

ALANA CLIFTON-CUNNINGHAM

Pauldron

2010 | *International Fashion Art Biennale, Seoul*

The International Fashion Art Biennale in Seoul, hosted by the Korea Fashion and Culture Association, is one of the most significant international exhibitions of fashion framed as art. The 2010 Biennale was notable as it coincided with the 60th anniversary of the Korean War and the hosting of the 2010 G-20 summit, shaping the themes of the exhibition. It showcased 104 artists selected globally. The exhibition was held at the Hangaram Design Museum, Seoul Arts Centre, and received substantial press and media including coverage on national Korean TV. My participation was noteworthy as I was the only Australian invitee.

‘Pauldron’ explores the tensions between the residual sense of tribal primitivism associated with the practices of scarification versus the highly refined craft skills that are required in the fabrication of armour, whether it be Japanese or European. These tensions are further explored by the introduction of a new material, wool, and a new technique, not associated with the usual inert materials of armour whether they be lacquer or steel. A result is a re-gendering of the notion of protective coverings. It also re-positions the sense of decorum of inner and outer garments. As the fashion scholar Valerie Steele argued in the exhibition ‘Love & War: The Weaponised Woman’ (The Museum at Fashion Institute of Technology, NYC, 2006), there is a paradox in the way women’s fashion consistently uses elements from warfare and military garments over a long period of time to reinvent feminine identity in clothing.

The work continues my broader research investigation into the application of knitting techniques to create new body constructions and forms.

Pauldron detail

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Pauldron



1.



2.

The knitted work that I have created is focused on skin markings and identity. My particular interest is the traditional practice of body scarification, a tactile language inscribed onto the surface of the skin that is often misunderstood due to popular Western misconceptions and negative connotations. Within this work, body scarring has been utilised in conjunction with knitting as a form of symbolism exploring the concepts of gender, belonging, protection and identity. In some cultures scarring signifies a 'rite of passage': sexual maturity, the journey from childhood to adulthood, or social acceptance. Other forms of scarification serve the purpose of tribal identification, spiritual protection, or aesthetic beautification. The work is in the form of knitted 'body piece', which cocoon, envelope and distort areas of the body.

