the silkscreen printed lines align as much as possible



04:36 GMT +8  PANTONE 420C
Dynamic Tracks Gaining Traction
Along the Coast on a Summer night.




^ The lines composing the dress are based on ship routes around Singapore island, which were manipulated digitally prior to 3D printing

✓ 10cm Heels with 3D printed details inspired by Complex Dynamics





11:42 GMT +8  PANTONE 621C

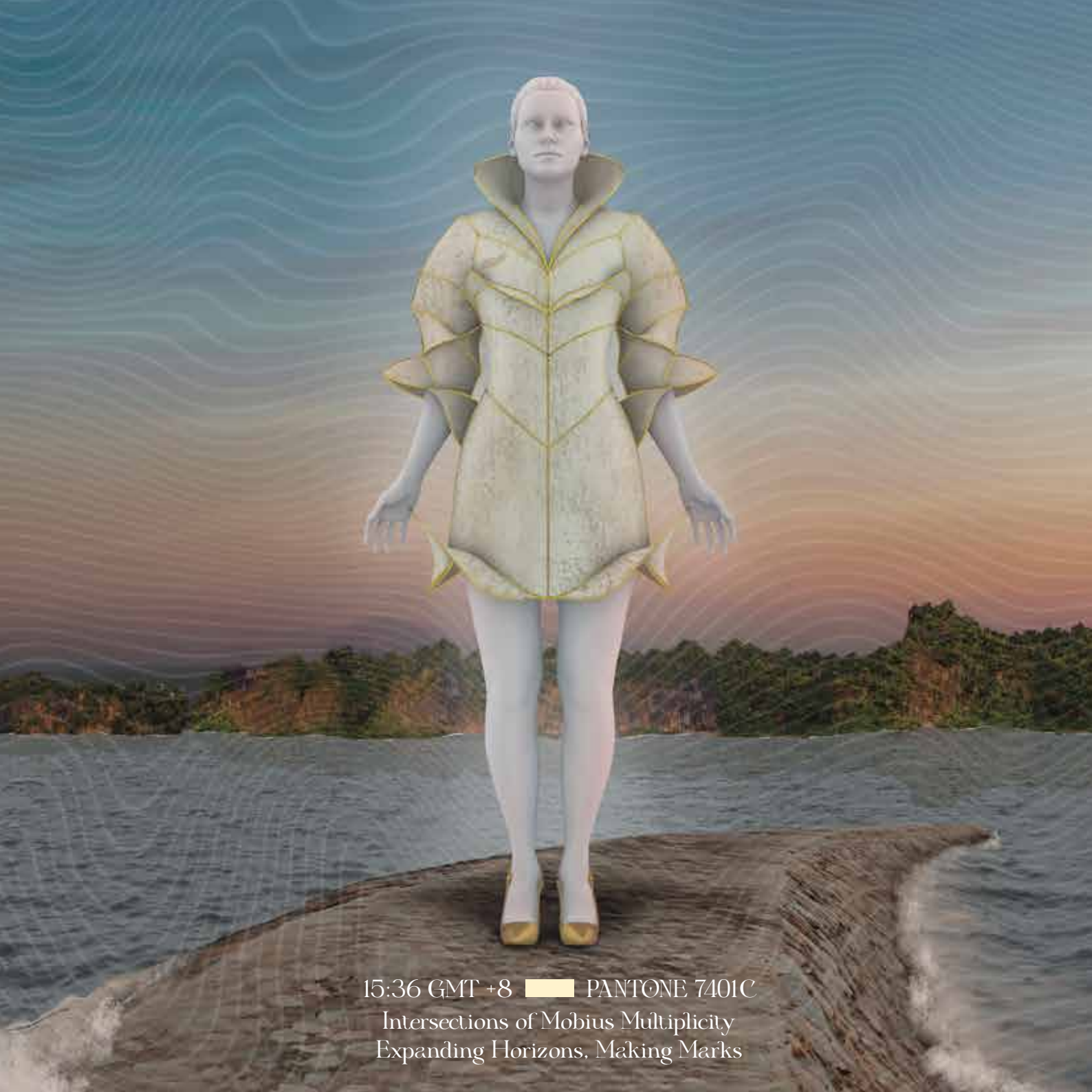
We are the Arcs and Angles, Slides and Planes
Studying our Arithmetic Purpose



^ Soft, flexible reliefs deposited onto polyester mesh fabric. Metallic silver piping are sandwiched between panels.

