

# AKINA TSUTSUMI

Royal College of Art – MA Fashion

London College of Fashion – BA Womenswear (First Class Honours)

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## About ME

Functional & activewear designer with experience in technical garment construction, performance outerwear, and functional fabrics. Skilled in pattern cutting, CLO3D, and Adobe suite, Strong focus on detail precision and consumer-centered design. Background in both fashion and performance sportswear, with projects exploring snow apparel adaptability, Gorpcore aesthetics, and outdoor gear innovation.

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### IT Skill:

- Design Software
- Adobe Creative Suite: Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign, Premiere Pro
- Microsoft Office (Word, PowerPoint, Excel)
  
- 3D & Digital Tools
- CLO3D, Rhino, Cinema 4D, Blender, Reaper
  
- E-commerce Platforms
- Shopify

### Language:

- Japanese (Native)
- Mandarin Chinese (Native, Pass HSK Level 6)
- English (intermediate, IELTS 6.5)
- Korean (beginner level)

### Hard Skill:

Sportswear & Activewear construction / Pattern Cutting / Performance fabrics & material / 3D simulation / Material Innovation & Experiment / Digital & Dubbied Knit / Sampling / Sewing / Spec Sheets / Flat Drawing

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## FASHION INDUSTRY WORK EXPERIENCE

### DINGYUNZHANG (CHINA-SHANGAI): Design Assistant

September 2023 - March 2024

- Collaborated with the Creative Director on co-branded design projects with global sportswear leaders, contributing research, sketches, and prototype development for performance-driven sportswear and outerwear.
- Supported sample development process, liaising with pattern makers and material suppliers to ensure prototypes met functional and brand standards.
- Researched outdoor gear construction methods (benchmarking Arc'teryx finishing) to inform seam placements, detail positioning, and garment durability.

### NO NAME(START-UP FASHION BRAND)(CHINA-SHANGAI): Design Assistant

July 2023 - September 2023

- Developed CAD technical packs and specifications that enabled smooth communication with factories and accurate prototype execution.
- Explored innovative fabric treatments and special construction details to enhance both function and aesthetics.

### POSTER GIRL (UNITED KINGDOM-LONDON): Design Internship

April 2022 - August 2022

- Delivered accurate patterns and fittings that ensured 20+ garments met runway and commercial production standards.
- Created technical drawings and documentation for factory production, supporting the launch of SS23 e-commerce line.

### SEEING Co.,Ltd (JAPAN-TOKYO): Design Internship

July 2020 - August 2020

- Created product line sheets and technical specifications used by cross-functional teams to streamline development and merchandising.
- Applied Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop to translate design intent into clear production-ready documents.

## RETAIL WORK & OTHER EXPERIENCE

<b>Dr. Martens SEIBU SOGO(JAPAN-TOKYO): Sales Assistant</b> Customer insight + merchandising + brand knowledge	November 2020- December 2020
<b>Baroque Japan Limited HENGLONG(CHINA-TIANJIN): Sales Assistant</b> Handled cashiering, styling, and customer consultations	April 2019- November 2020
<b>SIA SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL ART(CHINA-SHANGHAI): Teaching Assistant</b> Guided students through portfolio development and fashion school applications	July 2023- September 2023

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## MEDIA

### i-D FASHION

Featured by i-D in 'MA Fashion Class at 2025 Refuses to Dress Quietly'

### BFC Graduate Preview 2025

Selected to represent RCA in the British Fashion Council's digital platform

### O2 WEEK-END

RCAxIFF perfume collab project reported (2025)

### FASHION UNITED/ HYPEBEAST/ SHOW studio

Published and Reported runway

### VINGT SEPT MAGAZINE

Reported by the magazine

### When with you Magazine issue IV

Magazine cover and collab with the photographer

## AWARDS

Cordwainers Footwear Awards (2025)	The Stuart Weitzman Awards for the Beat MA
Shima Seiki Student Competition (2025)	PRIZED
French Fashion Awards 2025 (Sportswear Category)	PRIZED
IFF x RCA Fragrance Project – Shortlisted, 2024	SHORTLISTED
The Rapid Slow Project	FINALISTED
Real Leather. Stay Different International student competition 2022	SHORTLISTED