

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.

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 & Dubbed Knit/
Sampling / Sewing / Spec Sheets / Flat Drawing

FASHION INDUSTRY WORK EXPERIENCE

DINGYUNZHANG (CHINA-SHANGHAI): Design Assistant

November2023 - February 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-SHANGHAI): Design Assistant

July 2023- September2023

- 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

May 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

Dr. Mariens SEIBU SOGO(JAPAN-TOKYO): Sales Assistant

November 2020- December 2020

Customer insight + merchandising + brand knowledge

Baroque Japan Limited HENGLONG(CHINA-TIANJIN): Sales Assistant

April 2019- September 2020

Handled cashiering, styling, and customer consultations

SIA SCHOOLE OF INTERNATINAL ART(CHINA-SHANGHAI): Teaching Assistant

July 2023- September2023

Guided students through portfolio development and fashion school applications

MEDIA

i-D FASHION

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

BFC Graduate Preview 2025

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

02 WEEK-END

RCAxIFF perfume collab project reported (2025)

FASHION UNITED/ HYPEBEAST/ SHOW studio

Pubulished 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 Internationla student compitition 2022

SHORTLISTED