



1922 Marchesa Luisa Casati as "Light" by Worth.

Context: Marchesa Casati was notorious for her dramatic looks, lifestyle and outlandish behavior. She was frequently dressed by her friend Leon Bakst. For this ball in Paris she was costumed by Worth. On another occasion, as Saint Sebastian, her electrically wired costume short-circuited and she was unable to attend the ball.

Outfit: A diamond-studded net gown against a halo of golden feathers symbolizing the sun.

Designer Bio: The outfit came from the House of Worth, which ended seven years after this. He dressed exclusive clients, including actresses. He was known for his elegant fabrics, detailed trimming, and superb fit.

Why I find this image

compelling: I love the textures, the accessories, the textiles, and grand vivaciousness to her over the top aesthetic.

How it represents fashion: It truly combines fashion with costume and the increased interest for attention through clothing. This created new ways of creativity through textiles, silhouette, and

attitude.

The relationship to my design work and style: I admire the textiles, detailing, and use of accessories. This is a little more decorative than my aesthetic, but I do have a lot of appreciation towards it. I have some background sewing formal wear, so I have great appreciation for this amount of detailing.



1956 Audrey Hepburn in Givenchy in *Funny Face*.

Context: Givenchy's career was defined by his long friendship and association with Audrey Hepburn. Givenchy continued to dress her on and off the screen until her death in 1993.

Outfit: Cropped top, cigarette pants and ballet pumps (she always wore flats to minimize her height).

Designer Bio: Hubert de Givenchy rose to fame at the age of 25 in 1952 and was famous with his first collection of youthful clothes in simple fabrics. He trained under Cristobal Balenciaga who remained his mentor and on retirement, directed Balenciaga clients to Givenchy.

Why I find this image compelling: This outfit is still remarkably stylish. With its heavy emphasis on simplicity, and the practicality of being separates, it's unbelievable that this outfit is already sixty years old.

How it represents fashion: This outfit was starting to mark the new way of dressing. It separated itself from the fashionable extravagance only five years before and into the neo-classicism era.

The relationship to my design work and style: I like cigarette pants and find them practical yet stylish. I also enjoy the use of different proportions and shapes. However, it is a little too simple for me, the use of accessories isn't horrible.



1980 Grace Jones wearing Issey Miyake

Context: The cross-dressing and androgyny that was an element of Punk, Goth and New Romantic styles came together in the shape of Grace Jones. She was the queen of the New Wave club scene in the 1980s, especially with her flat-top haircut.

Outfit: Issey Miyake moulded, silicone second-skin bustier bodice.

Designer Bio: Issey Miyake is a Japanese fashion designer and fragrance connoisseur. He is known for his technology-driven clothing designs, exhibitions and fragrances.

Why I find this image compelling: This image is compelling for many reasons. One is that this was similar timing to Madonna's Cone Bra, a strong time for bustiers and corsets to make a message about sexuality (along with Grace Jones's androgyny). Second is that there has been little fashion replicated after this bodice, despite its fascinating technology involved. Third is that recently Naomi Campbell released her own limited edition book where the cover had a strong shell-like bodice replicating this, which I had the opportunity encountering myself.

How it represents fashion: This bodice expresses a hard edged glamour. It pushes the limits of acceptance of modesty, sexuality and technology.

The relationship to my design work and style: I really can't say my design aesthetic is this androgynous or this immodest. However, I do appreciate the hardness of femininity, the silhouette given, and the technology used to create this bold top.