



“LIFE IS SWEET”

FINDING HAPPINESS
IN SMALL THINGS

YEONJAE KIM



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hap.pi.ness, (n)

is a mental state of well-being characterized by positive emotions ranging from contentment to intense joy; good fortune



Happiness is largely a matter of being thankful of the small things around us, not being greedy or desiring for more.

The concept of my thesis is "[Life is Sweet](#)". I came up with this topic to illustrate that you don't have to look far in trying to find happiness; instead, you can find happiness in the small and mundane things around you.

My concept was inspired by my favorite artist, Wayne Thiebaud. Thiebaud is a fine artist who is well known for painting desserts such as cakes, pies, ice cream, etc. He uses heavy pigments and exaggerated colors to portray his works. I used Thiebaud as my inspiration because I have always wanted to become a pâtissière when I was young.

In an interview, Thiebaud explained that he drew mundane items to give his audience humor and happiness through inexpensive pleasures. Likewise, I wanted to create a collection to show that life is sweet if we try to find happiness in the small things around us.



TRANSCRIPT: INTERVIEW WITH WAYNE THIEBAUD



WAYNE THIEBAUD: Yes, that's- I think that's an inherent- can be an inherent danger, I'm supposed. But I'm delighted when people are able to smile at the work, and I- I hope it has a sense of **humor and- and joyousness**; that would be my- my hope.

SUSAN LARSEN: It seems because those things are in most of our common experience, I think there- there's almost a kind of **endearing welcome** that- that the subject matter proposes to a lot of viewers. It's- it's as though you were there when they were a kid. You remember those tastes, those things. And there's- those are moments of **inexpensive pleasure that is available to most people**. Very democratic, kind of. Better than showing something special and strange that only...

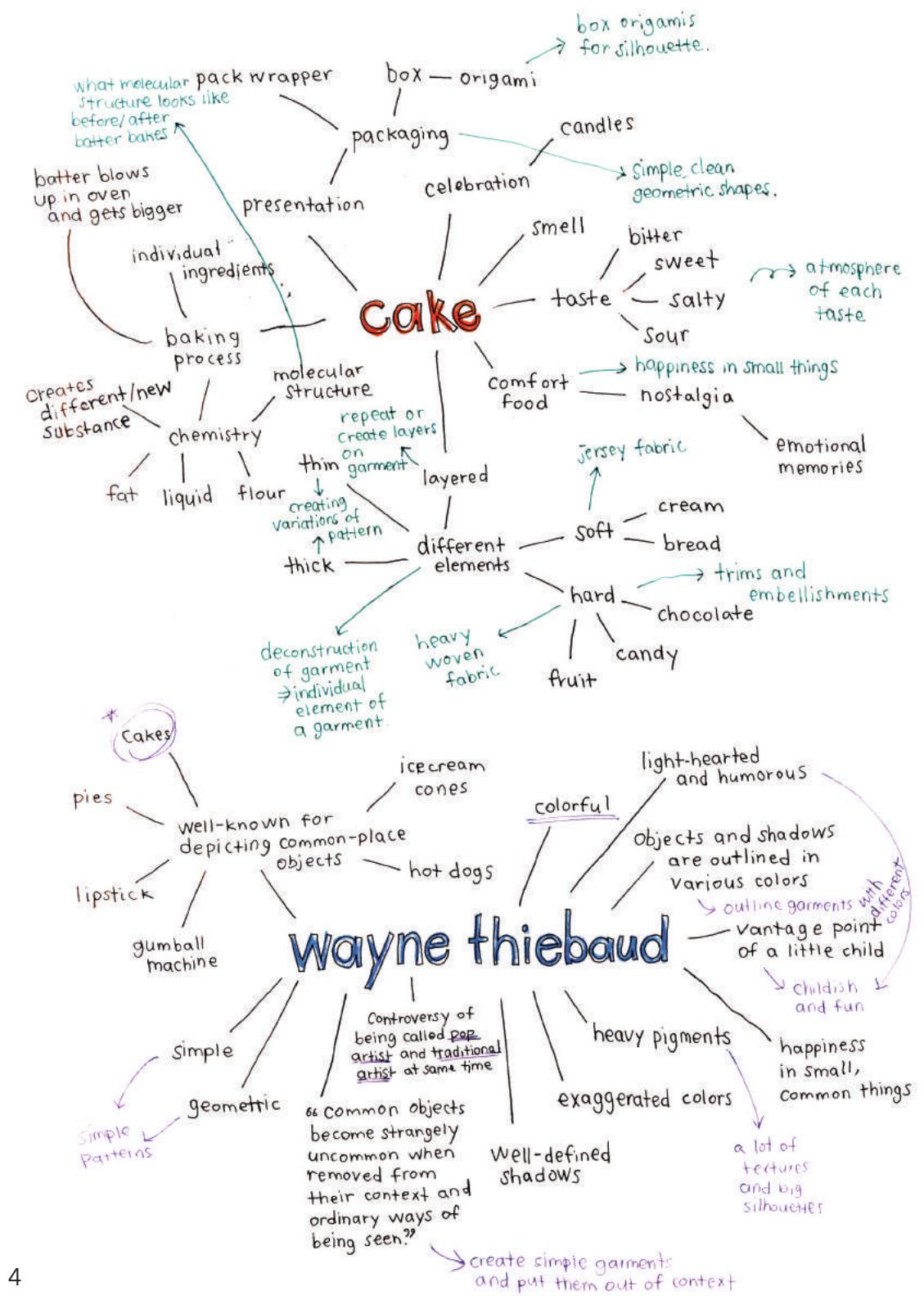
WAYNE THIEBAUD: It's an interesting question, isn't it, about how that comes about. I don't think it can be faked. Like people who, say, try to fake... We were talking earlier about misery or- or inhumanity to man. That's... I mean, if you're raised in an atmosphere of support and no troubles, then it's very hard to make agony a real thing, or to affect primitivism or...Or in the case of even something like joyousness. If your life hasn't been joyful, I don't know how you'd ever get it into your paintings.

SUSAN LARSEN: There's so much in the world, though, that isn't accessible and pleasurable.

WAYNE THIEBAUD: That's true, and- and I think painters who follow that are genuine in that pursuit, and make an important- important work. And that- so that work, I think, is tougher to be enjoyed. And... It's like...

SUSAN LARSEN: I guess what I was trying to say is that **there's room for pleasure. There's room for welcome**.

WAYNE THIEBAUD: I think so. And I think, also, there's room for a sense of humor in the art world, which is not very apparent, usually. We're sort of scared of humor, in a way; it just doesn't seem serious or something(?).



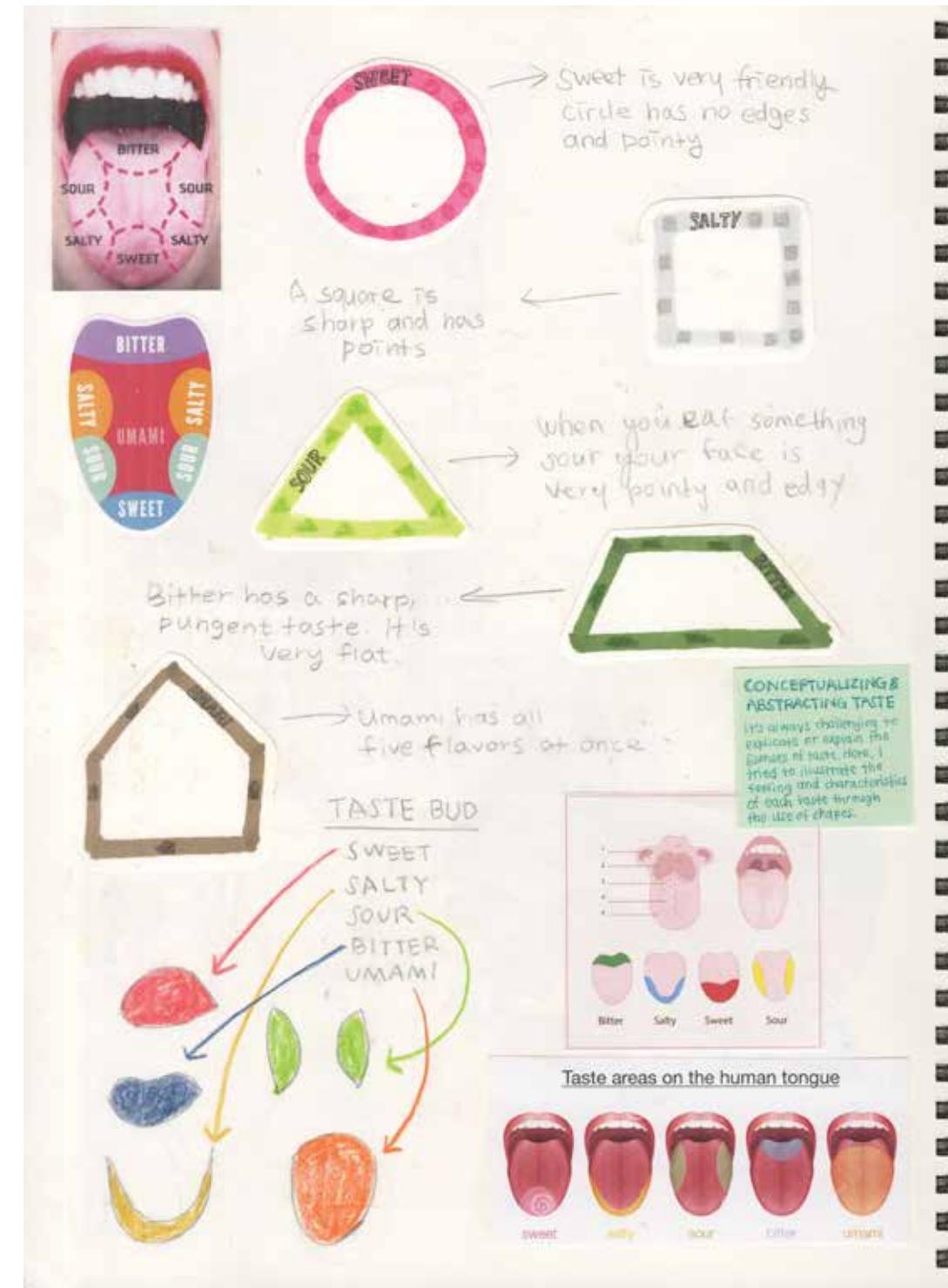






“맛은 화학적 실체라기보다는 정서적 현상이다. 맛은 우리가 그것을 입안에서 누리고 있을 때만 유효한 현실이다. 그 외 모든 시간 속에서 맛은 그립으로 변해서 사람들의 뇌와 살과 정서의 깊은 곳에서 태아처럼 잠들어 있다. 맛은 추억이나 결핍으로 존재한다.”
-김호운, <라면을 끓이며>

