MASTER COLLECTIONS



<u>Name</u>: Uliana Dobrovskaya

Country: Russia
Age: 22

Collection: Elegance in motion

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This collection has a coming-of-age narrative, focusing on the weight of expectations when entering the corporate world. Wanting to make a captivating, graceful entrance, capturing everyone's attention and admiration, yet what if I stumble in front of everyone? That's what we all think on our first day at a new job or on the day we have our first work interview. We get nervous, get lost in the unusual corridors, our beautiful makeup smudges. Although wait, it wasn't intended to happen like that. It is a juxtaposition of desires, ambitions, and insecurities.

The feeling I want to portray in this collection is an attempt to be an ideal, on a quest for professional success and approval, the girl with a perfect tight ponytail, which at the most unsuitable moment falls apart. Ultimately, this collection is not about perfection but the raw authenticity that lies beneath. It portrays a living, touching, and slightly clumsy girl navigating through insecurities and ambitions, on the quest to embody an ideal. She finds realness, embracing her imperfections, and uncovering her true self.



Name: XueHu Zhang

<u>Age</u>: 25

Country: China

Collection: Anemoia

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My MA collection is an exploration of the intersection between nostalgia, surrealism, and perception. The concept of anemoia captures a deeply human emotion, a longing for a past we never experienced but somehow feel connected to. Pairing this with the eerie sensation of 'liminal space' aesthetics creates a hauntingly beautiful atmosphere, where the familiar becomes unfamiliar.

The garments I've designed evokes a sense of craftsmanship and artistry, with textures reminiscent of low-poly game graphics, and silhouettes that play with perspective, blurring the lines between two and three dimensions. The use of darkening and deepening edge shadows adds depth and mystery, drawing the viewer deeper into this abstracted reality.

I dive deep into the analogy of childhood artistry, where we simplify and distort reality through our perception. It speaks to the power of perspective and belief in shaping our understanding of the world around us. This power is harnessed to create a new reality, one that is as real as it is imagined.

I hope to offer a journey through the layers of memory, perception, and imagination, inviting viewers to explore the boundaries of what is real and what is imagined.



Name: Pommie Dierick

Country: Belgium

Age: 27

Collection: WILD HORSES RUN FREE

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WILD HORSES RUN FREE embraces the determined spirit of femininity and strength. Drawing inspiration from the raw, untamed rock'n roll energy of two of my icons Grace Jones and Betty Davis, this collection is a tribute to challenge societal norms and expectations and create your own path with audacity and grace.

The collection is built up by stripes. Initially symbolizing limitations, they evolve into symbols of strength and uniqueness. I experimented many different ways to use striped patterns to create a graphical line throughout the collection.

WILD HORSES RUN FREE symbolizes mental freedom. A reminder to break free from societal constraints and embrace our wildest dreams.



Name: Briac Tremolieres

Age: 25

Country: France

Collection: A Garden by the Sea

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I know a little garden-close, Set thick with lily and red rose, Where I would wander if I might, From dewy morn to dewy night, And have one with me wandering. And though within it no birds sing, And though no pillared house is there, And though the apple-boughs are bare, Of fruit and blossom, would to God, Her feet upon the green grass trod, And I beheld them as before. There comes a murmur from the shore, And in the close two fair streams are. Drawn from the purple hills afar, Drawn down unto the restless sea: Dark hills whose heath-bloom feeds no bee, Dark shore no ship has ever seen, Tormented by the billows green. Whose murmur comes unceasingly, Unto the place for which I cry. For which I cry both day and night, For which I let slip all delight, Whereby I grow both deaf and blind, Careless to win, unskilled to find, And quick to lose what all men seek. Yet tottering as I am and weak, Still have I left a little breath,

To seek within the laws of death.

An entrance to that happy place, To seek the unforgotten face, Once seen, once kissed, once reft from me, Anigh the murmuring of the sea.

William Morris



Name: Jinny Song

Country: South Korea,
United States of America

Age: 27

Collection: Mother's Milk

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My master's collection began with my return to Los Angeles after a four-year absence, reflecting on the formative years I spent there since age five and the complex dynamics of my relationship with my mother.

