Patterns in Nature -

Name of Authors
Katelynn Weger

Primary Author’s Discipline
Fashion Design

Primary Author’s Standing
Senior

Primary Author’s College and Department
College of the Arts

Research Category
Art/ Fashion

Mentor
Linda Ohrn-McDaniel
Associate Professor, Fashion Design
lohrn@kent.edu

Mentor
Janice Lessman-Moss
Associate Professor, Textile Arts
jlessman@kent.edu

Abstract

The purpose of this study was to explore how personal aesthetics and interruptions of nature’s spirals could be incorporated through the development of a Fall/Winter women’s clothing collection for a designer brand. Research was developed on spirals in nature and the equality found in the human body’s radical movement relevant to the golden rule. The spiral pattern in nature can be found in the make up of pedals found on a flower, which allows the plant to direct water to the roots in order for it to survive. The spiral in nature can also be found in the human body with the movement of limbs and joints.
In the development of the collection it was important to stay true to nature through the use of natural materials, wool and cotton, in rich earth tones. Also using a natural resist, sodium alginate, which is created by seaweed.

By creating a pattern of lines using the symmetry of body movements relative to the golden rule the relationship to nature is brought to focus in the collection. A major component in the collection focuses around the weaving of a cotton and wool fabric treated with a sodium Alginate resist. The development of texture with a twill weave structure, which has been felted after resist is applied.

**Conclusion**

The collection displays the theme of nature’s radical patterns in the use of seam work, organic shaping found in the drape and materials used throughout the garments in this fall/winter womenswear collection.
Before Felting Process
72” x 47”

After Felting Process
35” x 23”

Warp: Wool and Cotton
Weft: 2 Picks Wool/ 2 Picks Cotton

Sodium Alginate Resist in Symmetrical Pattern

This sample contains 11 different variations of textures with the testing of different weave structure and picks per inch found in the weft of the weaving.