“Taste is an emotional phenomenon rather than a chemical reality. Taste is a valid reality only when we are enjoying it in our mouths. In all other times, taste turns into a longing, sleeping like a fetus in the depths of human bones, flesh, and emotions. Taste exists in memories and deficiency.”-Hoon Kim, <라면을 끓이며>

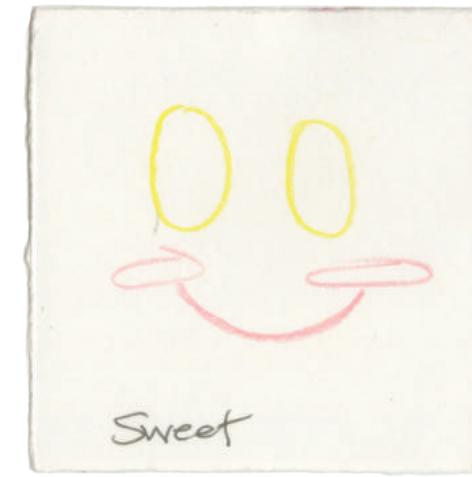
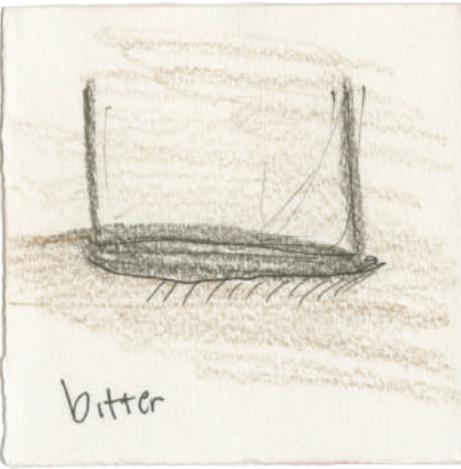
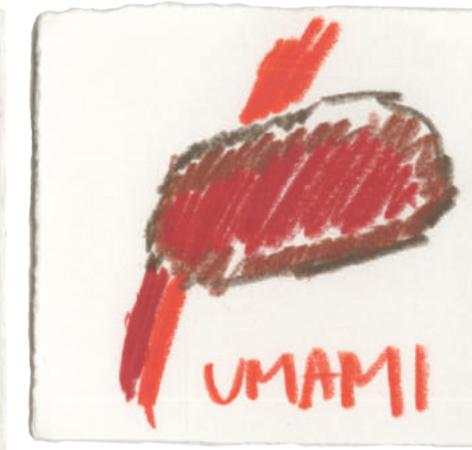
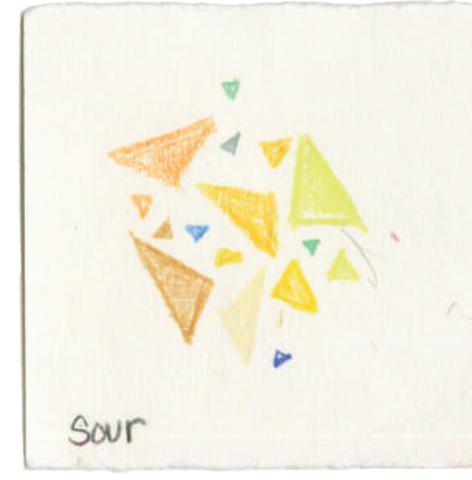


TASTE BUD ACTIVITY:

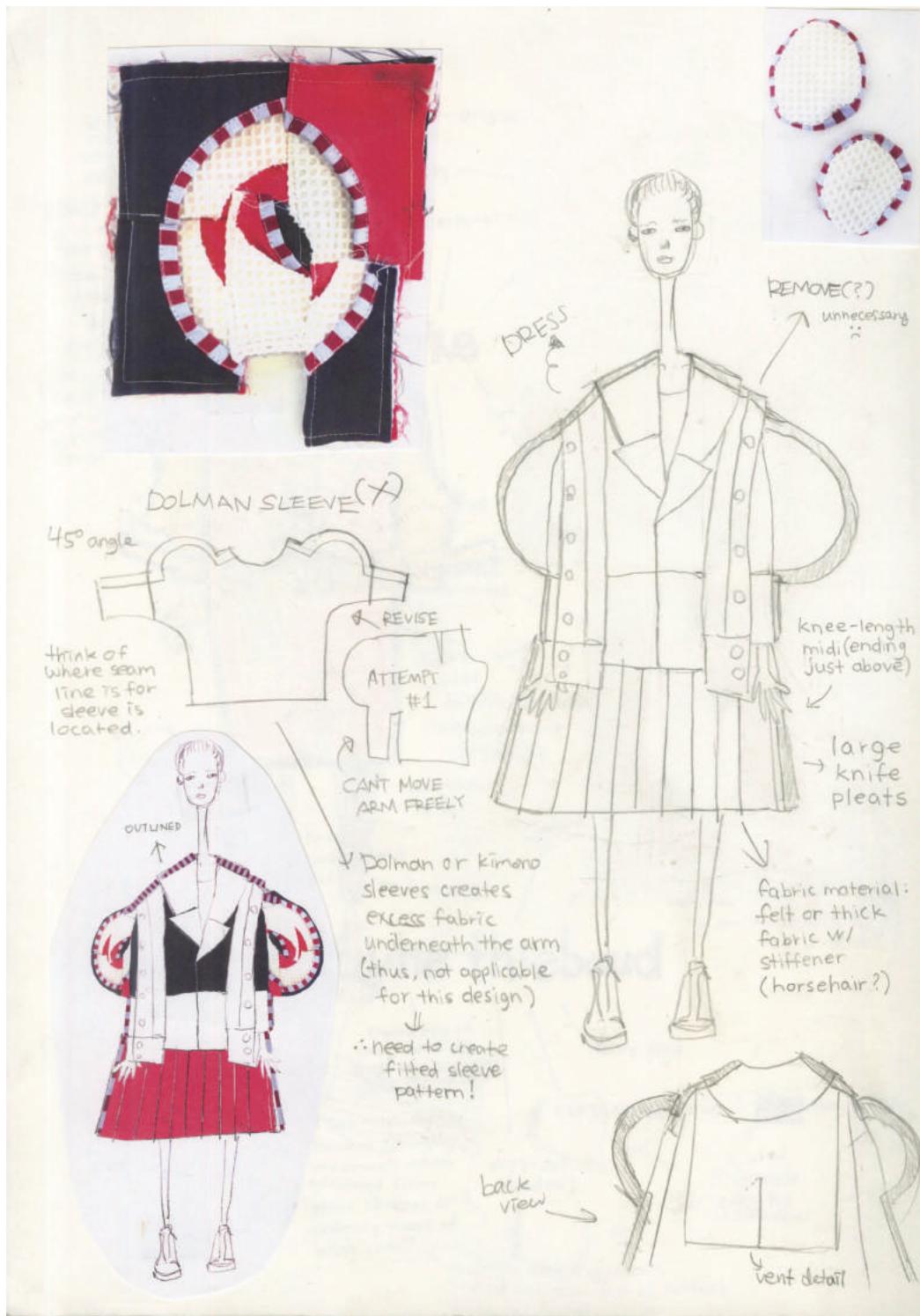
Imagine what the 5 senses of taste(sweet, salty, sour, bitter, umami) would look like if they had a visible form. Draw and express the taste through an abstract sketch.

Through this activity, I decided to create an avant-garde collection because I felt that taste is so abstract and hard to express through ready-to-wear. Here, I also gained inspirations of fun abstract shapes such as swirls and zig-zag shapes.)