Australian wool, leather, timber veneer

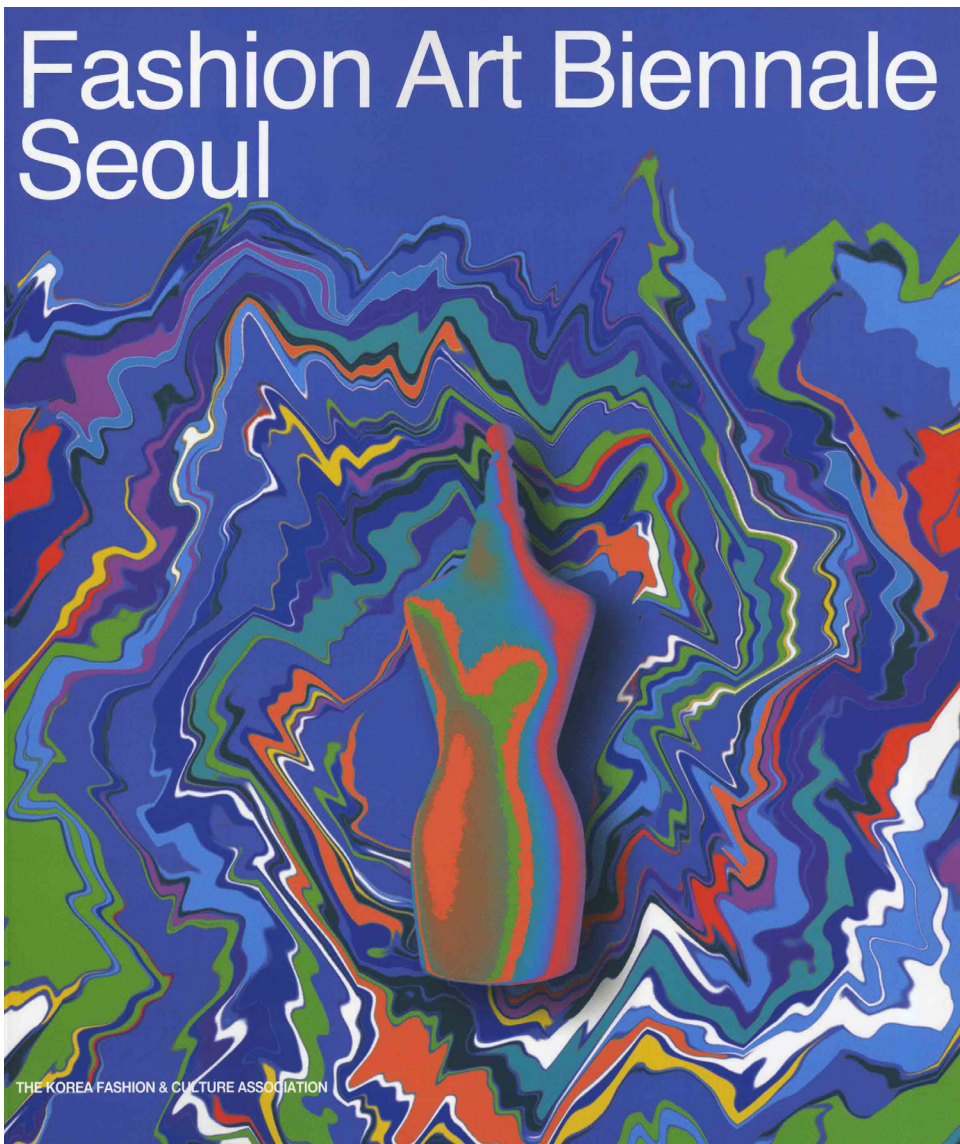
Cunningham, Alana Clifton

Photography : Seung Rok Baek (seungrokphotography) Model : Eboni Stocks @ EMG Models
Makeup / Hair Artist : Jenny Truong (Canvas Book)

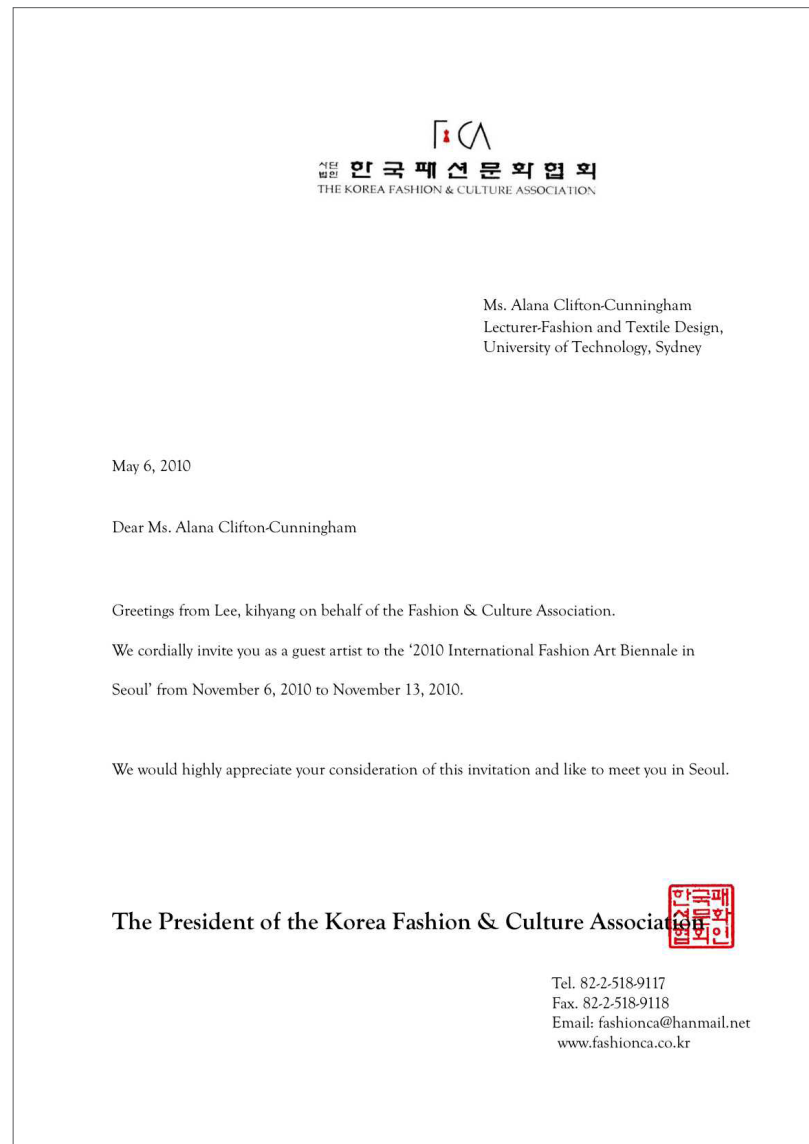
Second skin

Supporting evidence

Pauldron, as presented in exhibition catalogue



1.



2.

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 CUNNINGHAM
 Pauldron

Supporting evidence

1. Catalogue cover
2. Letter of invitation

History THE KOREA FASHION & CULTURE ASSOCIATION

Originally named as 'The Korean Art-to-Wear Association' was established in 1995. In 1997, it has been renamed as 'The Korea Fashion & culture Association'. With a total count of members of 280 up to date, it is composed of university professors teaching fashion design as well as fashion designers in Korea. The objectives of the association are to actively promote interaction and friendship between members through creative researches and artistic activates, and the globalization of the Korea Fashion and Culture. It aims to develop efficient systems for educating the future generation of artists, and to establish goals and milestones for the fashion industry, academia and related industries.

