

Visualization of Mist as curtain in front of a big window

Unfolding Paper

*Degree project, 2023-2024
The Swedish School of Textiles, Borås*

Unfolding Paper aims to design textiles that contribute to the sensory and atmospherical experience of a space. While traditional architectural materials are often rigid and heavy, textiles offer a contrasting sense of softness, flexibility and lightness.

Paper yarn is a characteristic material and the textiles of the collection are all unfolding aspects of paper yarn's properties. In some instances, the inherent stiffness of paper yarn gives the textiles a three-dimensional form or causes them to curl. In other examples, combining paper yarn with fibres like wool results in a new material that blend the qualities of each component. Colours are used to accentuate the movement and textures and evoke emotions.

Unfolding Paper highlights the potential for woven paper yarn-based textiles to become engaging spatial elements, enriching architectural environments to become more embracing and nurturing.

Paper Yarn

Paperyarn is stiff, strong, and lightweight at the same time. It has a good ability to be dyed and reflect colour. The properties of paper yarn are also giving expressive and aesthetic qualities. The stiffness makes it hard to control but gives it character.

Paper yarn can be understood as a hybrid between paper and yarn. This ambiguity makes it a more complex material to grasp and therefore highly aesthetic and expressive.

The paper yarn used in the project is produced in Germany and made from cellulose pulp.

Other materials

Wool: The wool used is dead stock wool yarn from the company Kasthall. The yarn is twisted to obtain the twisting effect.

Cotton and linen: The cotton and linen yarns are from the stock of The Swedish School of Textiles. The source is to me unknown but a lot of the materials they have are deadstock from companies in the area.

Metal: Beside the yarns, metal hooks are used to hang some of the textiles. They are from a local hardware store and can be reused and recycled.



Floats of paper yarn



Hand woven and folded cylinder keeping its own shape

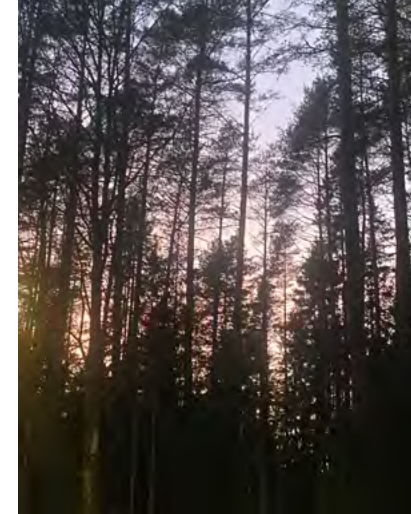
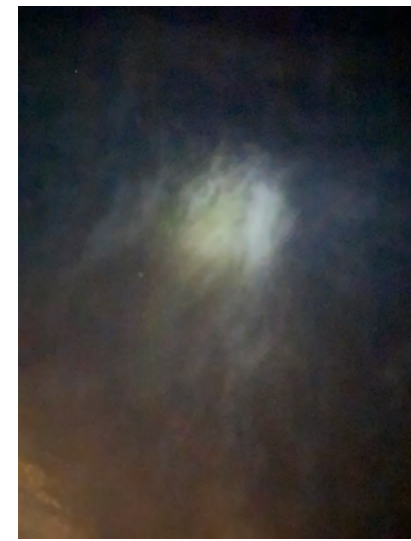


Sample of paper yarn controlling the movement of the textile

Colour

The colours of the collection are loosely inspired by photos of landscapes, views of train windows, plants and other sceneries I have photographed. They represent the atmosphere I wanted to translate into the textile to create emotionally and sensorial experiences.