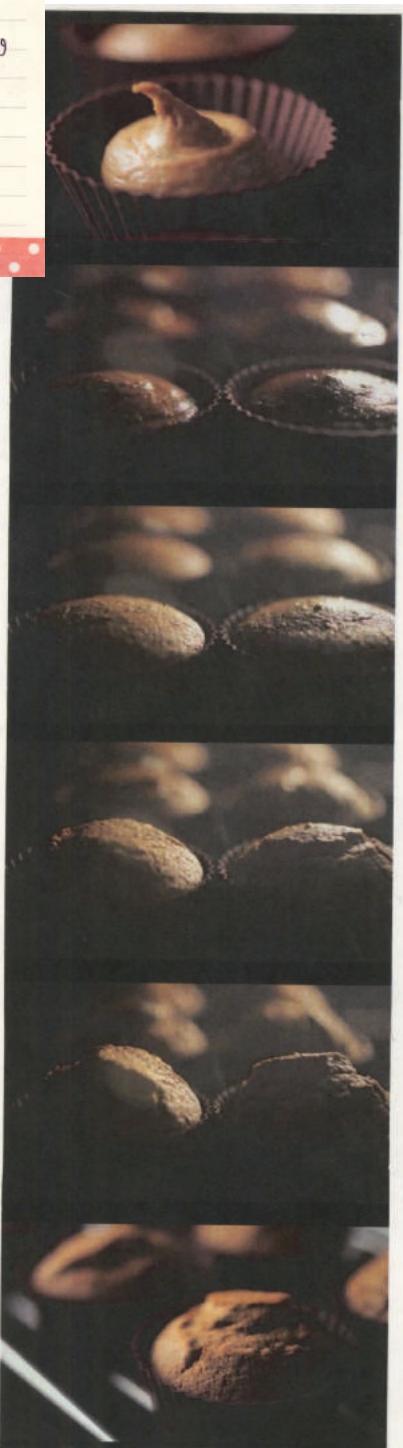


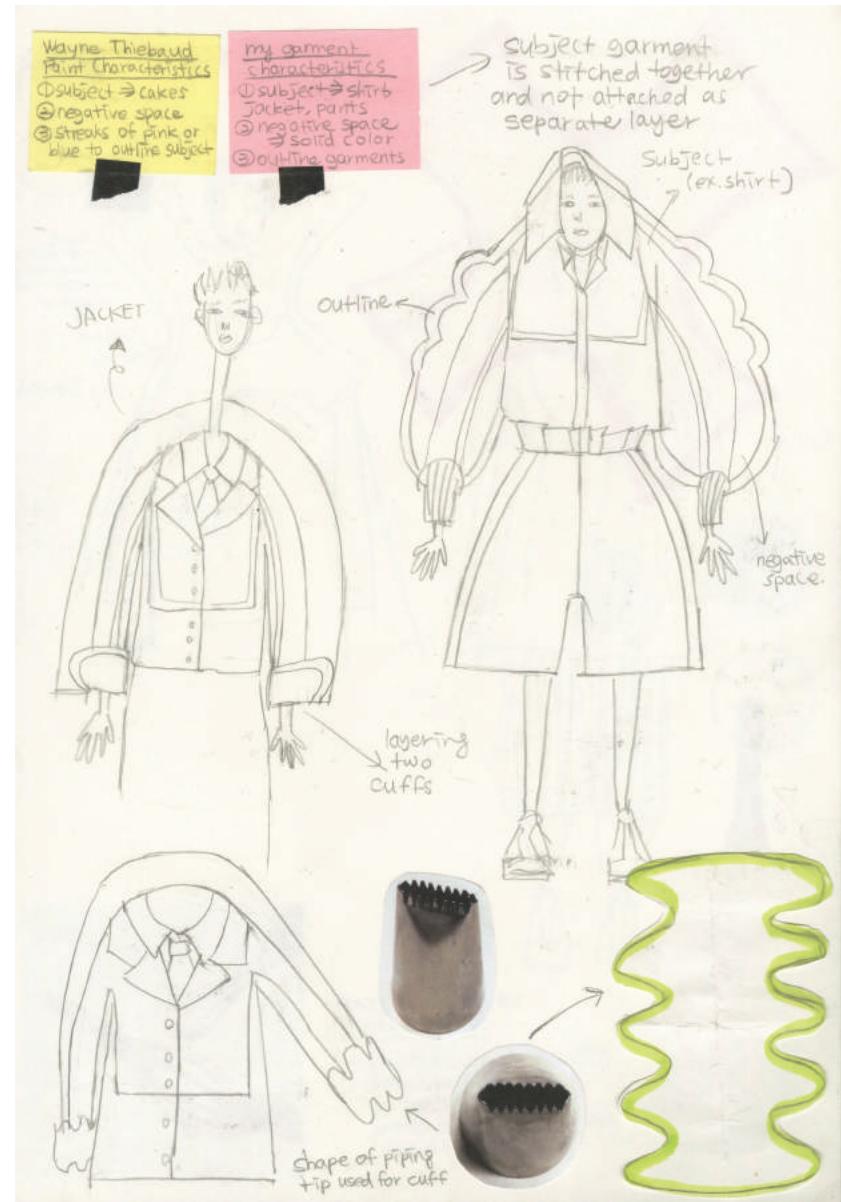
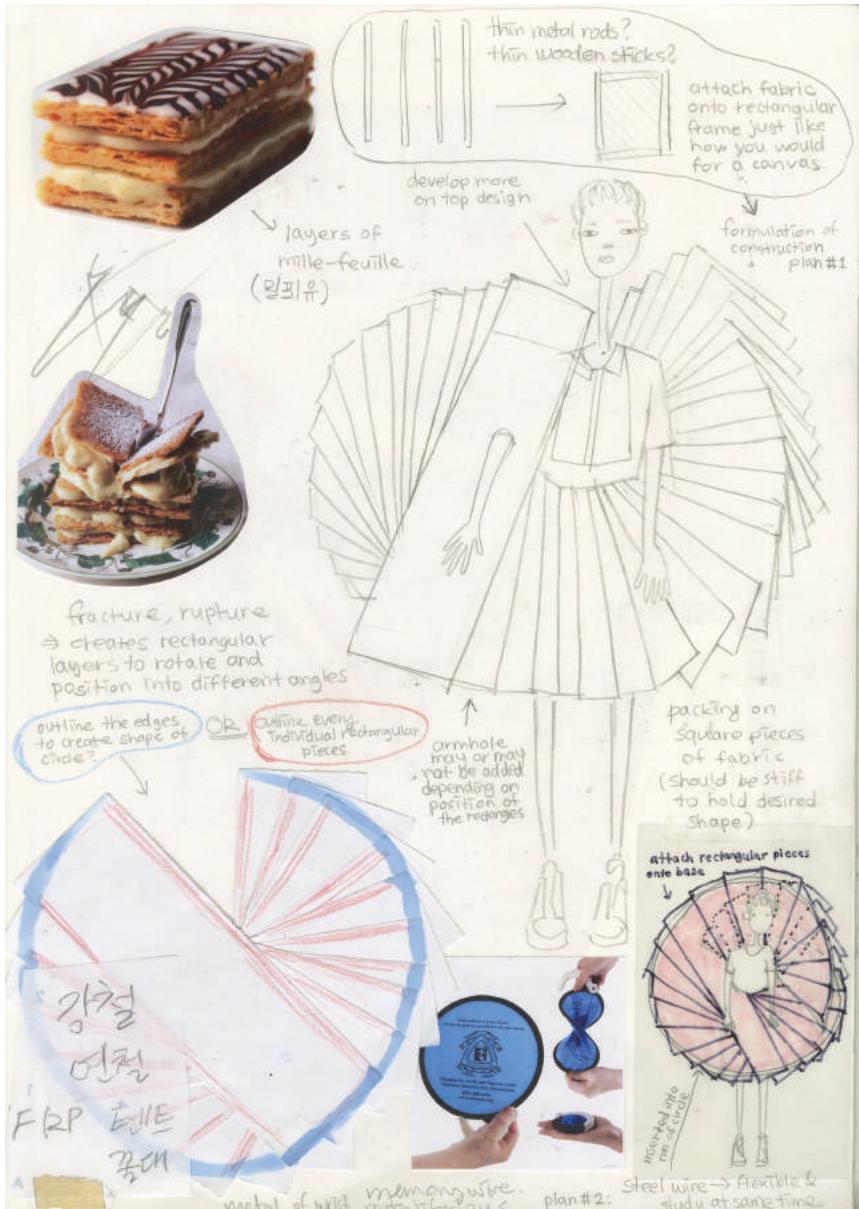


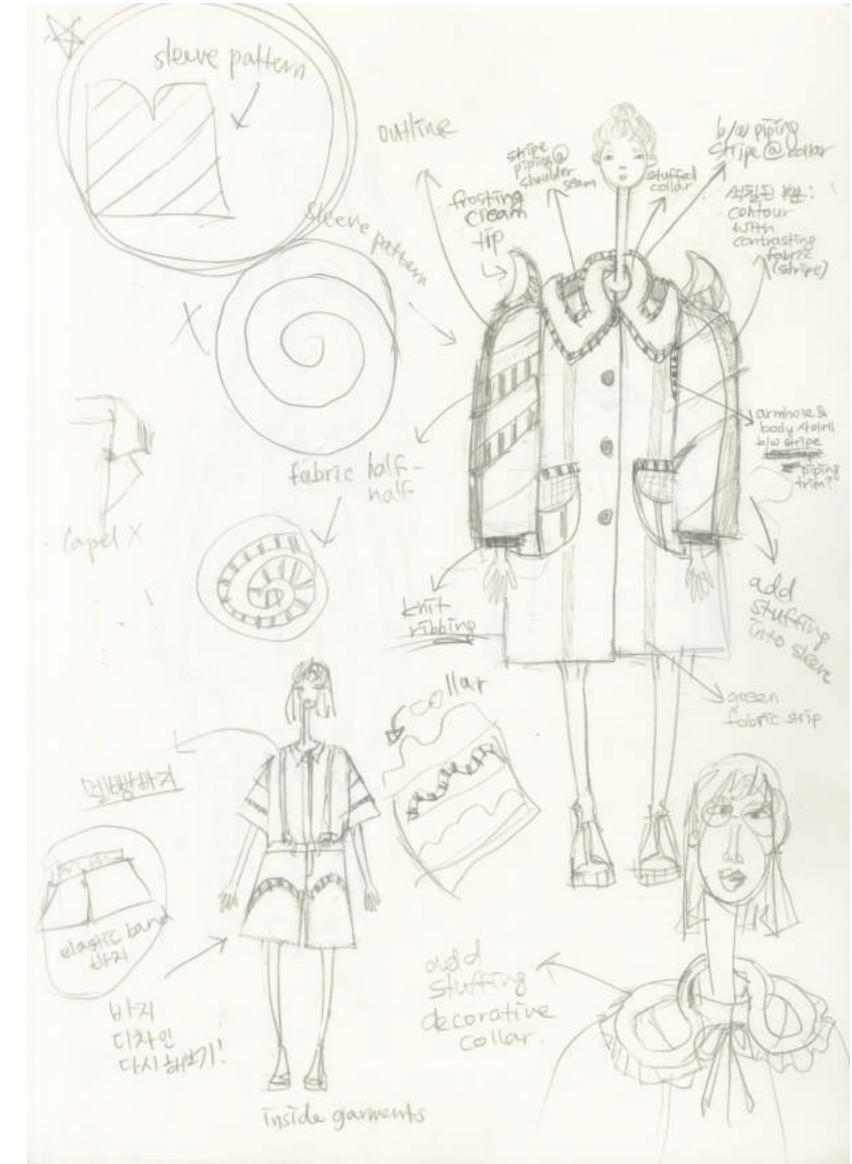




Why does cake rise?
Baking soda is the active ingredient that is added to baked goods to make them rise. Recipes that use baking soda as a leavening agent also contain an acidic ingredient which serves as a reactive agent. The baking soda reacts with the acidic ingredient to produce tiny bubbles of CO₂ that gets trapped in the batter. The gas bubbles expand in the heat of the oven and rise up, giving a fluffy and airy cake.