1. International Exhibitions

1998

-Fashion Art from Korea/ Haus der Kulturen der Welt Berlin, Germany (1998.4.3 -6.7)
-Forum Ludwig Fur / International Kunst Archen, Germany(1998.7 - 10.11)

2000 - 2001

-FASHION ART FROM KOREA : The Air of the East
(1)1st exhibition : Parsons School of Design Gallery, New York, U.S.A(2000. 11. 15 -2001. 1. 16)
(2)2nd exhibition: Kent State University Museum, Ohio, U.S.A(2001. 2. 21- 2001. 7. 29)
(3)3rd exhibition: Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandise, L.A(2001. 10 - 2001. 12)

2001

-Fashion Art from Korea / Youngpa Costum Museum, China(2001.10.18 -2002)

2002

-Air of Korea / Nepal Art Council Gallery, Nepal(2002.6.28 -7.2)

2003

-Austria Vienna Art -to -Wear
-Fashion Art from Korea : Lighting in December/ The Fashion Institute
Vienna at Hetzendorf Palace, Austria(2003.12.12 -12.17)

2004

-Fashion Art from Korea / Hong Kong Design Centre, Hong Kong(2004.7.5 -7.11)

2005

-Fashion Art Exhibition : Air of the East / Einsteinufer 43-53, Universitat der Kunte, Berlin, Germany(2006.9.16 -9.20)
-Korea-Germany students joint fashion show / ANZIEHEND UN-TYPICH-Extraordinary
fashion from Korea & Germany Foyer der Konzertsaal Hardenbergstrasse,
Berlin-Charlottenburg, Germany(2006.9.21.)

2006

-Fashion Art Exhibition : Fantasy Gardens (2006.3.18 -3.19)
-ConocoPhillips Atrium of Alaska(Fashion show: 2006.3.18 -3.19)

2007

-Fashion Art Exhibition & performance: "Fragrance of Tradition" /
Ataturk Gallery in Turkey(2007.6.8 -6.14)
-China International Silk Forum 2007 / Dragon Hotel Hangzhou,
China(2007.10.25 -10.30.)
-Shanghai Fashion Fair: Reach & Touch / Shanghai Pudong Expo(2007.10.29 -10.31.)

2008

-Fashion Art 2008 International Exhibition "From Where" China World
Shopping mall / Beijing Art District 768(2008.11.8 -11.30)

2009

-Fashion Art Exhibition "Air from Korea" Sao Paulo, Brazil

2010

-Invitational Fashion Art Exhibition "Air from Korea meets Mongolia" : Mongolia

2. Exhibitions in Korea

1997

-Kwangju Biennale International Art-to-Wear Exhibition, Kwangju(1997. 9.1 -11.7)

1998

-Fashion Art Exhibition / Daegu Culture & Art Center, Daegu(1998. 11. 3 -11. 22)
-Body, Clothing, Story / Donga Gallery, Seoul(1998. 12. 16 -12. 30)

1999

-Body, Light, Story / Seoul Museum of Art (1999. 4. 2 -4. 11)
-Fashion Formation Exhibition / Deoksu Palace, Seoul (1999. 4. 2 -4. 8)
-Fashion Art Exhibition Meeting with clothing and calligraphy/ Seoul Art Center(1999. 9. 4 -9. 23)

2000

-Fashion Art Exhibition ? 'A day Ham coming? Skill, Workmanship, Cultural Product
Exhibition' / Seoul Museum of Art(2000. 6.19 -6. 28)
-Kwangju Biennale International Art-to-Wear Exhibition, Kwangju(2000. 3. 29 -6. 7)

2001

-2001 KSCT / ITAA Joint World Conference
-Fashion Art Exhibition 'Expanding Horizons' / Lotte Hotel, Seoul(2001. 06.21 -06.15)
-Korean costume culture in 2000years / The National Folk Museum of Korea,
Seoul(2001. 5. 3 -6.11)

2002

-Korean costume culture in 2000years Opening Fashion Show / Gyeongbok Palace,
Seoul(2001. 5. 2)
-Fashion Art Exhibition ? 'A Party Day', Art wear & Cultural Product Exhibition /
Seoul Art Center(2001. 11. 7 -11. 14)
-Wooduck invited exhibition - Clothing in expanded area/ Gallery Wooduck,
Seoul(2001. 10. 5 -10. 27)

2002

-Fashion Art Exhibition - Taekuk / Seoul Art Center(2002. 11. 15 -11. 24)

