

Clothing Design from Inspiration to Performance

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Abstract: Fashion is always updated, and people's life is more or less affected by fashion. As a fashion designer, a good design work is a good display of design ability. In the design process, how to find inspiration, from which aspects can inspiration express design, how to extract elements in design, from design inspiration to design sketch, design finished products, this paper analyzes the process from seeking design inspiration to completion through actual cases.

1. Introduction

Fashion is always updated at an unexpected speed, and fashion is a hot topic of great concern all over the world, such as popular clothing styles, popular electronic products, popular sports and lifestyle, popular languages, people's life in all aspects are more or less affected by fashion. Fashion makes people have more enthusiasm, people's desire and the change of the world are also influencing fashion. Fashion is full of competitive taste, the development of color, structure, details and new functions. All fields that need fashion pay more attention to the future trend. In order to better express their own design, as a fashion designer, good design works are a good display of design talents. In the process of design, how to design from inspiration to design sketch and finished product, this paper analyzes the process from seeking inspiration to completion through practical cases.

2. Looking for Design Inspiration

Designers need to find inspiration to express their design ideas. As Pablo Picasso put it, "inspiration does exist, but only at work." Good ideas, important actions and new solutions are the results of the process of analysis, observation, thinking and discussion.¹ It can be said that designers' inspiration comes from all aspects of our world, such as nature, technology, society and people's emotions, books, films, magazines, characters in literary works, architecture, music, stories, legends, travel, art and so on, which can provide inspiration for fashion design.

2.1 Design Inspiration Comes from Nature

Fashion designers can be inspired by the natural elements of our world, such as plants, animals, rivers, stars, mountains, icebergs, fish in the ocean, coral, waves and so on. Figure 1 Moschino's design is represented by flower elements, figure 2 Hussein Chalayan's design shows the effect of wind blowing clothes, and figure 3 Iris van Herpen's design shows the effect of water splashing.

There are many elements that can be expressed in nature. Designers will present their works in the language of clothing in combination with brand style, popular trend or innovative expression methods.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

2.2 Design Inspiration from Technology

Science and technology have changed our world greatly. Human society is becoming more and more digital and everything is developing rapidly. Fashion designers have always paid close attention to social hot spots. In recent shows, the application of science and technology elements is involved in many brands, which is also the designer's salute to science and technology. The performance of this science and technology element is often presented by the texture of the fabric, as shown in Figure 4 and Figure 5 Maison Margiela's design. When the model goes out in the windbreaker, the clothing surface materials under the light show a completely different dazzling appearance.

The application of scientific and technological elements is not only the appearance effect of fabrics, but also the performance of materials that designers like to study sometimes.



Figure 4

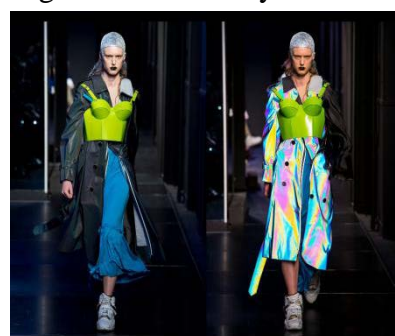


Figure 5

2.3 Design Inspiration from Society

Some new ideas, new ways of life, new things, hot events, people's hearts, sports and leisure ways in the world we live in will attract the attention of designers. Even war and environmental protection can become the inspiration source for designers to express their own design. Designers have a responsibility to pay more attention to the bad things and express the emotion of praising and saluting the good things. The design inspiration of figure 6 Comme des Garçons 2009 comes from the Gulf War, the model wears a bloody bandage on his head, and the clothing is green in the army. It is the designer's attack on the war. Figure 7 Alexander McQueen 2010 Spring ready to wear, focusing on the pattern of cherishing animal skin, expresses the designer's idea that hope the society pay more attention to endangered wildlife. In 2018, Louis Vuitton, a French luxury brand, announced that Virgil Abloh, the director of off white, a high-end Street brand, became its new art director of men's wear. The rapid popularity of street style in recent years is closely related to the current trend of fashion. Clothing has always been a reflection of the current era. When the economy is in a downturn, people tend to dress in bright colors and more striking patterns, As well as a more relaxed and comfortable silhouette, the popularity of street style is an expression of people's dissatisfaction with the current situation, desire for more freedom and pursuit of a better

life. Figure 8 off white 2020 spring Menswear, a street trend brand, shows a loose silhouette with graffiti.



Figure 6



Figure 7



Figure 8

2.4 Design Inspiration Comes from Art Form

Fashion designers will try to combine the artist's works with clothing to express this form in the language of clothing. Usually, because this new art form presents a very unique visual effect, it can break through the traditional expression way, which is amazing.

