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“ARK AT ‘ER!”

My project endeavours to efface the current and long-standing classism which is inherent to wearing a traditional suit, redefining the narrative that the straight, white, middle-class “default” man in a suit is a true representation of British society. Conversely, the Durham Miners Gala is likened by Grayson Perry to a funeral for the stoic type of working class man, which perhaps also needs to be left behind. Whilst this type of man has never governed society, they can be seen to perpetrate patriarchal force through stoicism and ‘Man up’ ethos of the working class man. This is also reflected in the photo series ‘Ray’s a Laugh’ by Richard Billingham, which presents his alcoholic step-dad ‘Ray’ in a candid and uncompromising way, within the setting of their family home in the West Midlands (where I am also from). My collection “ARK AT ‘ER!” (meaning ‘look at her’ in local dialect) is a playful exploration of the conflicting representations of ‘masculinity’ within society. This is reflected in the collection through experimental proportion and silhouette, subverted by the fact that I am designing women’s wear. My project will also consider the current social climate, particularly the idea of ‘working from home’ which involves exploring the juxtaposition between working formality and casual comforts of the home, taking reference from the print, texture and colours depicted in Richard Billingham’s photo series, but also in my own family homes.

“This poignant ceremony felt like a funeral for a sort of man, that stoic provider who worked down the mines, and perhaps it is time to let go” -

Grayson Perry



MENDING MEN'S SUITS

by

CLARICE L. SCOTT, associate home economics specialist

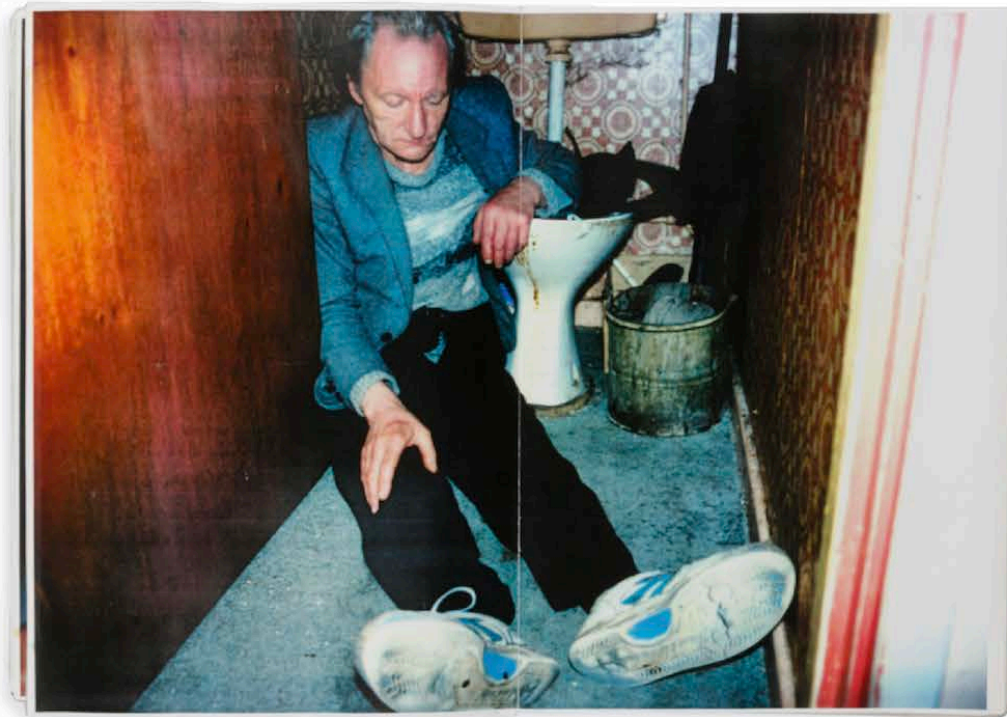
ANNE F. HAGOOD, assistant scientific aide

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oldiers—sailors—and marines fighting for us on many battlefronts need warm wool clothing. Whether they have it or not can make the difference between comfort and suffering—between life and death—between victory and defeat.

the duration, therefore, wool has become a vital war material. Civilians can make any begin at home by taking good care of the wool goods they already have—by not king demands on this country's limited supply.





