

DYNAMIC OBJECTS

DESIGNED BY AMIT YANAI

Curse leather 2024

mentors -

Yossi Katzav . Gilad Yona





Hi, my name is Amit Yanai, from Tel Aviv.

I'm a third-year fashion design student at Shenkar College of Engineering, Design and Art.

Throughout my studies, I've consistently drawn inspiration from artworks – paintings, drawings, sculptures, and more.

I'm fascinated by how everyday life holds emotion—like spontaneous street photographs or visual fragments that capture fleeting moments and become frozen in media. There's a powerful dissonance between the randomness of a moment and its documentation that stops time.

In this project, while researching the 1966 natural disaster in Florence, I was deeply drawn to the profound transformation of the city, its people, and the artworks experienced.

This project became a bridge between a historical event and today's modern visual culture. The flood in Florence left once-static artworks in a state of movement—peeled, faded, soaked in mud.

Working with leather allowed me to fully express this concept. Leather, with its natural stiffness, challenged me to explore how I could design it in a way that felt effortless, soft, and fluid. I created sharp, body-defining cuts that contrast with the leather's natural heaviness and collapse—combining tailored, structured elements with fragile, delicate ones.

This is a project I know I'll carry forward—both conceptually, and through the design language I developed within it.



My research begins with a natural disaster –
The 1966 Arno River flood in Florence



Florence, a city rich in historical and artistic heritage,
was struck by a sudden, muddy flood that swept away everything in its path,
catching the city and its people completely unprepared.

Thousands of items – artworks, ancient literature, sculptures, and jewelry
from important collections – were damaged, swept away, and lost.



These objects underwent a dynamic transformation –
From stillness in museums to being altered by moisture and sediment.
Eventually, efforts began to identify, recover, and restore them.

Florentines initiated unprecedented and
poetic acts of restoration.

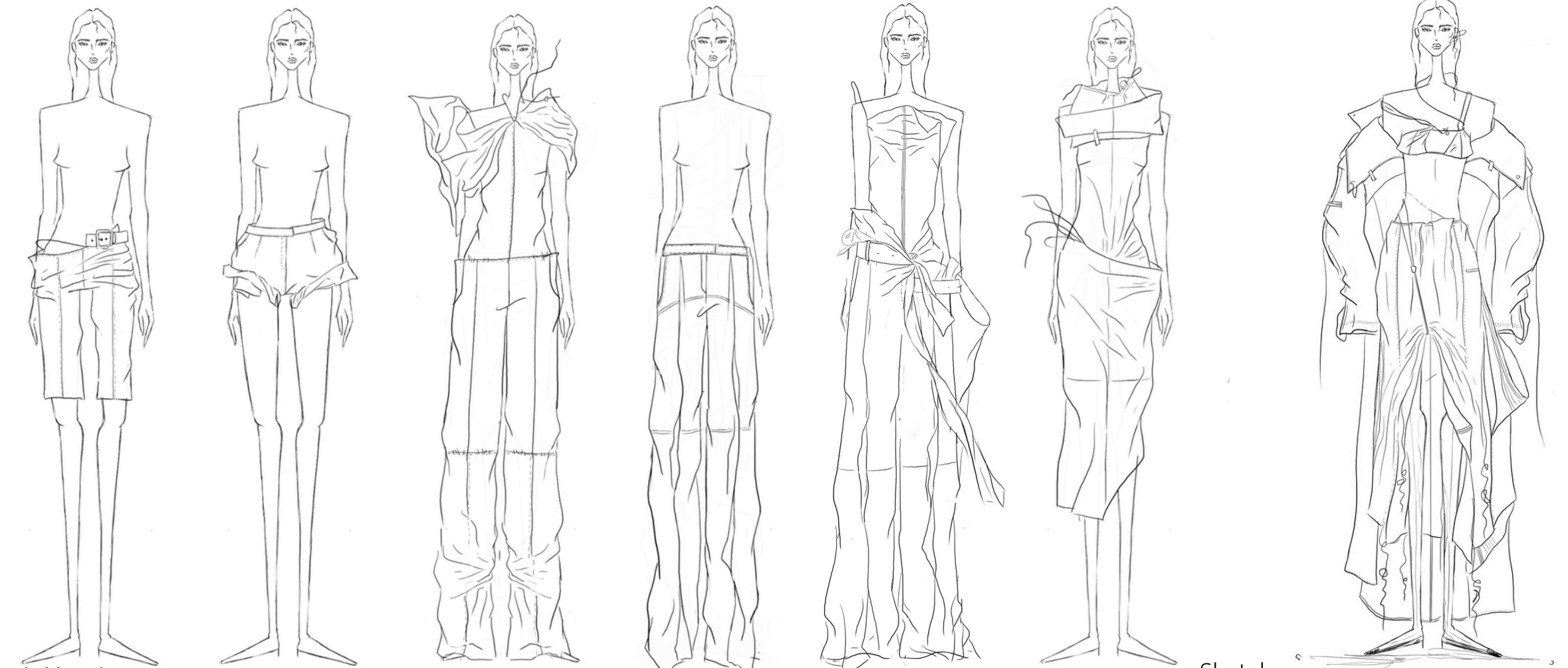
Working in media and creating content for jewelry brands,
I accumulate hundreds of pieces – objects I can't fully control.
They tangle, catch on clothing, break, vanish,
and reappear in the most unexpected places.

