

THE RENAISSANCE





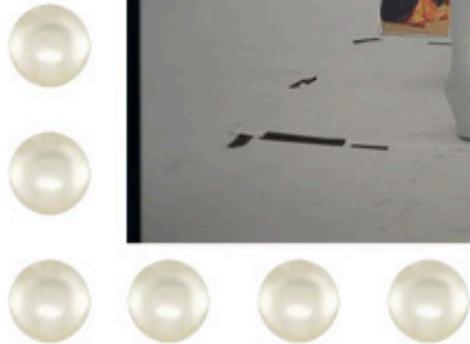
The Renaissance was a time of cultural, artistic, political and economic rebirth for Europe after the Middle Ages. It is often credited in bridging the gap between the Middle Ages and the modern day. The period although began in Humanism within the 14th century. This concept believed that man was the center of his own universe and thus spurred allowed for communication throughout Europe to grow exponentially and ideas were spread at a never before seen Royal families were still regarded as the world's highest category of p



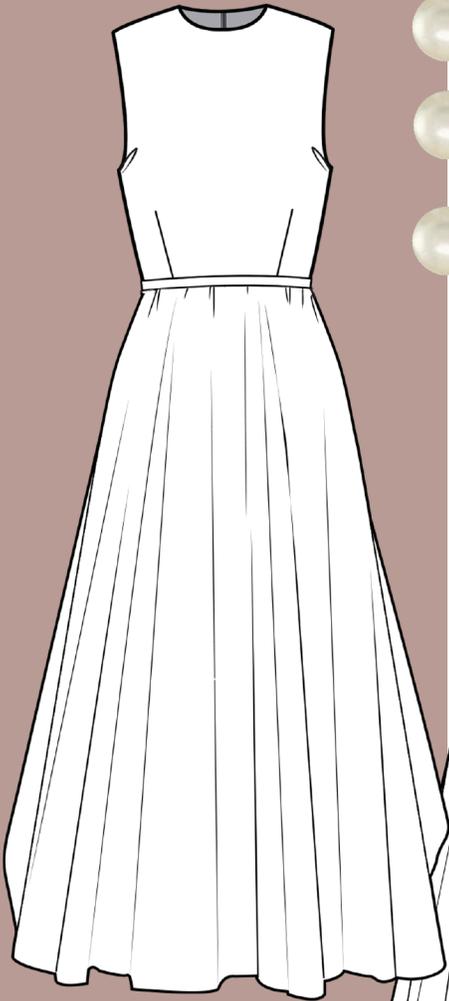
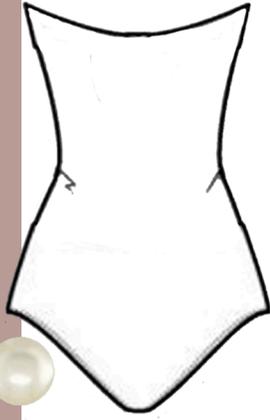
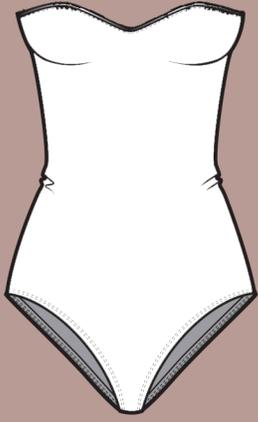
was an era in which some of history's greatest thinkers such as Da Vinci, Galileo, and Filippo Brunelleschi thrived and a time of destruction, pandemics and famine known as the Dark Ages soon grew to adopt the cultural movement of the Renaissance. This era saw an embrace of education, classical arts, literature, and science. Technology such as the Gutenberg printing press was developed. Although beliefs were changing, religion was being questioned and people were becoming more educated. The fashion of the time was as extravagant as ever.