Fitting Comments :

- Buttons ?
- SLA hardware solution
Stereo lithography(?)
- Shirt under + overall:
- Bottom proportion
- the overall goes down (the length)/overall should continue
- apron center (as drawing)

- skirt should be wider
- continue overall (back) with skirt
- back should open (have a placket)
- back is pulling up, adjust the position



Fitting Comments:

- develop more designs/ patterns with same sleeve pattern

- can be built soft think of closure
- coat / t-shirt/blouse idea get rid of pleats
- use boning to exaggerate shape/silhouette
- use wire/interfacing to hold up collar



Fitting Comments:

- think about CF closure
- Sleeve → 45° angle pattern (?) Kimono or dolman sleeve

↳ gusset → has to be high armpit
has no affect to my design so big! & tight!

-think about weight of fabric

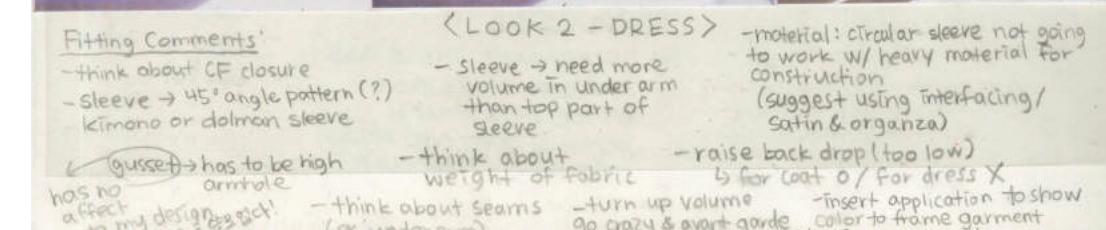
-think about seams (ex. under arm)

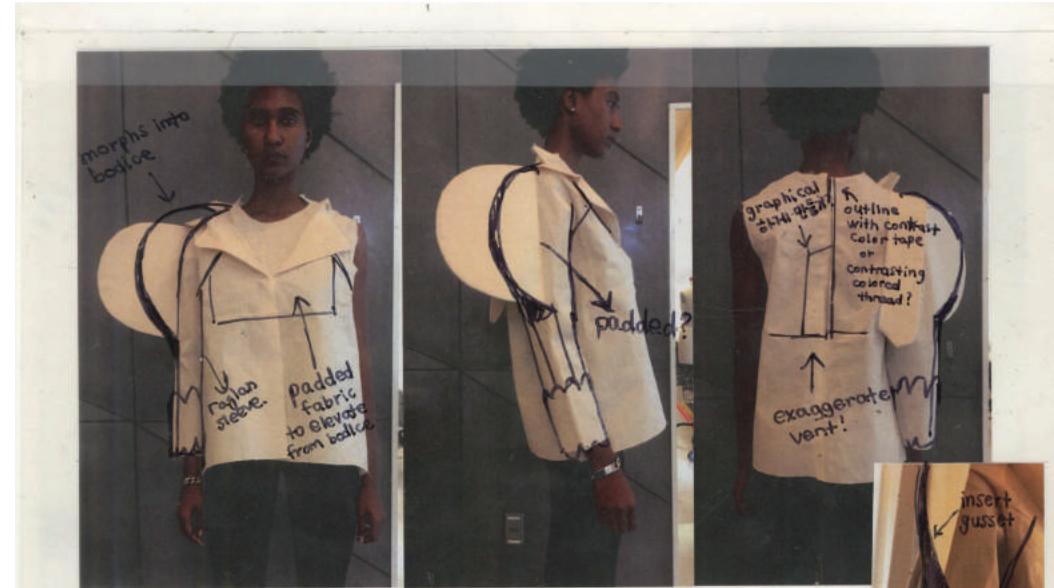
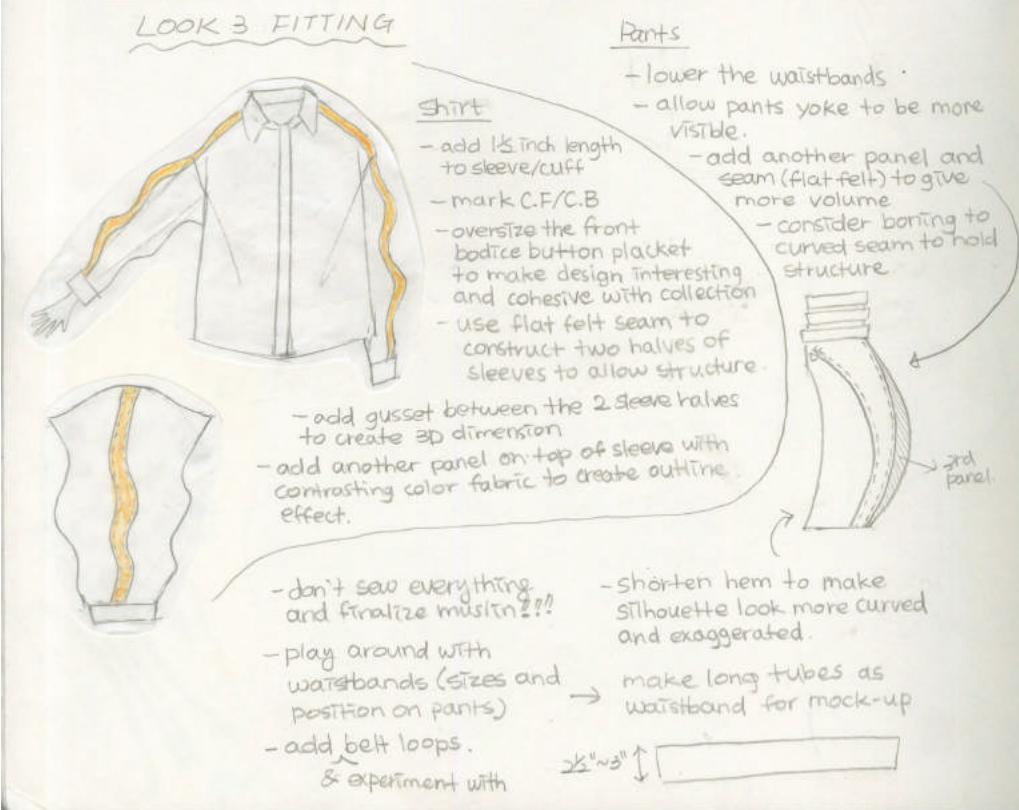
-turn up volume go crazy & avant-garde

-raise back drop (too low)

↳ for coat o/ for dress X

-insert application to show color to frame garment half-way there!



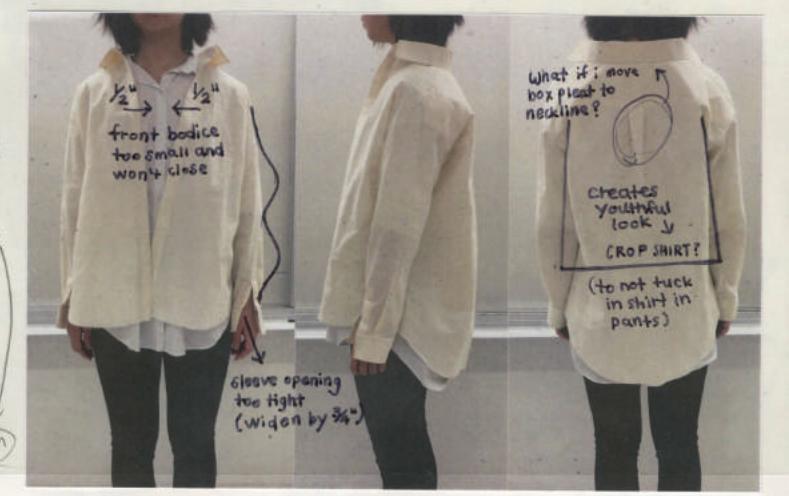


LOOK 1 (Fitting #2)

- deepen the Pleat of the inner facing of lapel so that it can stand better or more distinguished
- scale up vent detail on back body, exaggerate so it can fit with overall atmosphere
- **연기 생각:** use padded fabric for small body to create elevated illusion.
- modify circle panel so it can morph into bodice naturally.
- guide the circle into shoulder seam
- make sleeve into raglan sleeve to make seam less awkward
- insert gusset and create dimension to avoid circle panel from flapping around

LOOK 3 (SHIRT)

- widen front bodice to make button plackets overlap (1 inch)
- lengthen sleeves
- scale up overall size of shirt (daddy shirt)
- widen sleeve opening by $\frac{3}{4}$ " so sleeve placket can overlap. (1 inch)