Like a delicate piece of jewelry swept away in the flood,
its fragility makes it precious –
and vulnerable to being lost, caught, or displaced.

Form-fitting cuts create a sense of control and structure, while flowing leather sections appear to slip or collapse – evoking movement and tension, like the shift from stillness to chaos after the flood.



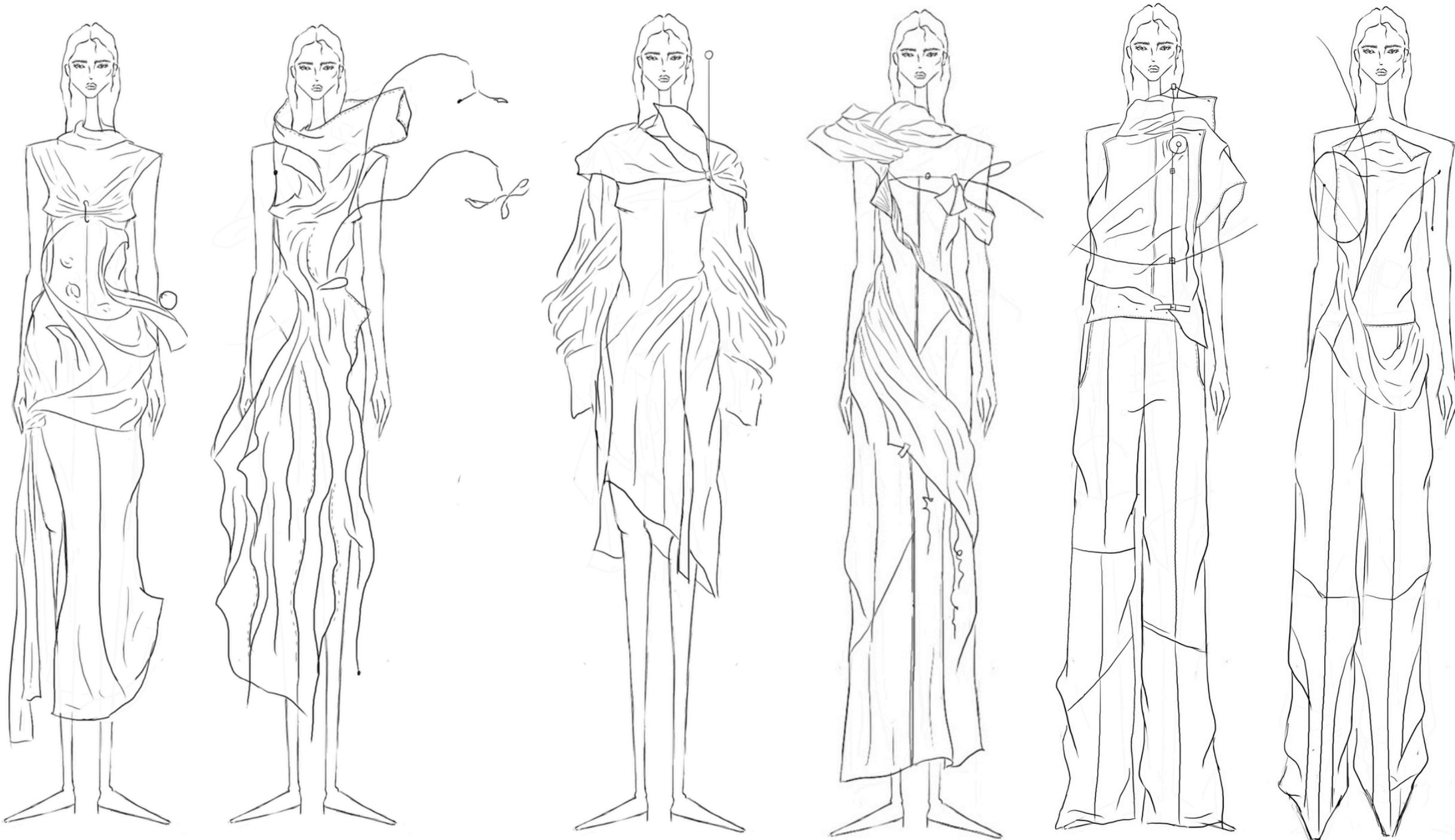
list of materials used – Lamb nappa leather, thin leather threads, natural stone beads, real silver rods and beads.