∨ Strong pyramidal structure on model's back, shaped with malleable steel wire





15:36 GMT +8 ■ PANTONE 7401C

Intersections of Mobius Multiplicity
Expanding Horizons, Making Marks



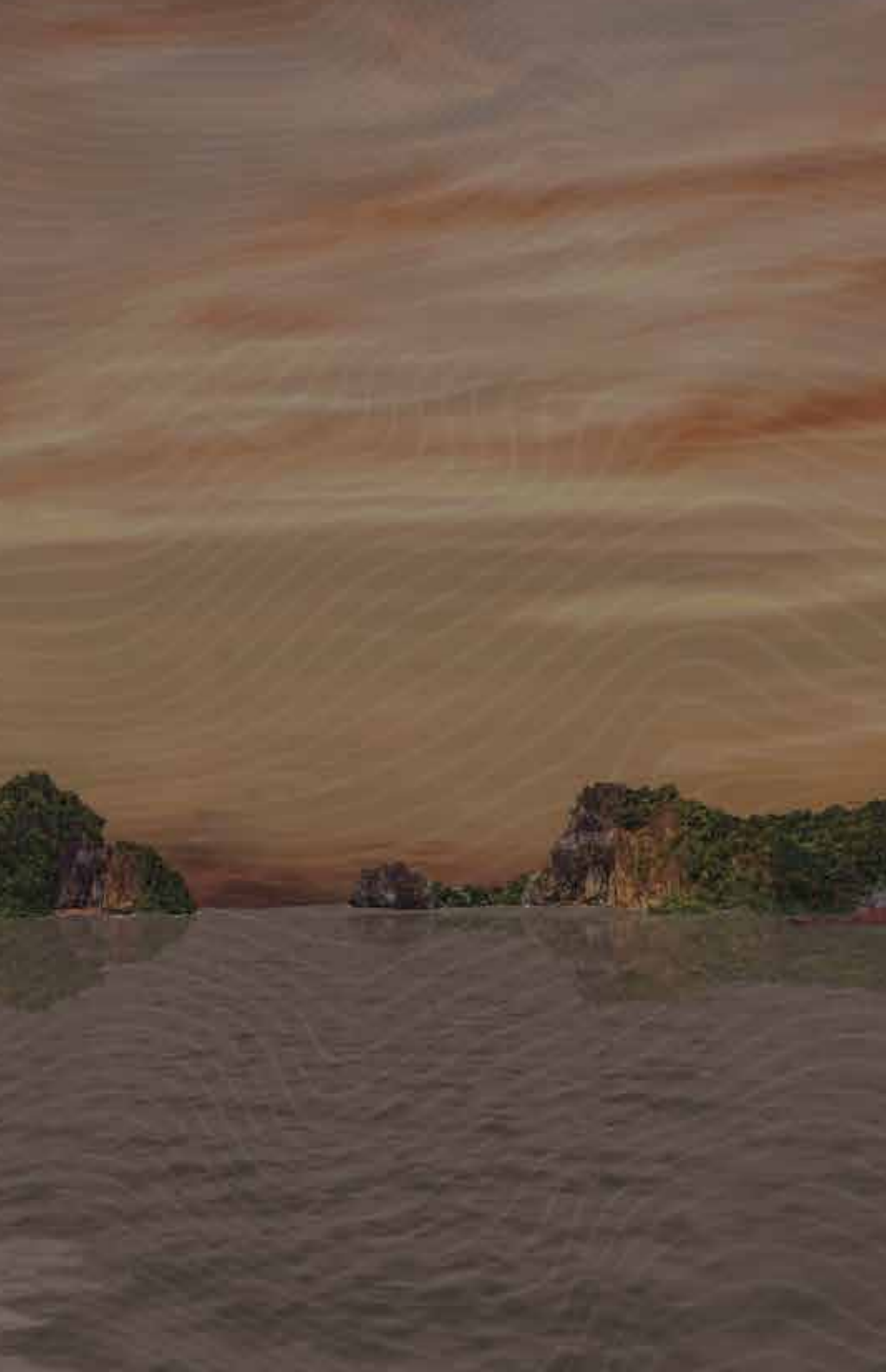
^ Details on footwear heel resulting from warping and interlocking two sets of radiating rings