Within this collection lies an exploration of the love and healing shared between a mother and her child—an ode to the celebration of my own mother, a woman with her own life story. Drawing inspiration from the Virgin of Willendorf, the primal symbol of maternal figures and the origins of historical deities, I focused on crafting fabric treatment with meaning. These treatments embody the emotions evoked within me when contemplating my mother and the essence of motherhood itself. The interplay of sheer fabrics, overlaying forms and masses signifies the generational transfer of emotional trauma—a silent legacy carried forward across time. My wish is to celebrate this lifelong connection, filled with significance, echoing the eternal tie between a mother and her cherished offspring.



Name: Sofia Hermens Fernandez

<u>Country</u>: Germany, Spain, The Netherlands

Age: 23

Collection: Semiotics of Girlhood

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When we think of girlhood, we are impelled to look at representations and images of girls for what will be recognised as girlhood in society.

My collection circles around the semiotics of Western girlhood, whereby I am particularly interested in how these images can be subverted into a feminist attitude through the use of handcraft. The process of reclaiming the concept of girlhood stands in the context of its marginalisation in patriarchal societies.

With my collection I give my own take on a subversive form of girlhood in fashion, while aiming to play a part in opening girlhood as a creative attitude for more identities to embrace.

I hope to reinterpret girlhood as a producer of culture that offers conceptual reflections on contemporary femininity.



Name: Mert Serbest
Country: Turkey
Age: 27

Collection: Third Finger

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What is freedom?

Maybe a journey, like a Silk Road, trying to find a place for my carpet in a field in this chaotic, manipulative world full of forces, institutions, and labels.

There are some restrictions that we faced and still facing on this road which is shaping us in a cage full of labels.

It takes inspiration from the idea of the 'Panopticon' by Jeremy Bentham from the mid-1700s, an invented social control mechanism that would become a comprehensive symbol for modern authority in the world. A prison system was developed by Michel Foucault where he expanded the idea into a symbol of social control that extends into everyday life for all citizens.

They want to shape you in this corrupted, self-oriented, and power-based world to become someone according to their rules in this game. This started from my early memories of my childhood. As I come from a country between east and west, Turkey, is based on the culture "What x would say and think about me?"

This question point triggers me also here. Why can't I be everything? Why should I be stuck in those stereotypes? In this aspect, the collection is searching for in-betweenness. Between soft and hard, powerful and weak, big and small, etc..

It is a collection that is questioning, and protesting the institutions, power, religion, restrictions, and rules.. that I started facing during my childhood till today.

In the end, we thought we were the kings and princesses in our homes trying to convince ourselves that we are free out of 1255.... same blocked houses of fake kingdoms in a world full of restrictions.



<u>Name</u>: Yuhei Ueda <u>Country</u>: Japan

<u>Age</u>: 27

Collection: Still Life

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Espresso in Rome, whole milk in Spakenburg, fresh orange juice in Paris, I realized the real taste of ingredients I had never noticed before.

This experience came back to me in daily life, and I remember each experience was valuable for me.

It was a luxury moment to realize the essence of ingredients, lost in developing products such as instant coffee, skimmed milk and orange flavour juice.

To find out what the essence of 'modern fashion' has lost, I looked at pre-industrial garments and fabrics. I believe it would be another suggestion if I could bring the experiences that I had above through clothing.

For my master collection, I made it with natural fabrics such as wool, linen, silk, and cotton. I referred to cutting techniques of workwear such as aprons, smocks, and chore coats to use materials as much as I could. I also dyed some of my works partly and translated the essence of designs from the red-striped kitchen towels.

These towels show a commitment to design and material that was passed down through generations, in spite of a rapidly changing time. In my collection, I continue this commitment to deliver a feeling of quality and luxury.



Name: Margot Verstuyft

Country: Belgium

Age: 27

Collection: curtain call

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curtain call is a tribute to the power and beauty of dance.