Look #4

Sleeve

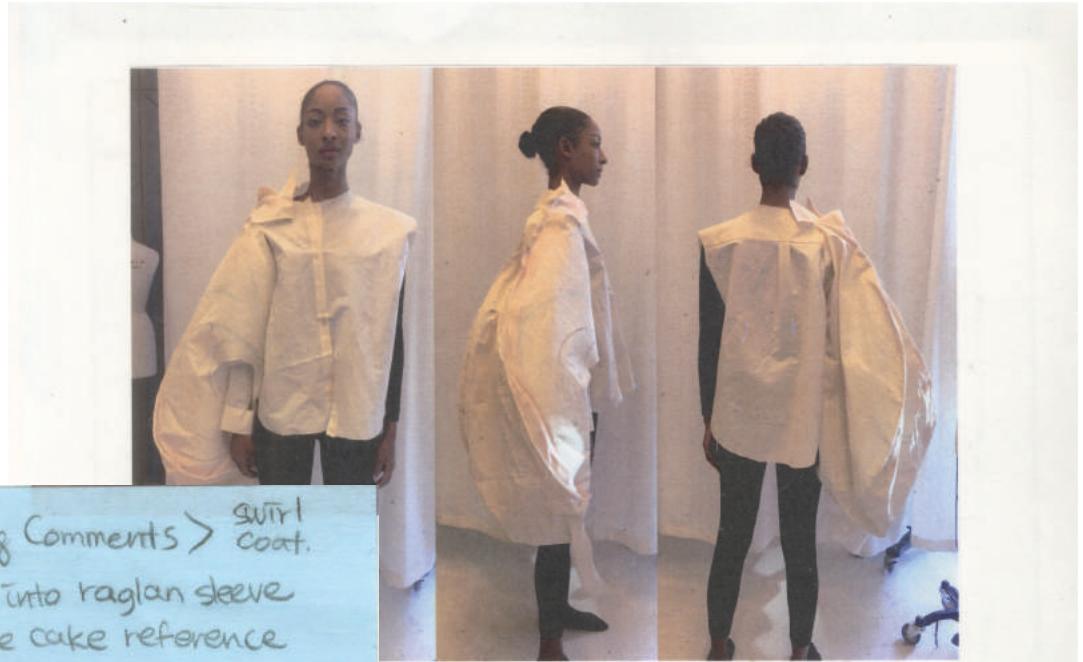
- Button (place on back of sleeves & at right side of garment)
- Add interfacing on sleeve
- Make side sleeve wider (2-3 inches)
- Don't pin down sleeves at inner top to allow free movement

Side

- Too soft/add interfacing
- Widen and add support
- Add foundation sleeve piece inside to have better structure when worn

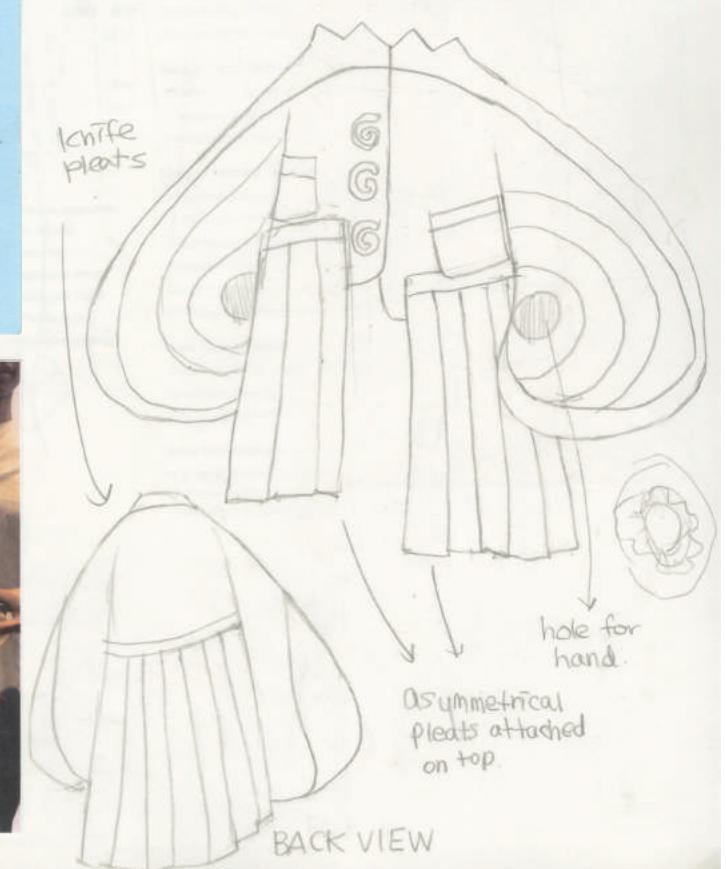
Skirt

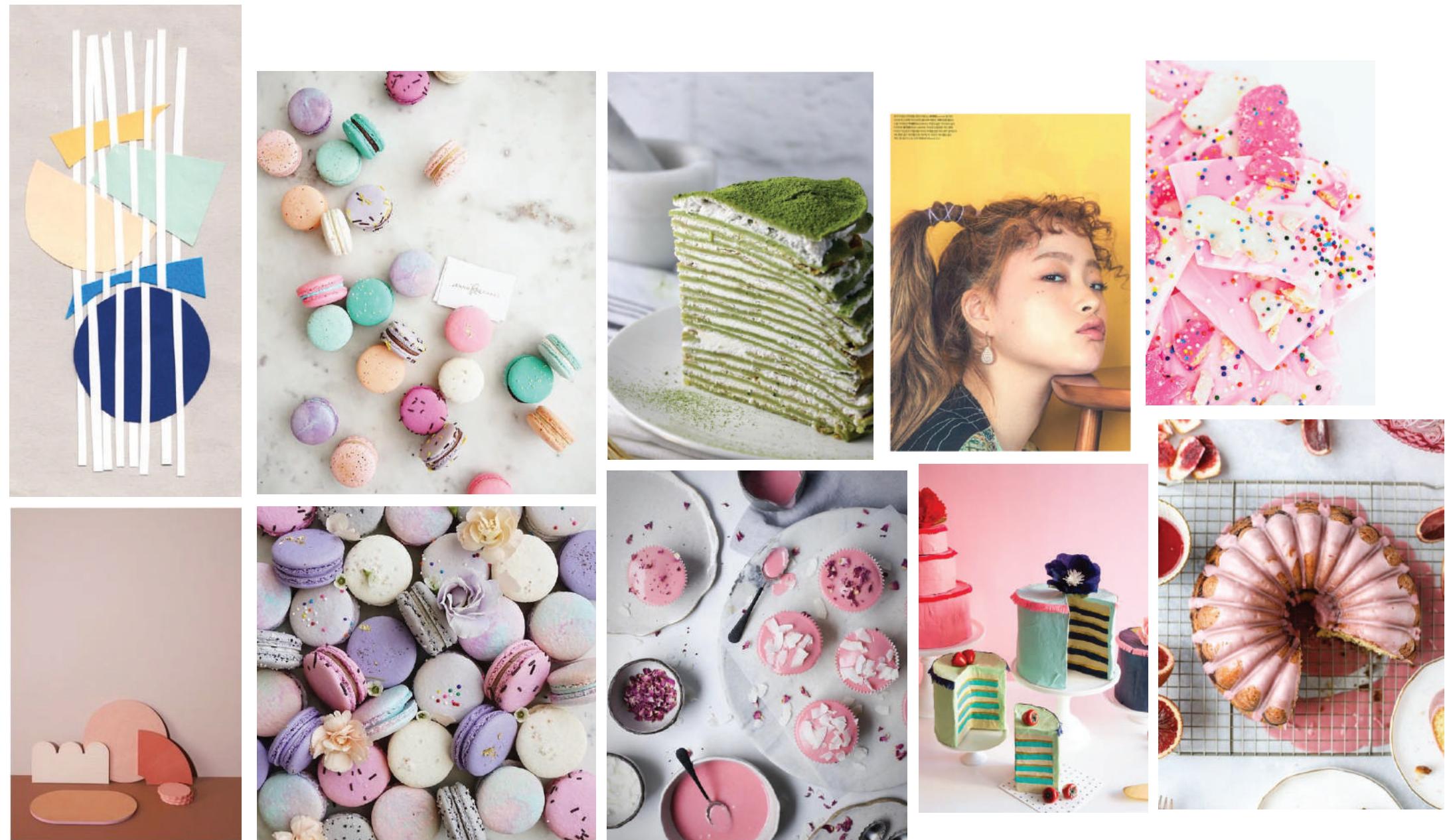
- Move the back pleated skirt down to align with the front skirt
- Make back skirt longer than the front skirt



< Fitting Comments > swirl coat.

- make into raglan sleeve
- Souffle cake reference
- armadillo reference for back. → accordian pleat
- toly poly reference
- Continue on to design back of garment → side sleeve onto back bodice(?)
- don't add poly stuffing on back sleeve (leave as is)