Benjamin shine, an artist in London, uses light and thin colored yarn as the creative material to create unique portraits through folding, stacking, puckering, ironing and other processes. Figure 9 designer John Galliano and artist Benjamin shine designed figure 10's works in 2017 Spring Couture Maison Margiela, which shocked the whole clothing industry and was amazing. There are many other works of cooperation between designers and artists, such as cooperation between designers and sculptors, cooperation between designers and illustrators, cooperation between designers and painters, etc. this new form of artistic expression can be a very good reference for fashion designers to express design ideas.



Figure 9



Figure 10

3. Inspiration Performance and Fashion Trend

While we are looking for inspiration in fashion design, we need to have a anticipated style for our final works, such as street style, elegant style, tough, sexy or using deconstruction techniques. We need some words to define our works, which will help us to always focus on the style of clothing in the next work, and then design Count elements for selection. At the same time, we need to pay attention to the trend of fashion in the future. This trend is the direction of the development of the whole world. We need to maintain a keen perception of some new things, and this perception can be obtained from authoritative companies that predict the world's fashion, or through self-awareness of new trends. The purpose of acquiring this trend is that our works should be contemporary. Our design works are designed for people in the current era, not for people in the past. Therefore, we should be able to properly express the popular elements of future development trend in our design, which can be presented through some visual languages, such as color, pattern, silhouette and knot Structure, style, etc.

4. Inspiration and Element Extraction

After finding inspiration, fashion designers need to present the visual elements that can give inspiration to themselves, and make an inspiration version. This inspiration version will provide reference elements such as color, texture, structure, pattern, etc. for the next work. The designer needs to analyze which elements are used in the later design, which is helpful to make clear which elements will run through the works in the whole series of design. As shown in Figure 12, the inspiration comes from the distorted state of the photo (Figure 11), Photo blurring creates a kind of conflict aesthetic feeling with order in the confusion to enrich the visual effect. It expresses a state of unknown or confused about future in young people's mind through internal and external levels and irregular structure.(Figure 12)



Figure 11



Figure 12

5. Inspiration and Material Quality

Clothing design needs to be represented by certain materials, including fabrics and accessories. Sometimes it can also be represented by some non-woven materials such as wood, glue, plastic, resin, etc. in combination with textile materials. It also needs to use a variety of processes to represent design, such as embroidery, printing and dyeing, knitting, laser carving, texture, etc.

6. Case Analysis of Inspiration Performance

6.1 Design Case Analysis 1 “the More, the Better?”

The inspiration of this series comes from the increasing number of express packages. From the perspective of environmental protection, designers consider whether we have generated a large amount of garbage in the increasingly rich materials. What harm does the express packages, buffers, plastic bags and packing boxes do to our environment? Can they be recycled? The designer has carried on a series of research with this as inspiration. (Figure 13 inspiration source)



Figure 13

6.1.1 Design Renderings

The designer takes English characters as one of the design elements, selects express “EXPRESS”’s letter elements, bar codes, and splices them with bright and full color blocks to present, which is shown in clothing and accessories. The main colors are power black and water orange, and the auxiliary colors are mainly white and chocolate, which are displayed by printing and embroidery. The main fabrics are space cotton, knitting, cashmere and so on. In terms of silhouette, the overall silhouette emphasizes exaggeration and dynamic, with simple fabric and high brightness color matching performance.(Figure 14 design renderings)



Figure 14

6.1.2 Design Ready-Made Clothes



Figure 15

6.2 Design Case Analysis 2 “Grade a”

The inspiration of this series comes from the students' chagrin because they can't remember the mathematical and chemical formula, and the pressure of students' study. In order to reflect the characteristics of the students' time, we take the report card, the work sheet, the mathematical and chemical formula on the straw paper, the curriculum, the teaching material page and so on as the expression elements. With the combination of printing and embroidery, we use the popular orange red and stable Camel gray in color, and also use the purple of different brightness and saturation to match. Camel gray tweed, sweater fabric, corduroy and PVC are selected for the fabric.



Figure 16

6.2.1 Design Renderings

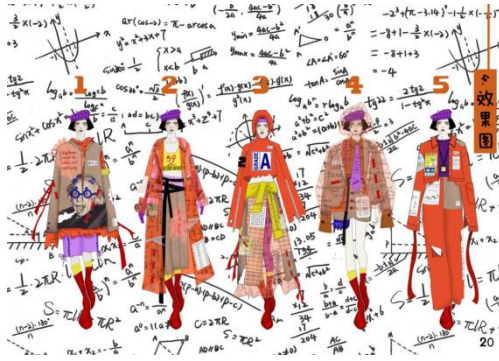


Figure 17

6.2.2 Design Ready-Made Clothes



Figure 18

Clothing is the combination of practicality, art and technology. Clothing design work is the designer's inner view of the world, through the design work, we can feel the designer's design concept and emotion. It is through the clothing design work that the stage of clothing design becomes more colorful.

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