This fall, I went to Sharon Eyal's pulsating 'Half Life' and witnessed how dance serves as a universal expression, seamlessly intertwining the diverse strands of humanity. I fell in love with the dancers, their self-expression, their physicality and their unwavering commitment to the movement. I wanted to dress those quirky dancers.

Researching how garments move, I tried to bring that movement into every garment — drawing inspiration from contemporary dance pioneers such as Pina Bausch, Martha Graham, Isadora Duncan, and Loïe Fuller. Additionally, the timeless elegance of ballet really captivated me, in particular the world behind the scenes. From the raw, unfiltered beauty of rehearsals to the intricate layers of knitwear, leg warmers and the charm of pointe shoes. curtain call is a celebration of the body in motion.



Name: Leo Emanuelli
Country: France

Age: 25

Collection: Fully Loaded

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Last summer, I worked as a salesperson in a shoe shop in Paris, specifically on Saint Honoré street, one of the city's most luxurious areas.

Throughout the day, I had the chance to see elegant women strolling on the street or coming into the shop. I really enjoyed this experience because it allowed me to observe everything about these ladies, from their attitude to the way they were dressed.

At the same time, just a few meters away, there was a burglary where almost 100 million euros worth of jewelry were stolen. It was very interesting to witness this kind of criminal activity happening in such a serene and refined environment. Seeing these men, dressed in black with guns and motorcycles, in the middle of historical buildings and five-star hotels created a striking contrast.

From this moment, I started reflecting on the relationship between luxury and the rest of the world, especially the working class. Luxury items are often seen as status symbols, boosting self-esteem and signaling achievement, something that people from lower classes may feel they lack.

For example, I remember how when I was younger, I thought that rappers flaunting expensive cars and high-end branded outfits were the epitome of success. So in this collection, I tried to elevate the elements that surrounded me growing up in a working class family, and to give them a feeling of luxury, not necessarily in quality but mainly in attitude. I tried to blur the idea of social status, to blend roughness with elegance, creating a contrast between different atmospheres and merging them to form a new unity.



Name: Jieun Lee

Country: South Korea

Age: 34

Collection: YOU CAN SIT WITH US

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My master collection is a reflection of my childhood memories. At the age of 16, I moved to New Zealand and began attending school. As one of the few Asians in my class and struggling with English, I often felt like an outsider and like a lonely island. During this period, I stumbled upon the unifying power of 'uniforms'.

Despite our diverse backgrounds, wearing uniforms provided me with comfort during my time in school. This realization ignited my fascination with preppy and Ivy League looks.

Inspired by this experience, I aim to combine this concept with the couture looks of the 1950s. Here, uniforms represent my own identity, while couture signifies the fashion environment surrounding me.

This collection is also intertwined with the time I spent in Antwerp. It symbolizes gratitude for the friendships and love of all those who have always supported me.

It paradoxically signifies the liberation from my childhood traumas, as it demonstrates that I can connect with the people I love, even without wearing uniforms, speaking the same language, or belonging to the same race.



Name: Gabrielle Szwarcenberg

Age: 23

Country: Belgium

Collection: A4

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Paper is our daily accomplice—it captures thoughts in scribbled notes, conceals secrets in folded envelopes, and narrates stories through dog-eared corners.

Its fonts, hues, and patterns bear the graphic fingerprints of history, silently telling stories on office documents, magazines, receipts, menus, greeting cards, and newspapers.

My ephemeral collection explores childhood pursuits as a rite of passage, celebrating the ingenious and imaginative ways we entertain ourselves with commonplace iconography.

From a string becoming a cat's cradle figure to sandcastles rising from grains, paper joins in our playful exploits. With a few strategic folds, any found scrap can transform into a revealing fortune teller or soaring paper airplane.

Beyond its flighty whimsy, paper is a versatile vessel for information, a medium for prototyping models, and a blank canvas for geometry. I'm fascinated by its adaptability, frozen in time with annotations, tape remnants, and instructions— echoing the labour invested in copying and reworking existing designs.



Name: Guillaume Gossen

Country: Belgium

Age: 22

Collection: Deers in headlights

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An ode to the garments that make us, wrap us, twist us in the wonders of the human touch. Spiralled in intricate fascinations. A drive to build a personal design vocabulary of garment codes. Codes and symbols that are familiar through distant entangled connections.