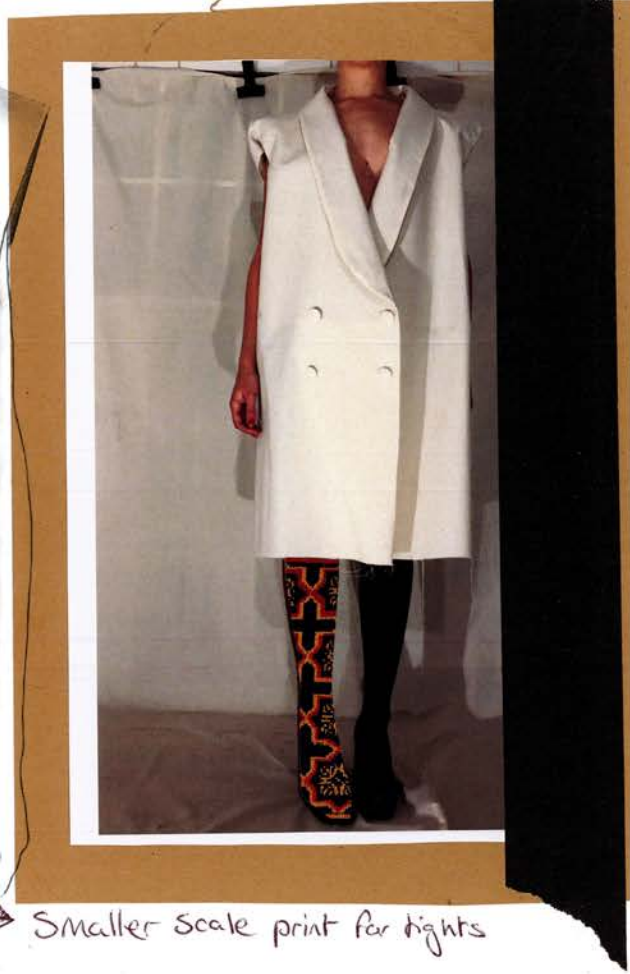
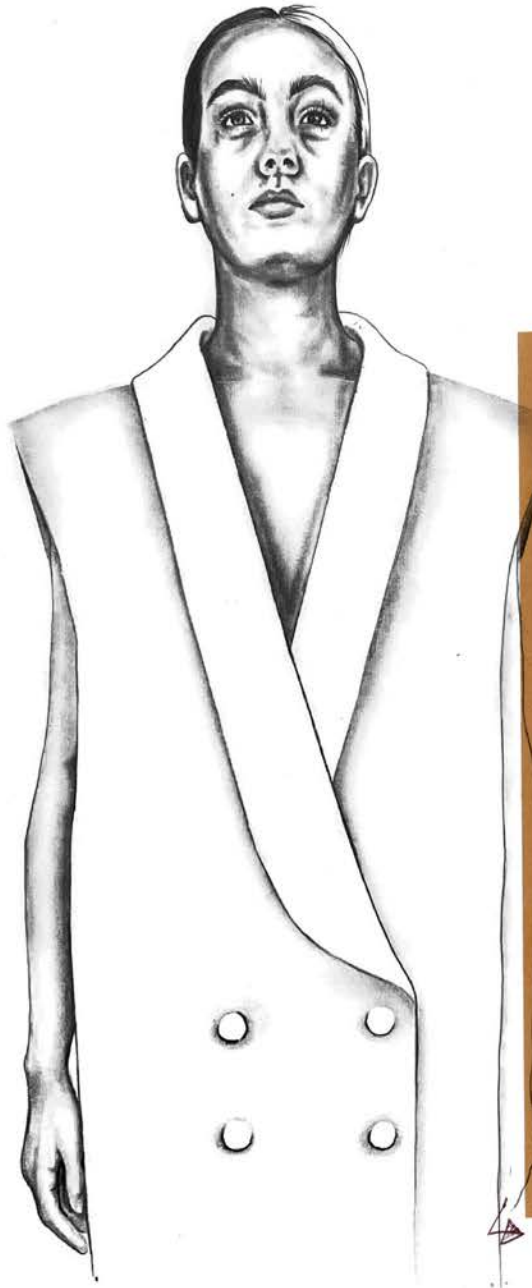
Richard Billingham: text for back of RAY'S A LAUGH

This book is about my close family. My father, Raymond, is a chronic alcoholic. He doesn't like going outside and mostly drinks homebrew.