✓ Sleeve details referenced after the Möbius Strip, a symbol of infinity depicted as an endless path





18:48 GMT +8  PANTONE 1245C
Celeste Shines from Apostolic Height
Inherited by Souls with Goldenly Gleams



^ Gold piping highlights Mountain folds, while Valley folds are without



~ Protruding Spines mimic Radiating Sun Beams



20:31 GMT +8



02:45 GMT +8



04:36 GMT +8



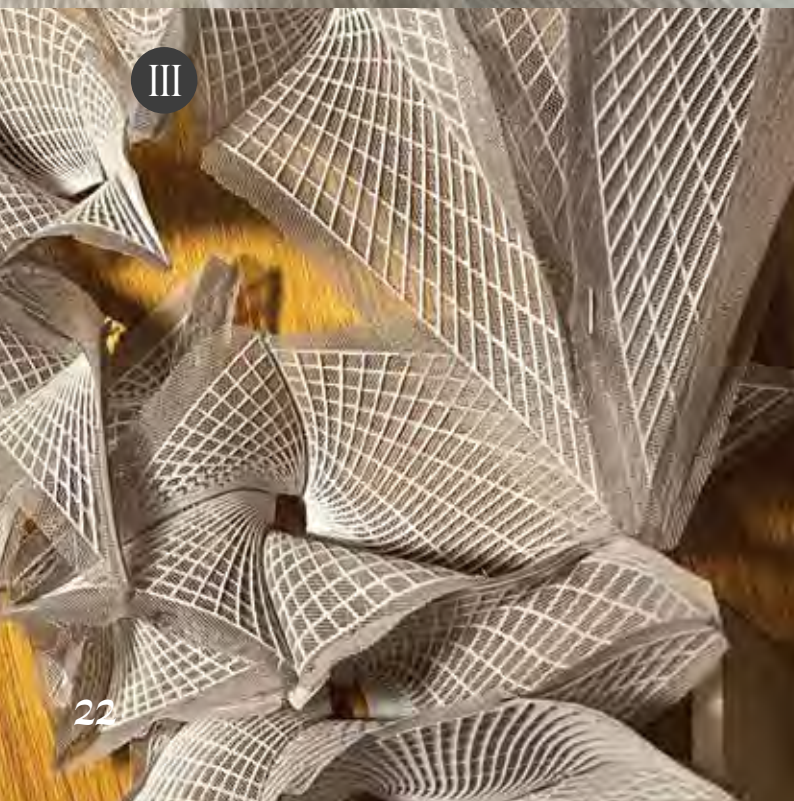
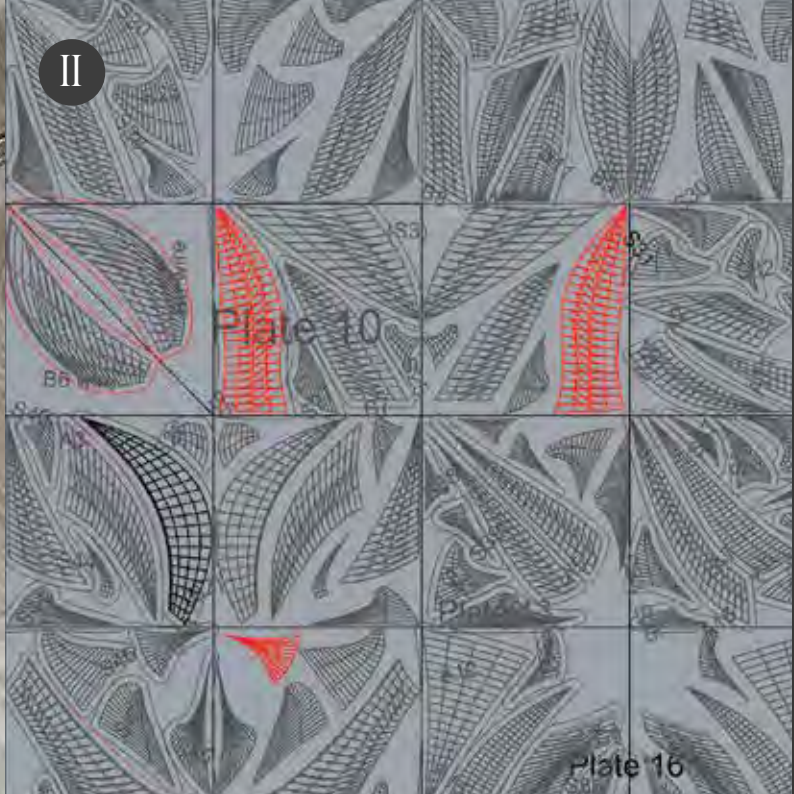
11:42 GMT +8



