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Name (Alana, Clifton-Cunningham)

Staff Reference: – 000327

FTE: (e.g. 1.0) **FOR:** (1203)

Research master reference: 2007000507

Level: (B)

Status: (Employed-fulltime)

Function: (Teaching and Research)

Second Skin: new knitting/Creative Work January to 3 February 2008

(250 words in total)

Background

Current publications and research have focused on knitting within a mostly traditional context, and address how designers have explored techniques of knitting, but not necessarily how they have pushed the boundaries regarding contemporary knitted outcomes and applications. This body of work explores how contemporary designers, artists and knitters can, and have push the traditional boundaries of knitting to create outcomes that explore new ideas, techniques and mixed media applications.

Contribution

This research and body of work, demonstrates how current perceptions of knitting, as viewed by the general public, has been challenged by contemporary designers and artists, through incorporating new materials and techniques of making. The work produced was designed to confront the viewer and allow them question the position of the work as fashion or art, and challenge the perception of social constructs regarding knittings' identity and historical positioning.

Significance

The significance of this work is that it demonstrates how knitting can be deconstructed, but through still utilising traditional techniques and combining them with new materials. The research and creative design work component has been essential insofar as the insight it has provided and the new knowledge it has created such as establishing the perception of how knitting in a traditional and contemporary framework is perceived. The use of the knowledge gained through researching traditional knitting styles, such as Aran knitting became an essential technique to explore, with the textural and symbolic qualities providing an exceptional background that could be adapted in relation to the design concept, scarification.

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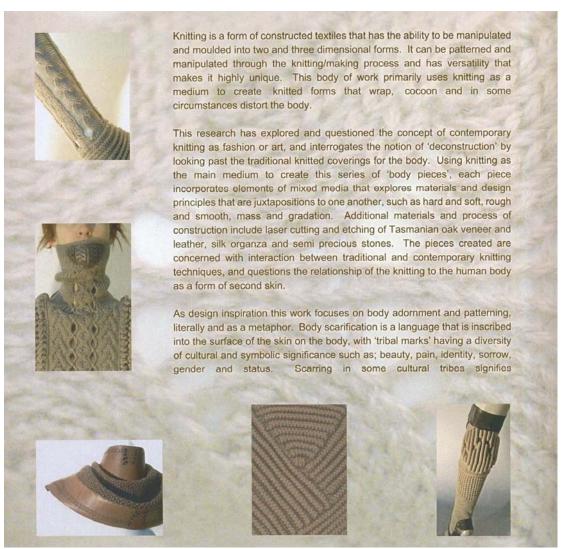
SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

(Press, invitations, reviews, photographs of exhibitions /installations/artworks etc. Evidence of public exposure of work.)

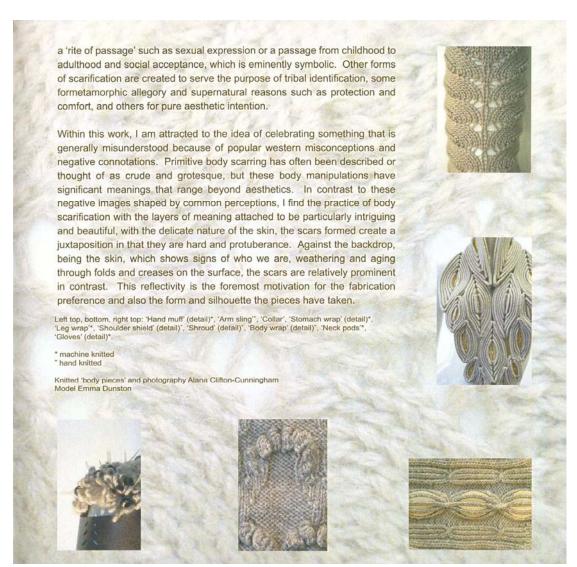




Cover



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Alana Clifton-Cunningham Acknowledgements Alana is a fulltime Lecturer at the University of Technology, Sydney, Faculty of Design, Architecture I would like to thank the following people continued support; and Building in Fashion and Textiles David Cunningham, Faye, Colin and Jodie Clifton. Recent research papers and exhibitions include; From The University of New South Wales, College of 2007 International Hand and Lock Embroidery Competition (finalist) Fine Arts; Liz Williamson and Wendy Parker From the University of Technology, Sydney, Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building, The fashion and textile design team - Alison Gwilt, Eric Hagen, Cecilia Heffer, Val Horridge, Phil Inwood, Dr Vicki Karaminas, Milena Ratkovic and Associate Professor 2006 "The Sock: an investigation of the sock in society", conference paper, York University, Toronto, Canad 2004 "Tromp l'oeil: an investigation of traditional and digital textile applications in the creation of illusion", published conference paper at 'The space between art, fashion, textiles and design', Curtin University, Perth, Western Australia Douglas Tomkin (Head of School-Design). Many thanks to Liz Gemmell, Vishna Collins and Cathy Lockhart for their enthusiastic support and the various conversations about knitting, and also to everyone that helped with this research project. Thank you to Faye Clifton for her hand knitting expertisel 2006 Sydney Esquisse: Customs House, Sydney (media exhibition of knitted work) 2006 Blurring the boundaries fashion design innovation in contemporary knitting, International knitting exhibition, Fairfield Gallery, Sydney Contact: Alana Clifton-Cunningham alana.clifton@gmail.com Copyright @ 2008 Alana Clifton-Cunningha ISBN 978-0-646-48541-6 2005 Valency (group exhibition), Kudos Gallery, Paddington This exhibition is part of the Postgraduate Summer Proc at Ivan Dougherty Gallery, College of Fine Arts, The Unive of New South Wales, Australia. Forthcoming - Fragments; methodologies of making (April 2008 - co curator/maker Alison Gwilt) DAB LAB Gallery, University of Technology, Sydney

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IVAN DOUGHERTY GALLERY

IMAGES OF EXHIBITION / WORK

Ivan Dougherty Gallery installation shot

Work presented in the exhibition at the Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Paddington: A

Clifton Cunningham(2008)



Work presented in the exhibition at the Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Paddington: A Clifton Cunningham(2008)