Sketches



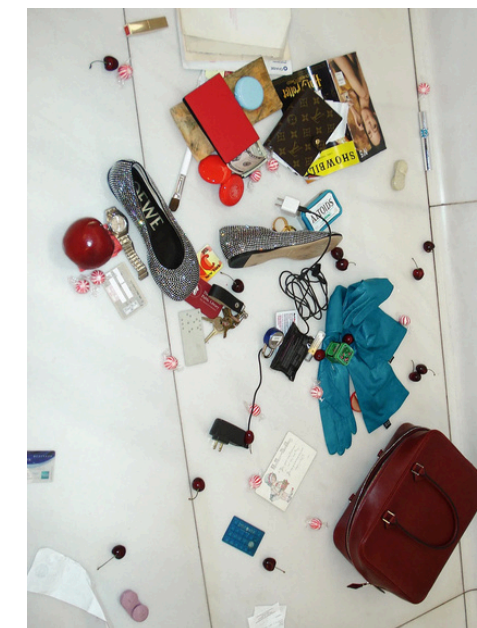
flood of the Arno, 1966

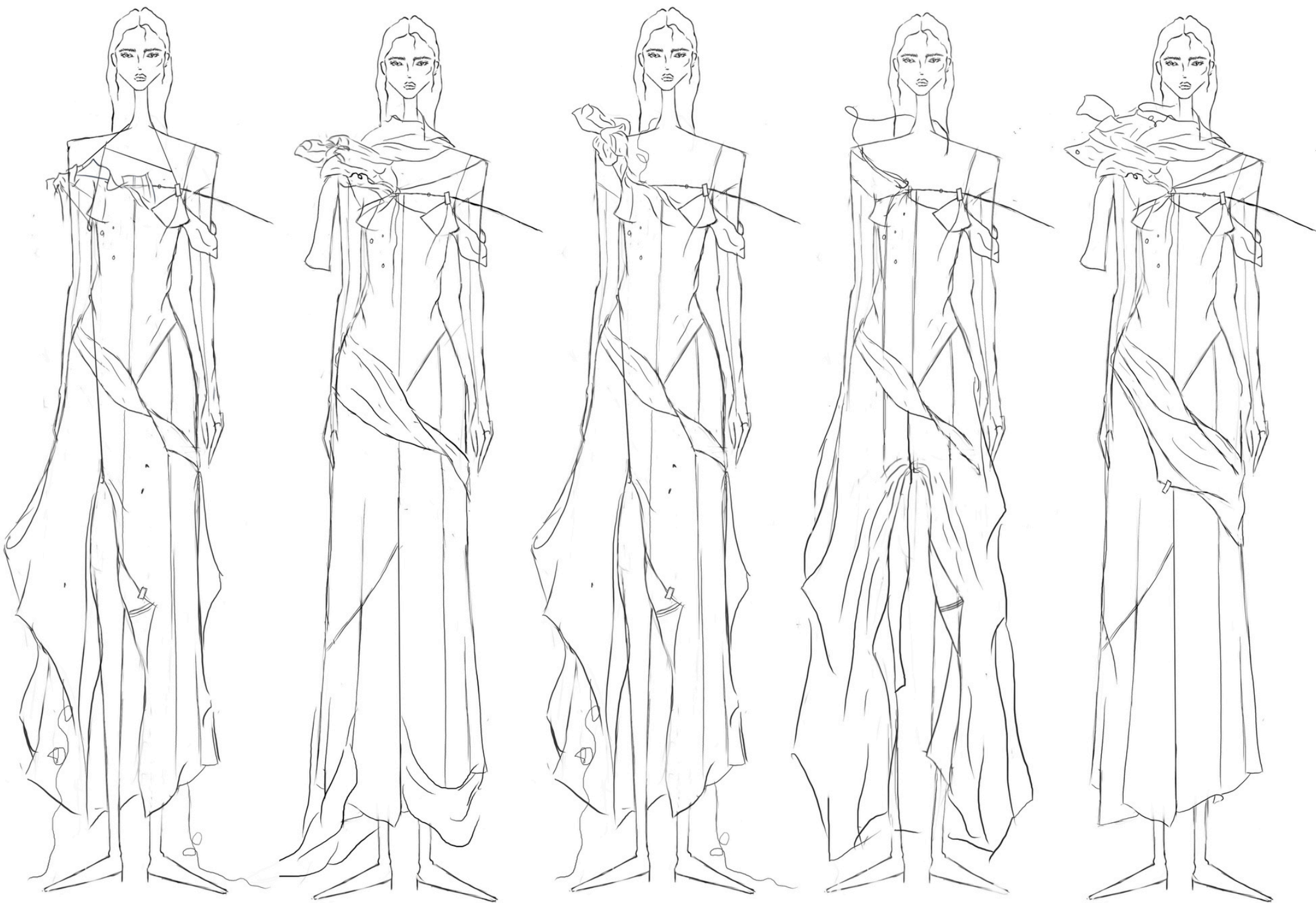


Alexander Calder



Flood of the Arno, 1966





Efforts to Recover and Restore

I began developing the model through free - form experimentation.



First toile fitting.

lamb nappa in various shades of gray,
for creating eclectic and seemingly random combinations.



Some leathers have dark, distressed areas
echoing the theme and used directly in the dress.

Experiments with Japanese wax, **creating swirling & twisted forms** - resulting in a solid silver piece.



“Scattered Objects” - Vogue



Like a scattered necklace,
I collected **real stone beads** and placed them in unexpected areas on the dress.

Leftover silver transformed into beads.