15:36 GMT +8



18:48 GMT +8



MATERIALS & TECHNOLOGY

I. FILAMENT-BASED FUSED DEPOSITION MODELLING (FDM)

3D printing offers a wide range of affordable, eco-friendly materials at our disposal. For instance, corn starch based PLA is biodegradable. The flexible material used is obtained from recycled origins and Bio resin made from soy bean oil for Stereolithography (SLA) printing is also explored.

III. ADVANCED 3D SOFTWARE

offer accurate rendered previews and material consumption estimate, eliminating the need for toiles and ensures efficiently

II. RESTORATIVE DESIGN

is the reversal of damage caused mostly by human activities. Air cleaning additives are added to the dress materials to break down greenhouse gases and Volatile Organic Compounds into environmental friendly minerals.

IV. SELECTIVE LASER SINTERING (SLS)

uses lasers to fuse together nylon powder to create sturdy yet flexible, complex forms, bringing forth mathematically derived shapes that previously could only exist in digital space.



The FDM process can be interactive, allowing users to pause a print at certain layers to manipulate its form/ switch material/ sandwich materials like fabric.



In designing small, modular components, the resultant structures and connections of the dresses allows convenient adjustment of garment forms, and ease of repair if a section gets damaged due to wear and tear.



Intrigued by the idea of the microcosm and macrocosm, that within the human body lies a meta-physical map of the universe. Baëlf wants to explore how we may use the fascinating line-play of sea trading routes to encapsulate the human body, to convey larger-than-life visual spectacles, literal embodiments of the cosmos and forged pathways seen from humanity's viewpoint.

Baëlf's dresses are vessels that can bring individuals together. We are all sailors looking for something in life, be it to forge our future happiness or to navigate a successful career. We are on board the same ship, with similar hopes and fears. And so, in this collection Jamela hopes to represent our tiny efforts to make sense of the intangible, of things far larger than our physical selves.