My mother, Elizabeth, hardly drinks but she does smoke alot. She likes pets and things that are decorative. They married in 1970 and I was born soon after.

My younger brother Jason was taken into care when he was 11 but he is now back with Ray and Liz again. Recently he became a father. Ray says Jason is "unruly". Jason says "Ray's a laugh" but doesn't want to be like him.

Richard Billingham 1996



Smaller scale print for tights



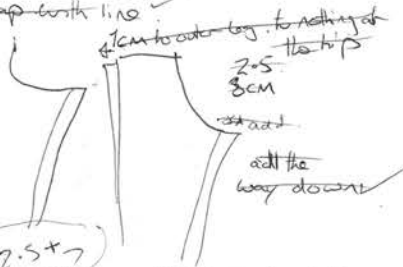
Satin for lapel + pocket flaps?

ref. Tuxedo jacket
↳ pockets?

length in fork
 ↓ creates better shape

• more crotch → add more

↳ Measure the gap → draw a line of gap with line



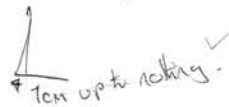
add 2.5+
 new measure?

edge sketch to back + see what is Side of back not so extreme

• add 4cm to hem

↳ press up first & do by hand

CF to fork add 1cm + run into notting at the fork

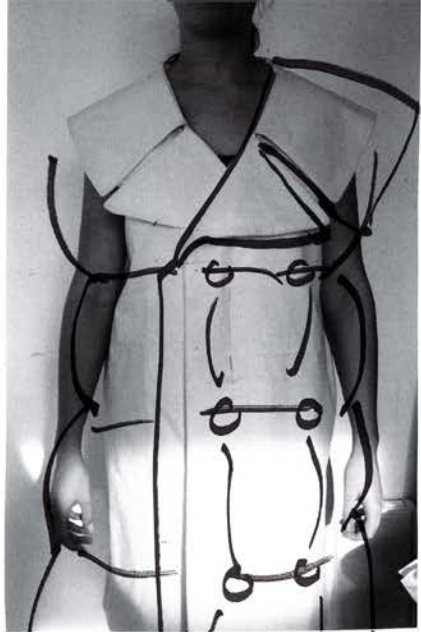


raw edge more successful



More or add additional box pleat

hemmed vs raw edge?



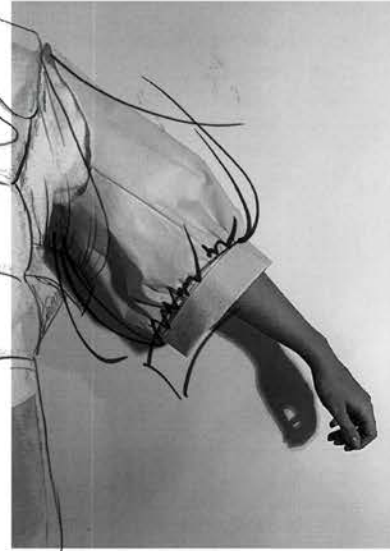
& exaggerate coat volume



← Knit tank under?