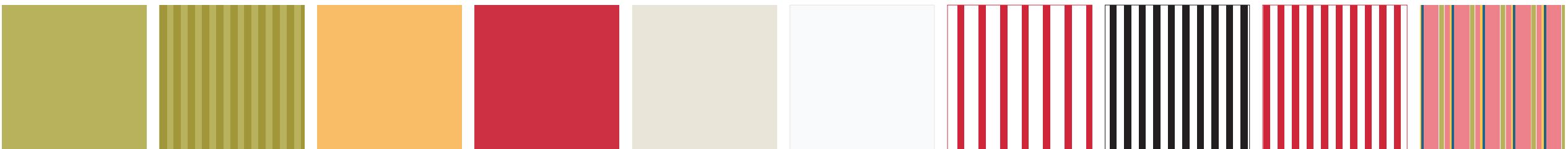


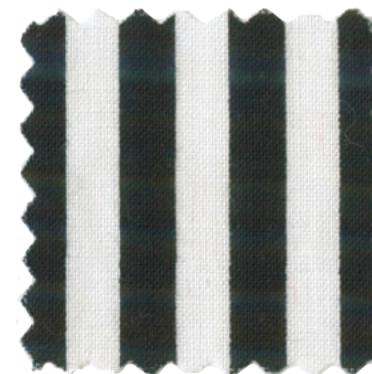
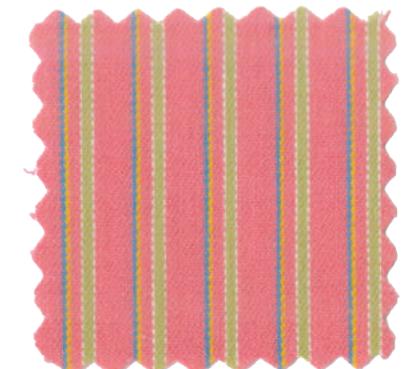
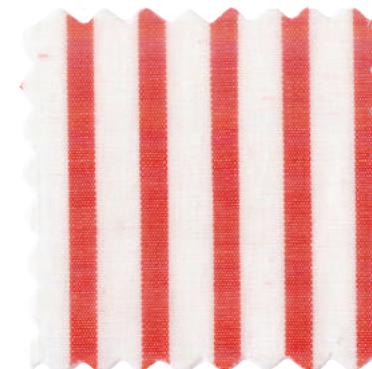
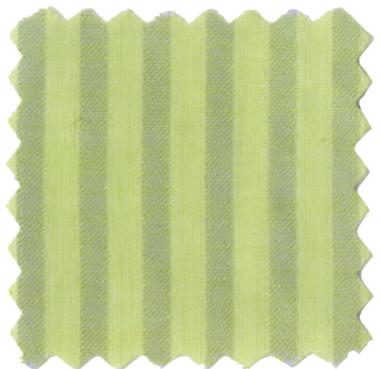
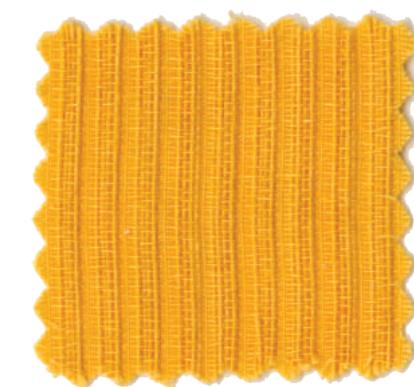


COLOR SELECTION

Colors were selected by referencing the colors inside one of Wayne Thiebaud's painting called "Cakes and Pies". If you look closely and examine his paintings, objects and shadows were outlined in various colors that created a visual effect to portray his works. I intimated the detail of this outline on many of my garments, using pink stripe fabric or black & white striped trimmings.

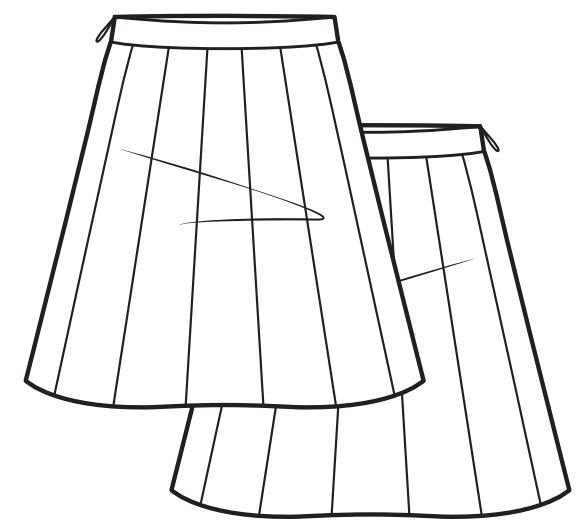
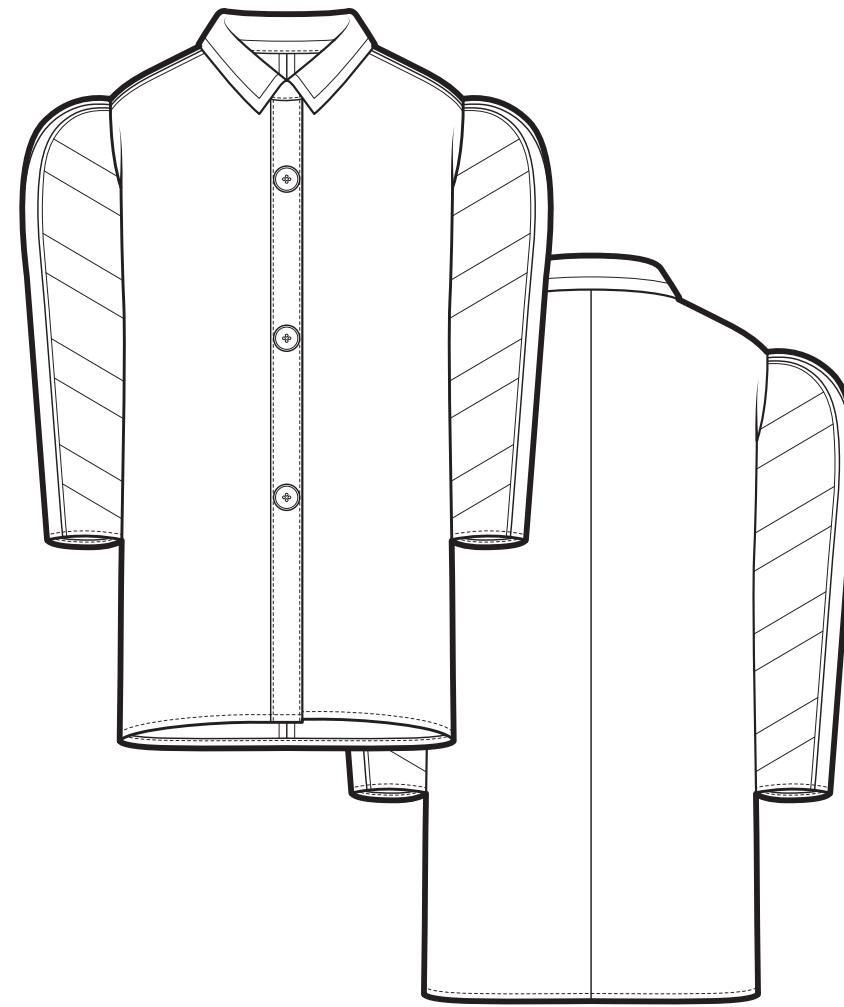
The overall atmosphere that I thrive for is humorous and whimsical. I want to create my collection, a resting, appetizing, and inviting place.





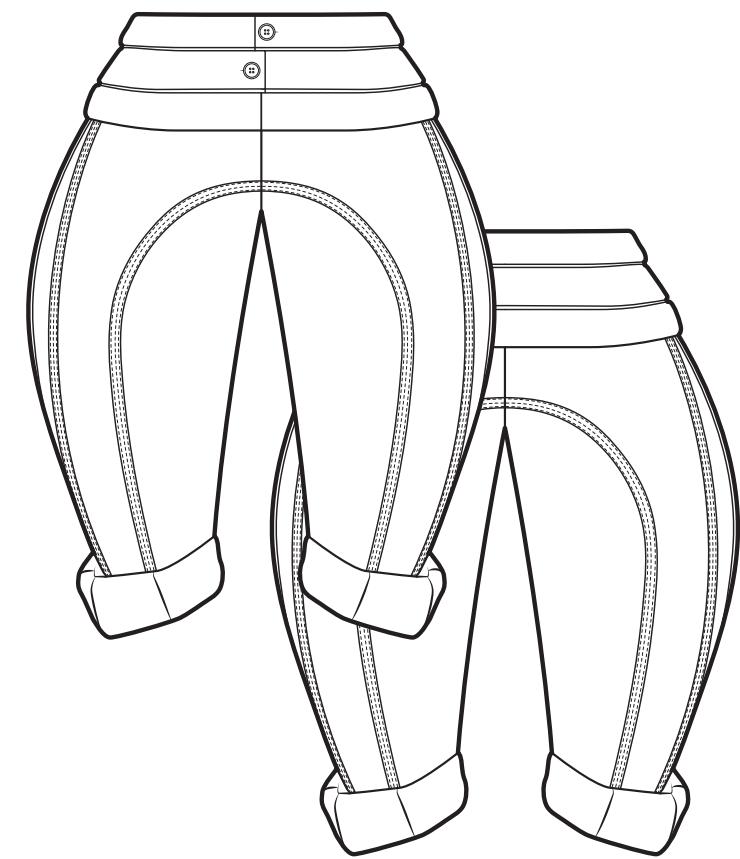
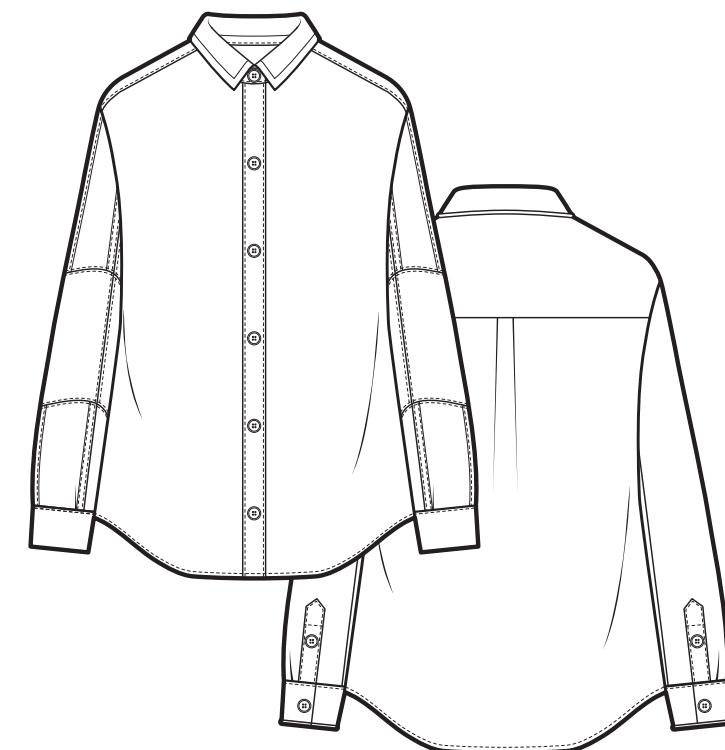


