DICHOTOMY

a relationship
between liberated
and limited bodies.

"DICHOTOMY" is a series of garments and objects designed to reflect the relationship between clothing and body. The human body is a carrier of complex information about ourselves with or without our intention. Through the way we dress, we make a conscious or subconscious decision to either conceal or reveal those information. In this series, I wanted to juxtapose the ideas of body liberation and restriction with clothes that differ in proportions, sizes, and those that transmit different messages. Clothing, therefore, acts like the dichotomizing force that both protect and expose the vulnerability of bodies.

1

"the infant pose"

phycologists say the infant pose is supposed to relax the body and give a sense of security, but it's also the form we adopted when we were the most vulnerable.

gathered satin ruffles sewed on deconstructed blazer to represent the spine.

2

Under the seemingly comfortable jersey fabric, the dress actually clings tightly to the body. Paired with high heels, it elongates the lower body to adhere to the perceived standard of beauty.

3

wear a cardigan differently
and it becomes a kimono.

4

oversized men’s shirts
meet high heels.

5

reworked vintage t-shirt sewed together with a cut-up blazer vest. tied at the back to represent a corsetted form, contrasting the oversized comfort of a t-shirt with restraints.

6

oversized men's blazer with cut-out sleeves like the Greek chitons.

an evening dress paired with a denim jacket and combat boot. tough on the outside but still can't hide the delicate heart.

lookbook by **Cheryl Xue**