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@poeticreature

www.baelfdesign.com

Disclaimer

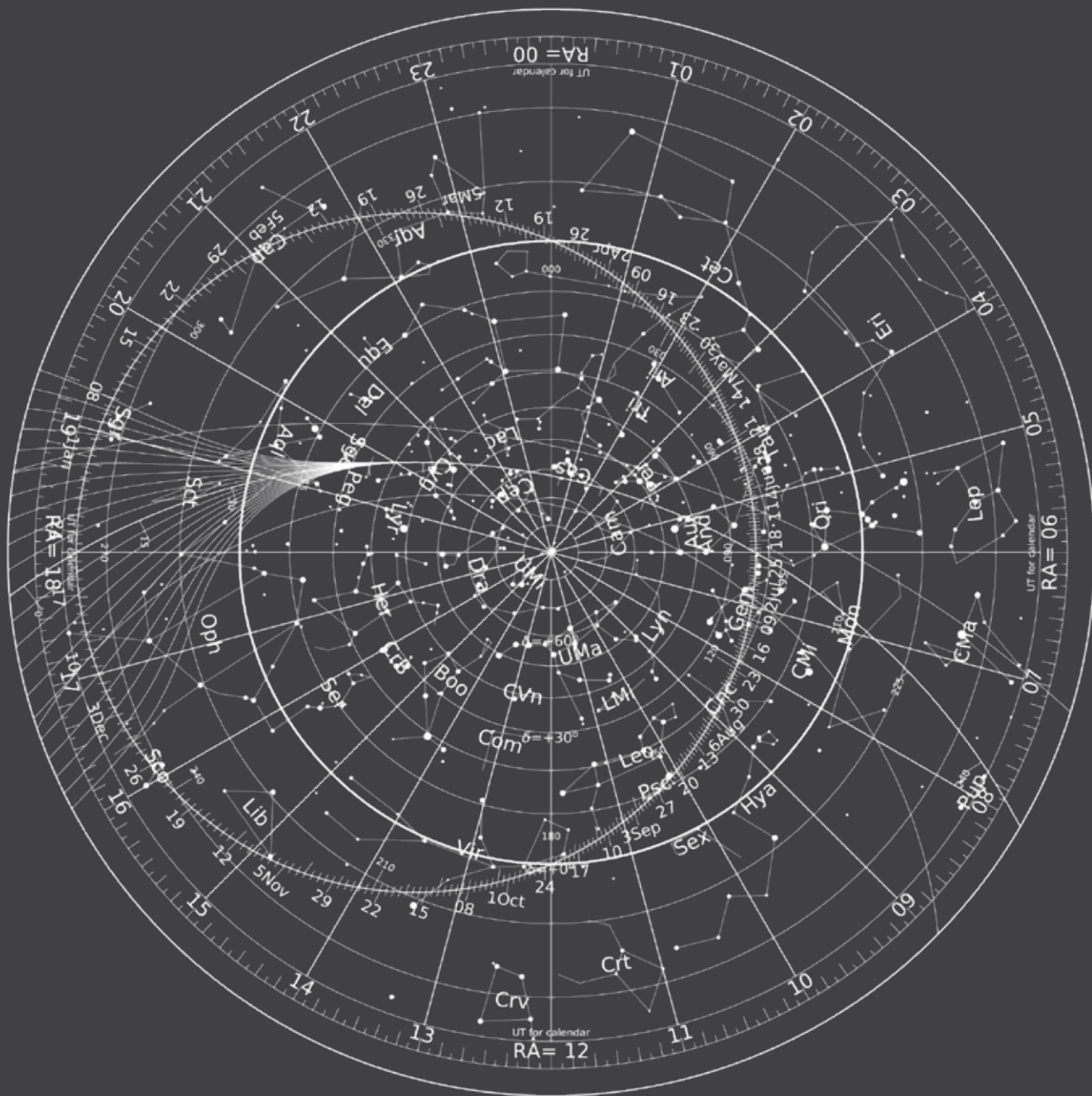
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Collection by Baelf Design

Lookbook Designed by
Muhammad Noor Affif
Diploma in Visual Communication
School of Design & Media

Singapore
Fashion
Council

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THE INNOVATIVE POLYTECHNIC



BAELF DESIGN