LOOK 1



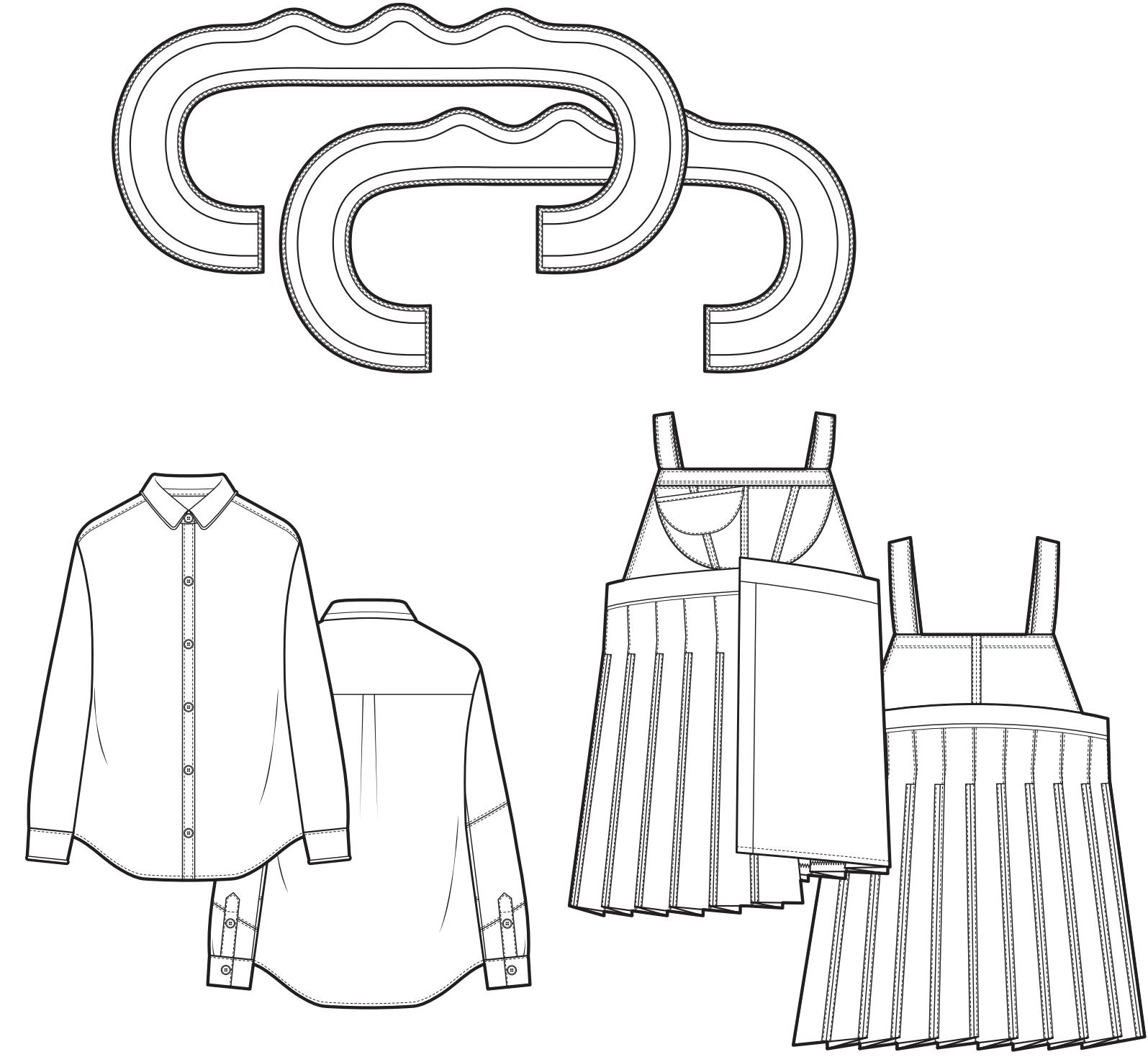


LOOK 2



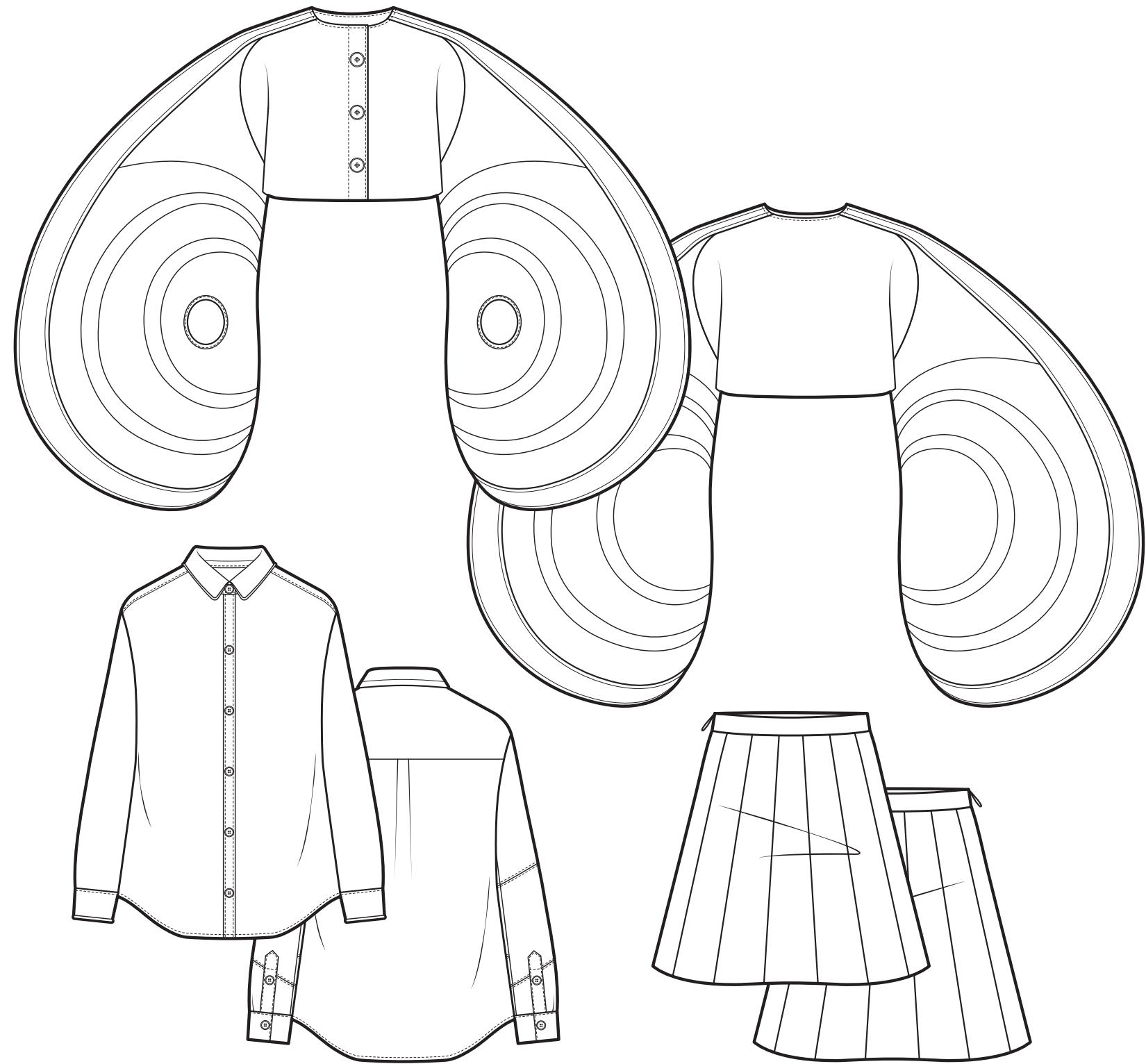


LOOK 3



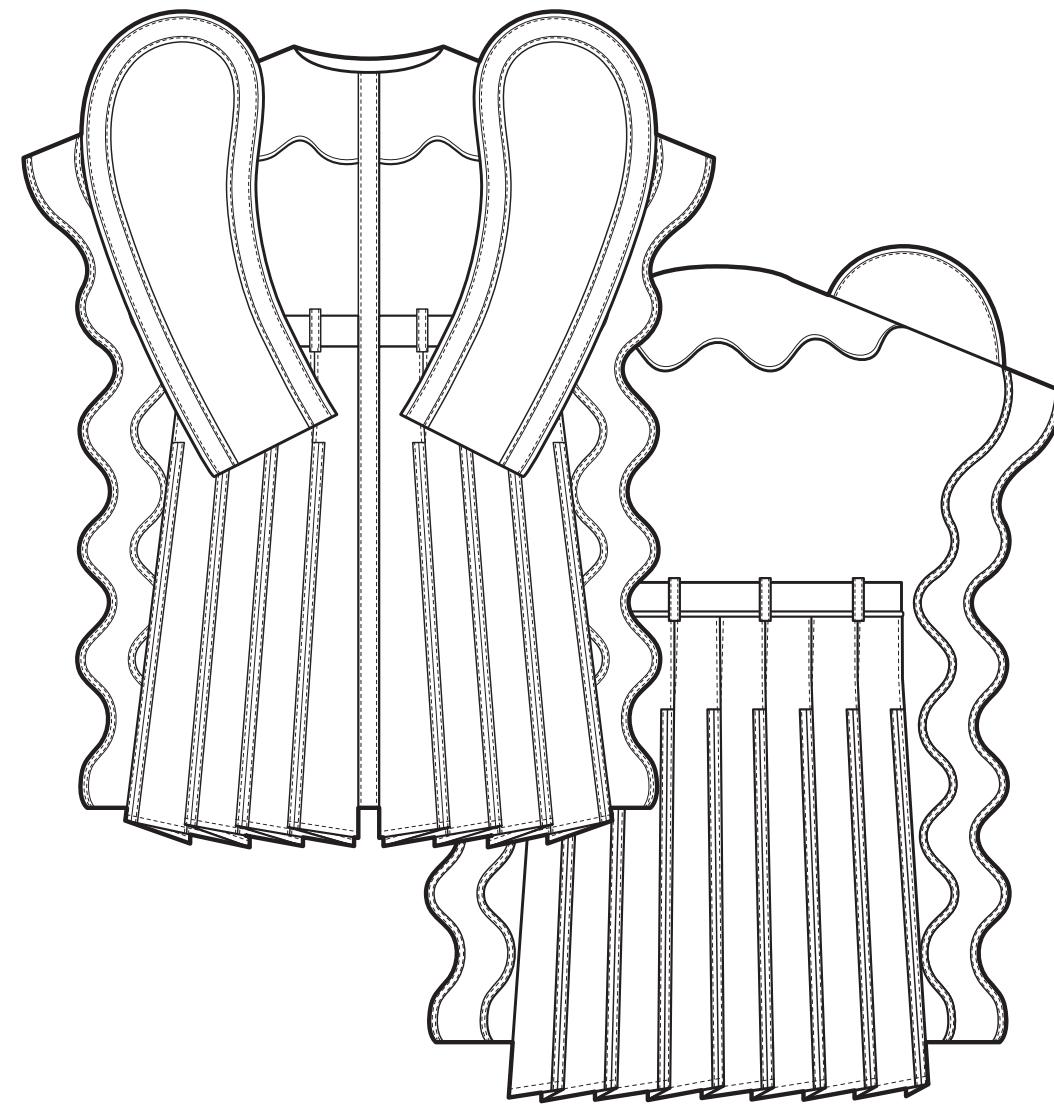


LOOK 4



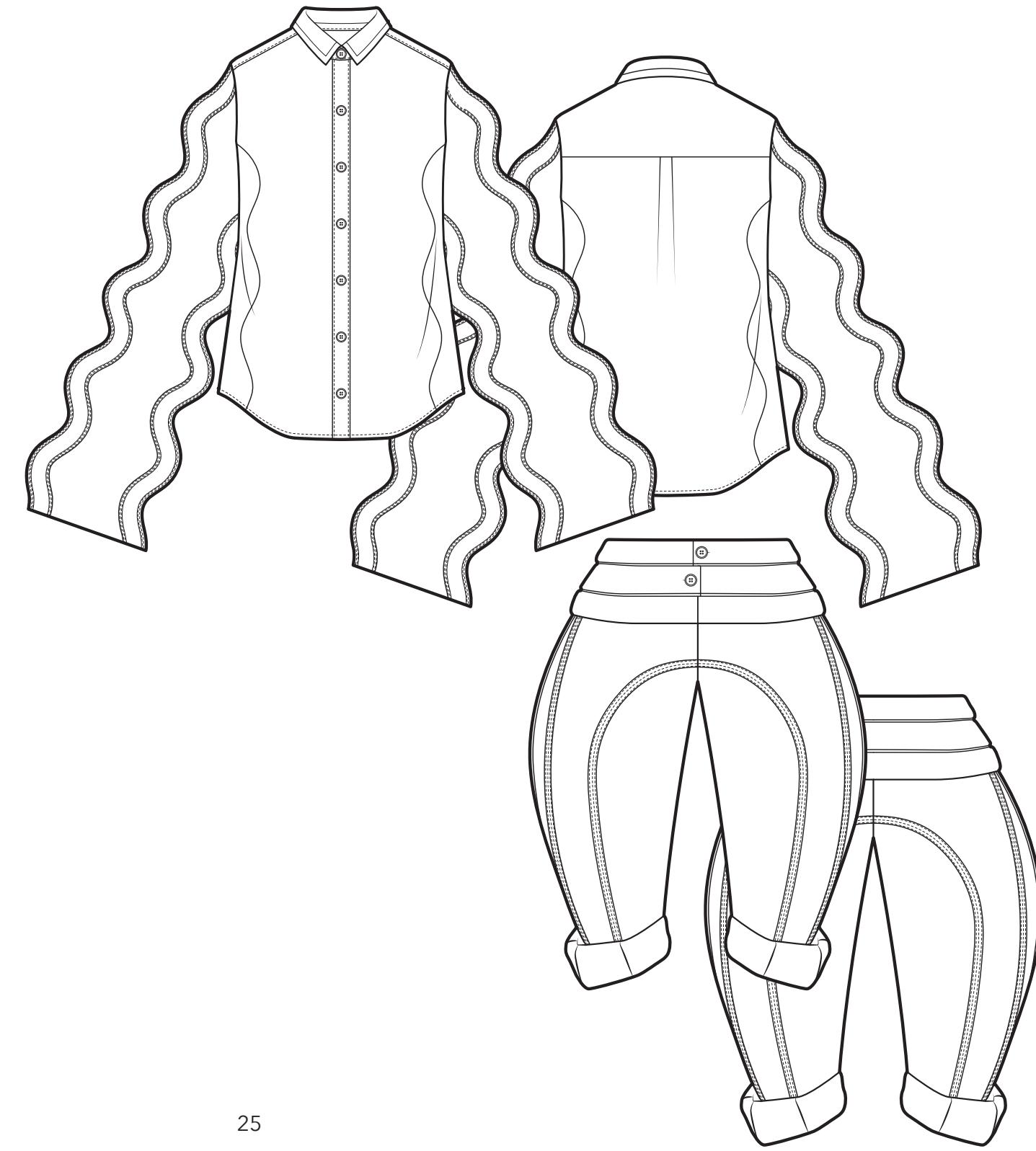


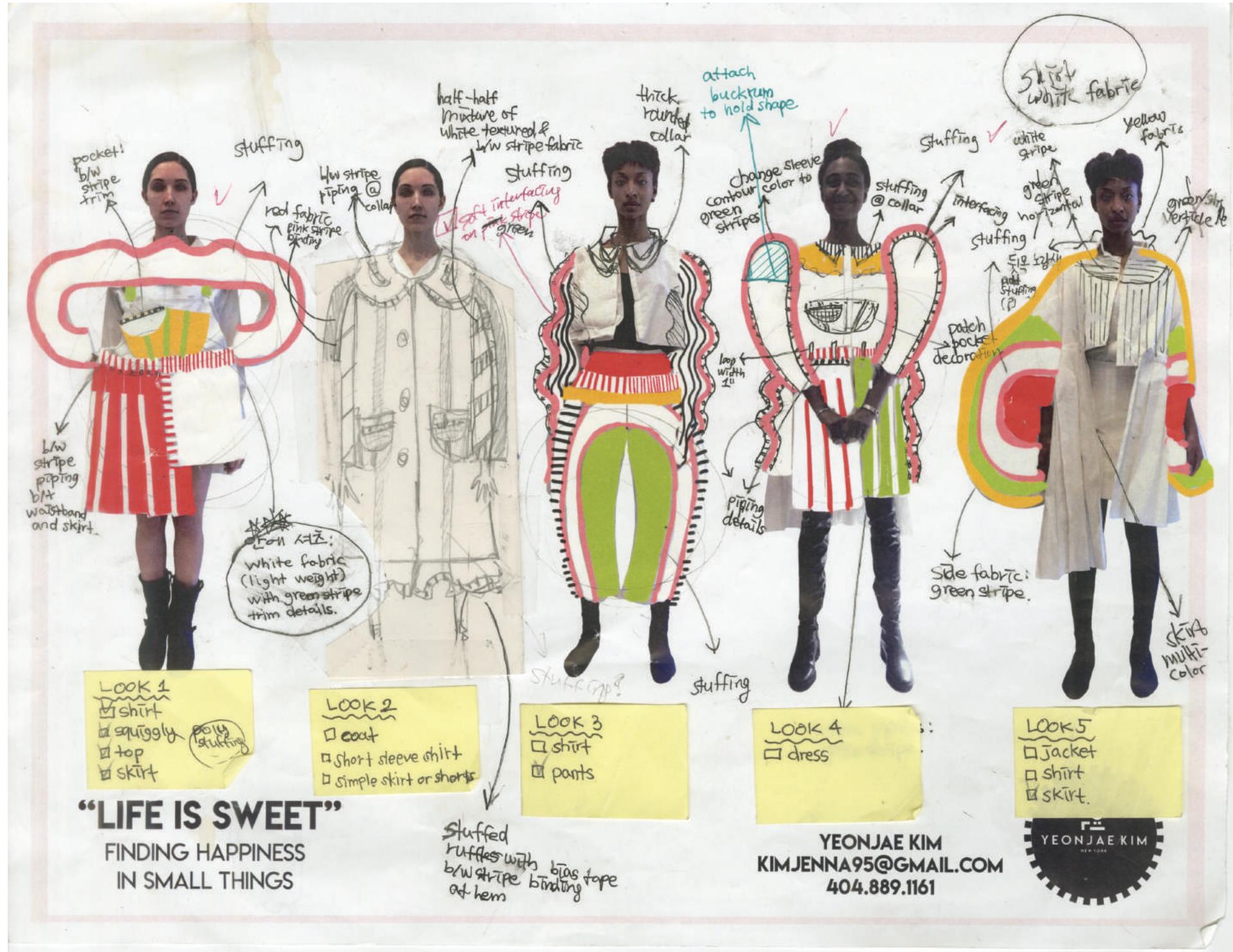
LOOK 5





LOOK 6







LOOK 1

LOOK 2

LOOK 3

LOOK 4

LOOK 5





For they told you life is hard
Misery from the start,
It's dull, it's slow, it's painful
But I tell you life is sweet
In spite of the misery
There's so much more, be grateful
So, who will you believe
Who will you listen to
Who will it be
'Cause it's high time that you decide
It's time to make up your own
Your own state of mind
Oh they told you life is long
Be thankful when it's done
Don't ask for more, be grateful
But I tell you life is short
Be thankful because
Before you know it
It will be over
'Cause life is sweet, life is also very
short
-Natalie Merchant



YEONJAE KIM
KIMJENNA95@GMAIL.COM
404.889.1161