Final model submitted at Shenkar University

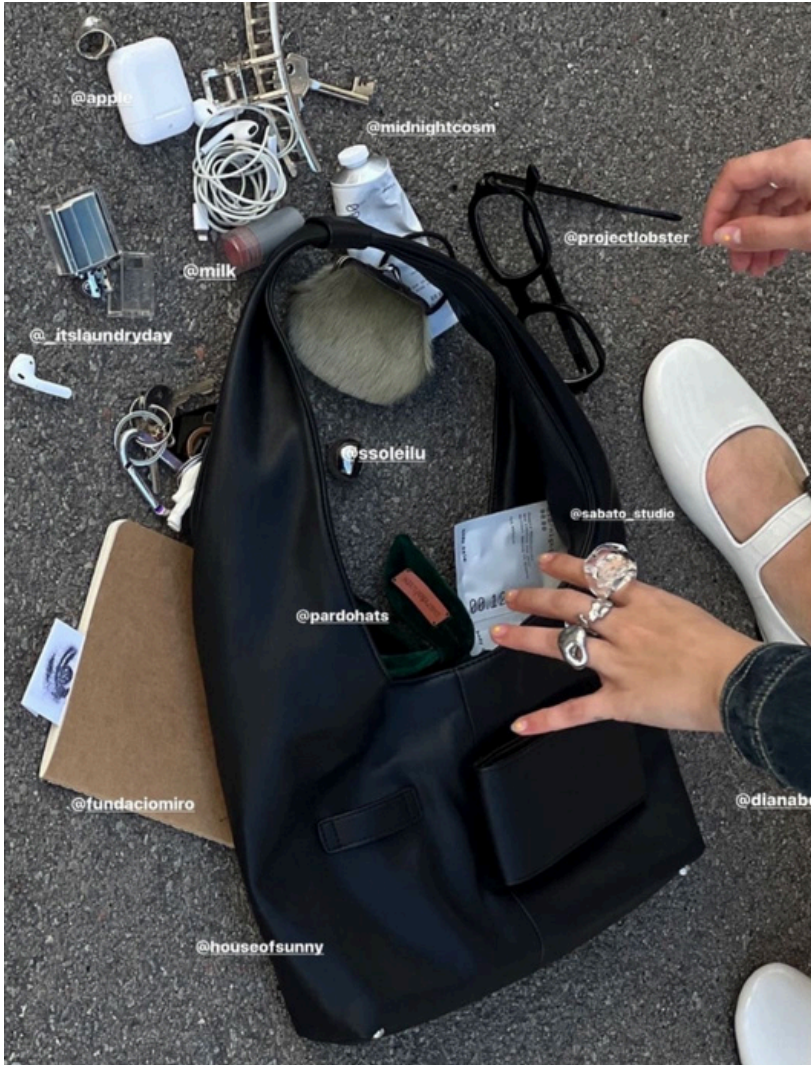


Flood of the Arno, 1966



A pile of objects swept from their natural place by disaster – an echo of everyday moments when belongings spill and scatter from a bag.

Instagram



Mobile bag



Mobile bag -