2003

-Fashion Art Exhibition - Christmas / Seoul Art Center(2003. 12. 6 -12. 14)

2004

-Fashion Art Exhibition & Fashion Show - 'Masize Myth' / Cultural Center of Central
and South America, Paju, Gyeonggi(2004. 9. 16 -10. 1)

2005

-Fashion Art Exhibition - 'Beyond Imagination: Nature, Tradition, Technology' /
Seoul Art Center(2005. 4. 10 -4. 18)
-National Assembly Specially Invited exhibition - Clothing with story /
Assembly members building Gallery(2005. 9. 26 -9.28)

2006

-Fashion Art Exhibition 'Moving Art Wear' / Seoul Art Center(2006.7.1 -7.10)

2008

-ECO - FUN Fashion Performance & Fashion Art Exhibition /
Cheonggyecheon Special Stage, Kwangdong - Mojeon Bridge(2008.10.3 -10.5)

2009

-Fashion Art Exhibition - 'Whisper from Swamp' / Seoul Art Center (2009.11.13 -11.21)

3. Conference

1999

-Participated in Fall research seminar, hosted by the Korean Society of Clothing
and Textile - Aesthetic aspects of costumes and design research division
-Hair-do workshop for fashion display / Chungang University

2000

-Participated in Spring research seminar, hosted by the Korean Society of Clothing and
Textile - Aesthetic aspects of costumes and design research division /2000. 04. 29
-Fashion and Technology" Lecturer: Yoon, Kwangyeon (Prof. KIST)
-Konica Digital Textile Printing" Lecturer: Jang, Yonghoon(President), Kim, Dohoon
(Vice-President), Han, Kwangho(Dept. Head)
-Fashion Painting" Lecturer: Kim, Namhee(President of Association of Fashion Painting)
Introduction of Korean cultural product / Kynghee University

2001

-Joint seminar with the Korean Society of Clothing and Textile : Aesthetic aspects of
costumes and design research division
-Hair-do Workshop for Fashion Display / Chungang University

2002

-Joint seminar with the Korean Society of Clothing and Textile : Aesthetic aspects of
costumes and design research division
-Felt" Lecturer : Oh, Yunok (Instructor, Konkuk Univ.) / Konkuk University

2003

-Spring joint seminar with the Korean Society of Clothing and Textile :
Aesthetic aspects of costumes and design research division

-The aesthetics of avatar image" Lecturer : Hwang, Sangmin(Prof.)

-Decoration method for Haute Couture" Lecturer : Kim, Jungsun(Prof.) /
Sookmyung University

-Fall joint seminar with the Korean Society of Clothing and Textile :

Aesthetic aspects of costumes and design research division

-The beginning of formative aesthetic in Cyber age" Lecturer :

Costy Choi (Prof. Sookmyung Univ.) / Sookmyung University

2004

-Spring joint seminar with the Korean Society of Clothing and Textile :

Aesthetic aspects of costumes and design research division

-1st Section "Latin Culture and the globalization of Korean culture" Lecturer :

Lee, Bokhyung (Director of Cultural Center of Central and South America)

-2nd Section "Hand craft used in Latin traditional costume" /

Sookmyung University

-Fall joint seminar with the Korean Society of Clothing and Textile :

Aesthetic aspects of costumes and design research division

-1st Section "Artwork of Hamish Fulton - Nature, culture, art" Lecturer: Choi, Insoo

(Prof. Seoul National Univ.) / Sookmyung University

-2nd Section Viewing "Special exhibition - Human spirit in Roman empire" /

Seoul Museum of History

2005

-Spring joint seminar with the Korean Society of Clothing and Textile :

Aesthetic aspects of costumes and design research division

-1st Section "Fashion & Art" Lecturer : Bae, Chuntum(Prof. Ementus Ewha Woman Univ.),

Choi, Sungsook(Moonsin Museum) / Yonsei University

-2nd Section Viewing "Laeum"

-Fall joint seminar with the Korean Society of Clothing and Textile :

Aesthetic aspects of costumes and design research division

-1st Section "Introduction to computer aided fashion" Lecturer : Ko, Hyungsuk

(Prof. Seoul National Univ.)

-2nd Section "Beauty of Korea" Lecturer: Ko, Youngah(Graphic &Media Lab Staff)

-3rd Section "Rainbow" Lecturer : Woo, Sehee(Instructor, Dongguk Women's Univ.)

2007

-Joint international conference with the Korean Society of Fashion Design

(5 countries including Greece, Turkey, China, France, and U.S.A. participated) /

Ataturk Gallery, Turkey

Supporting evidence

History of the Fashion Art Biennale

Weblink:

[http://www.youtube.com/
watch?v=FgdvEj95D_E](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FgdvEj95D_E)