Sample for safety coat
↓

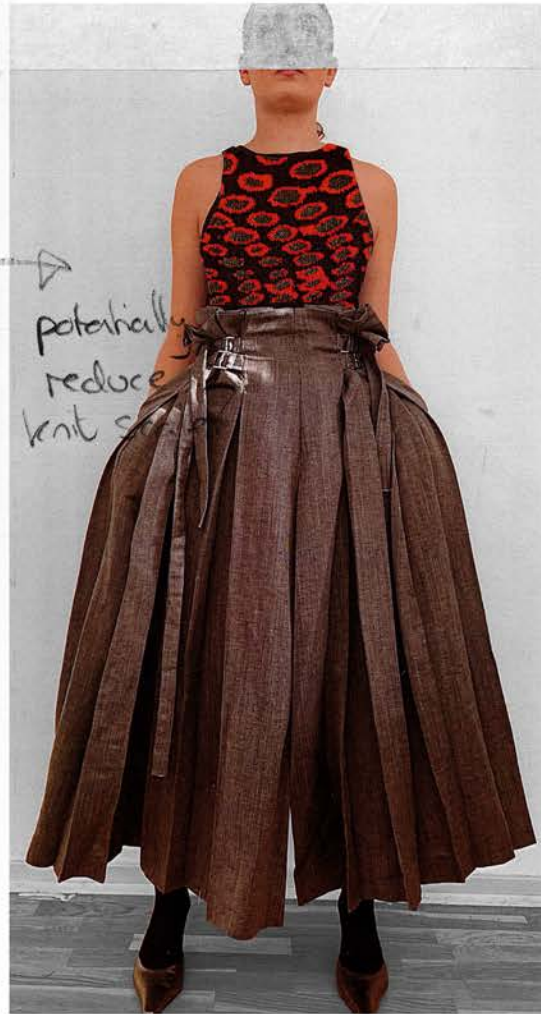


← Velvet collette?



↖ excess cinched at waist





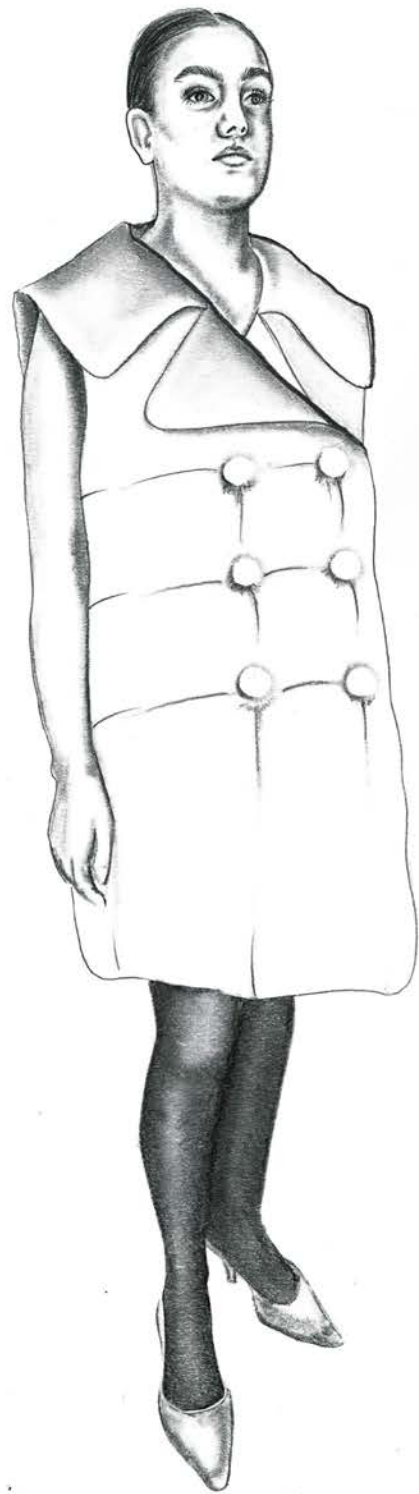
potentially
reduce
knit s



Juxtaposition
of tailoring with
local repeat prints



Sympathetic
to body
contours





look not working

cut

Better in one color -> Black? Links better to Tux jacket ref.



fights work well in this print/knit

change shoes!

Successful Knit + Scale



change colour of Trousers -> brown or green?

Waistlines too similar within collection



More volume needed -> another sofa coat could be added to the collection in leather?



Keep clashing knits

explore length of pinafore