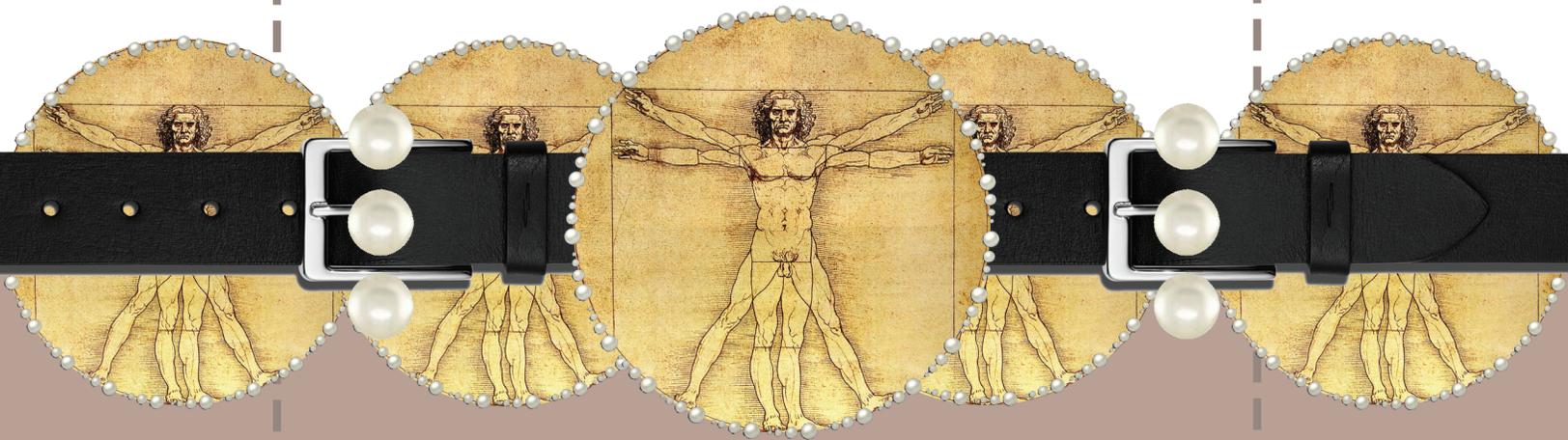
The renaissance style is known to be highly intricate and often exaggerated in nature. Although fashion varied from region to region, particularly within women's fashion, tight-fitting bodices which exaggerated a women's breast combined with full skirts were famous throughout Europe and Germany. During 1530-1575 German women favored full yet gathered skirts while in Northern European countries it was fashionable to wear a more structured inverted cone-shaped version with a bodice that overlaps the skirt creating deep V-shaped waistline. For the purpose of my design, I decided to modernize the look of the fitted bodice through creating a tight-fitting bodysuit that is visible through a sheer floor length gown. The bodysuit is low cut and strapless with a slight sweetheart neckline to showcase the wearers' breasts similar to that of the styles during the Renaissance.







Furthermore, the fact that the bodysuit is shown under a sheer gown accentuates the wearer's buttocks through showing a little more skin whereas during the late Renaissance the highlighting of the female behind would be done using bum rolls that exaggerated the women's shape under her gown. Moreover, the sheer dress worn over the bodysuit is fitted to the waist as to create a silhouette similar to Dior's New Look which is more prevalent in today's fashions but still resembles that of the Renaissance due to the fitted top and gathered full skirt. The gown also has a high neckline as a nod to the Elizabethan ruff.



Although the outfit created is women's wear as it is 2019 I decided to implement some of the men's silhouettes into the overall look. Firstly, I created a wide jacket with puff sleeves as a nod to Henry the VIII's well-known style, as well as added leather straps as a reference to the many wars, fought on horseback throughout the time. I finally accessorized with thigh-high tall leather boots to mimic the look of men's tight hose worn between 1500-1515 throughout the Northern Renaissance.





In terms of fabric, I decided to add a beaded collar to the jacket to emulate the importance of jewelry within the time period and used a muted pale pink brocade combined with a pale green check to showcase the intense divide between the classes. Finally, the sheer beaded textile of the dress with the rows of horizontal ribbon is not only representative of the popular farthingale undergarment and the ornamental nature of Renaissance fashion, but also is a reflection of women's empowerment today. Although the past inspires the entire outfit, women today have more rights than ever before. We are free to show or not show our bodies as we please and in turn, have the right to decide what we want to do with them. Therefore the sheer fabric is a way in which we can take, embrace and own our sexuality which wasn't possible for the women of the Renaissance due to the patriarchal nature of society.





BY ALYSSA ADVANTO