That of a story of imprint impressions and tactile narratives. Garments that excited our pleasures to redefine our construction of utilitarian limitations. Indulgence in the desire to gloss, twist, recut and de-thread the very notions of our references.

All dressed up with nowhere to go, the melancholic joy of primal sophistication. A deer in the headlights, caught by its own twisted spontaneous attractions.



Name: Byeongho Lee **Country: South Korea**

Age: 30

Collection: Behind Pagoda

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atmosphere.

Behind Pagoda is an attempt to reinterpret the characteristics of the neighborhood I grew up in with a cinematic

I was very inspired by the underdeveloped street and market where my parents' store was located. In the place, various working-class people and homeless gathered around the very old park.

Old buildings and streets around there were reminiscent of a dystopia of the cyberpunk. So, My work heavily referenced the visual beauty of 'Blade Runner 1987', which is set in the slums of an oriental future city.





Name: Rohan Kale Steinmeyer

Country: Germany, India, **United States of America**

Age: 23

Collection: CONTACT

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My collection, CONTACT, is dedicated to the people and places that raised me. It is a dedication to my German, American and Indian heritage, and the 'cut-and-paste' identities that excite me.

Through fashion, we see how intertwined clothing and cultural identity are. The way we dress expresses our values, our histories and how we relate to each other. We build relationships with clothing that negotiate between self-expression and repression, assimilating and celebrating, honesty and fantasy.

In this collection, I analyze these relationships we've built with, for example, that shirt we wear to work everyday, those jeans we drag through mud, or that dress we wear to every party, because we know that someone will compliment us. This collection is how I relate to the people and clothing around me, and how I celebrate them too.



<u>Name</u>: Sofia Rodriguez Rodriguez

Country: Belgium, Spain

Age: 23

Collection: Broken Tooth

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With BROKEN TOOTH, I wanted to show what life could look like when a severe control freak like me loses sense of control for a while and thus enters a state of fear for the

I grabbed some tarot-cards to guide me in my life and put rose quartz under my pillow to protect me from the nightmares that haunt me during the nights of panic.

Those nightmares, driving my car off a bridge into the Schelde at sunset or spitting out my teeth that have fallen out, show me things my brain develops when I don't control it.

Conceptually I tried to translate this feeling in garments that almost seem to burst out their seams. I combined these pieces with voluminous fabric manipulations. A visual representation of the feeling that says "I AM TRYING TO KEEP IT TOGETHER". An explosion from the inside out. This collection is a walk through the dense forest that is my brain, as well as my love for craftsmanship.



Name: Tim Wirth

<u>Country</u>: Switzerland, Germany

Age: 25

Collection: n0thing n3w

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n0thing n3w questions the necessity to pursue innovation and uniqueness in fashion design. What determines a garment's worth? Is it the pursuit of innovation or fostering emotional connections? Furthermore, it feels like there's enough fashion already; what's more to bring to the table?

I believe that innovative, thus unique designs aren't inherently better. Therefore, I want to create something not for novelty value but for the sake of connection. To create vehicles for emotional discourse. I draw inspiration from the people next door and everyday attires. I am referencing the overlooked - garments that are quite the opposite of innovative; basic utilitarian uniforms, everyday clothes, staples and other Norm-core garments. By infusing these familiar garments with a sense of mystery and significance, I hope to provoke thought and revive appreciation for simpler fashion.



Name: Peiwen Mao
Country: China

Age: 28

Collection: MADE IN JUNGLE

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MADE IN JUNGLE

On childhood, recovery, self, and the body

In the legend of India, the leopard is a solitary animal that lives in isolation, once he got diseases such as jungle fever and is dying, his shadow will appear, leave the body and transform into a black panther, hunting and fending off enemies until his body recovers.

After that the black panther cannot turn back into his shadow. It inspires me the mirror principle where details reflect the whole, fantasy reflects reality, animality reflects man and vice versa.

"You don't have to worry about being influenced by others, she will only make you become your true self."