its form appears torn open, pierced by a silver rod. At its end hangs a mobile that gathers the objects that have 'fallen out' of the bag. A Reference to Kinetic Art.

MORE VISUALS

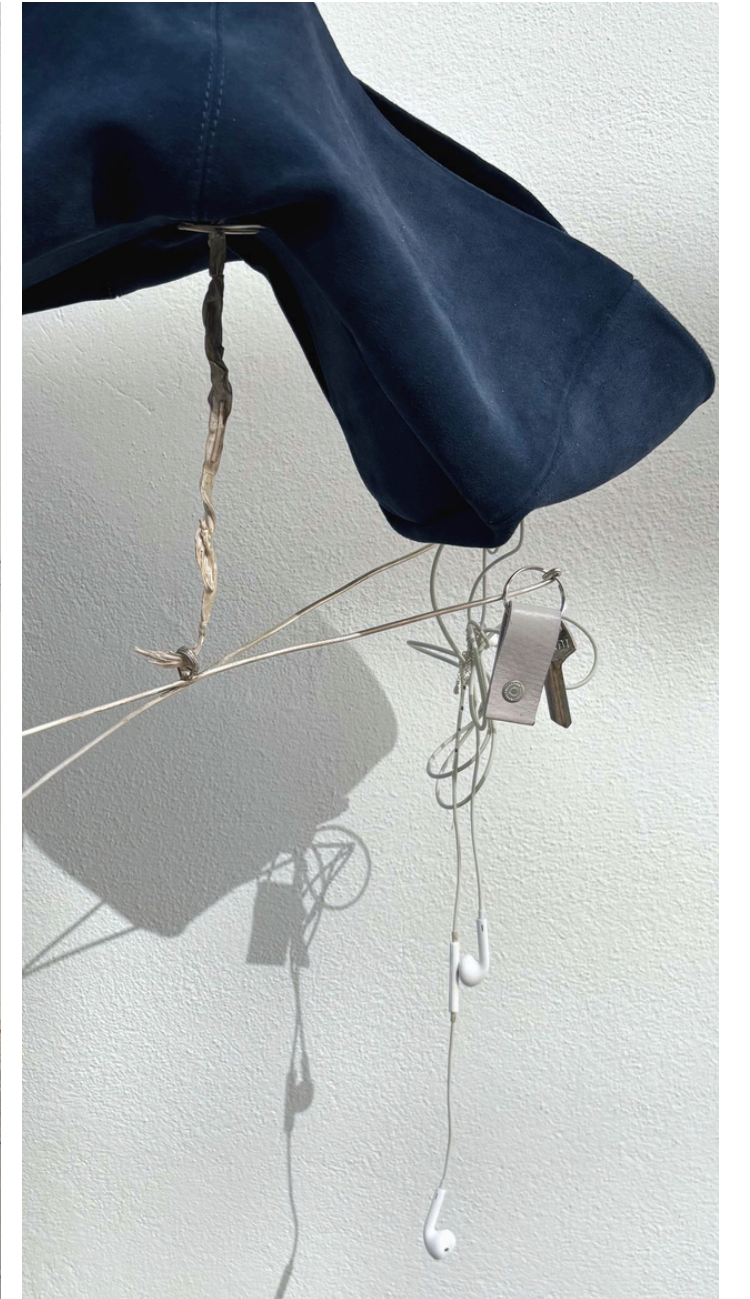
Design & Creative - AMIT YANAI

Photography - TAL BRUSHAL









Mobile bag constructed from cowhide suede, silver rods, and leather threads.