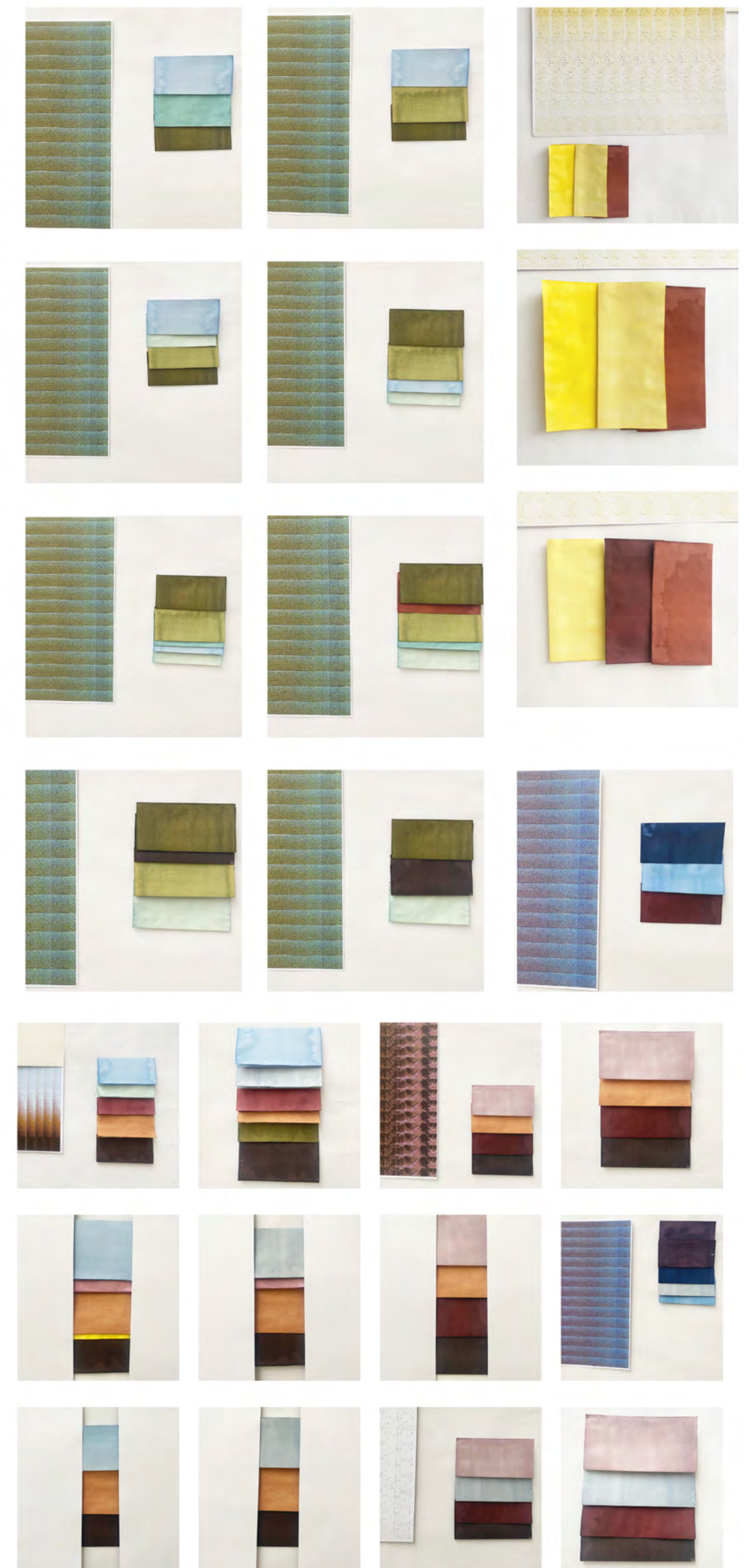
I use an analogue technique to paint the colours on paper to get the exact hues.



Inspirational pictures from various places



Mixing colours and developing hues



Testing combinations and choosing colours for the palette

Dyeing

I have developed a technique where I dye the yarns directly on the cone resulting in an uneven dye. It has similarities to shibori or ikat but is less time-consuming. The uneven dye adds complexity to the colour expression and allows working with gradients within one yarn. The colour expression of the textiles is balanced between repetitive effects and a more chaotic expression which creates a good contrast

The dye stuff used is synthetic.



Process of dyeing yarn on cones



Colour palette painted on paper

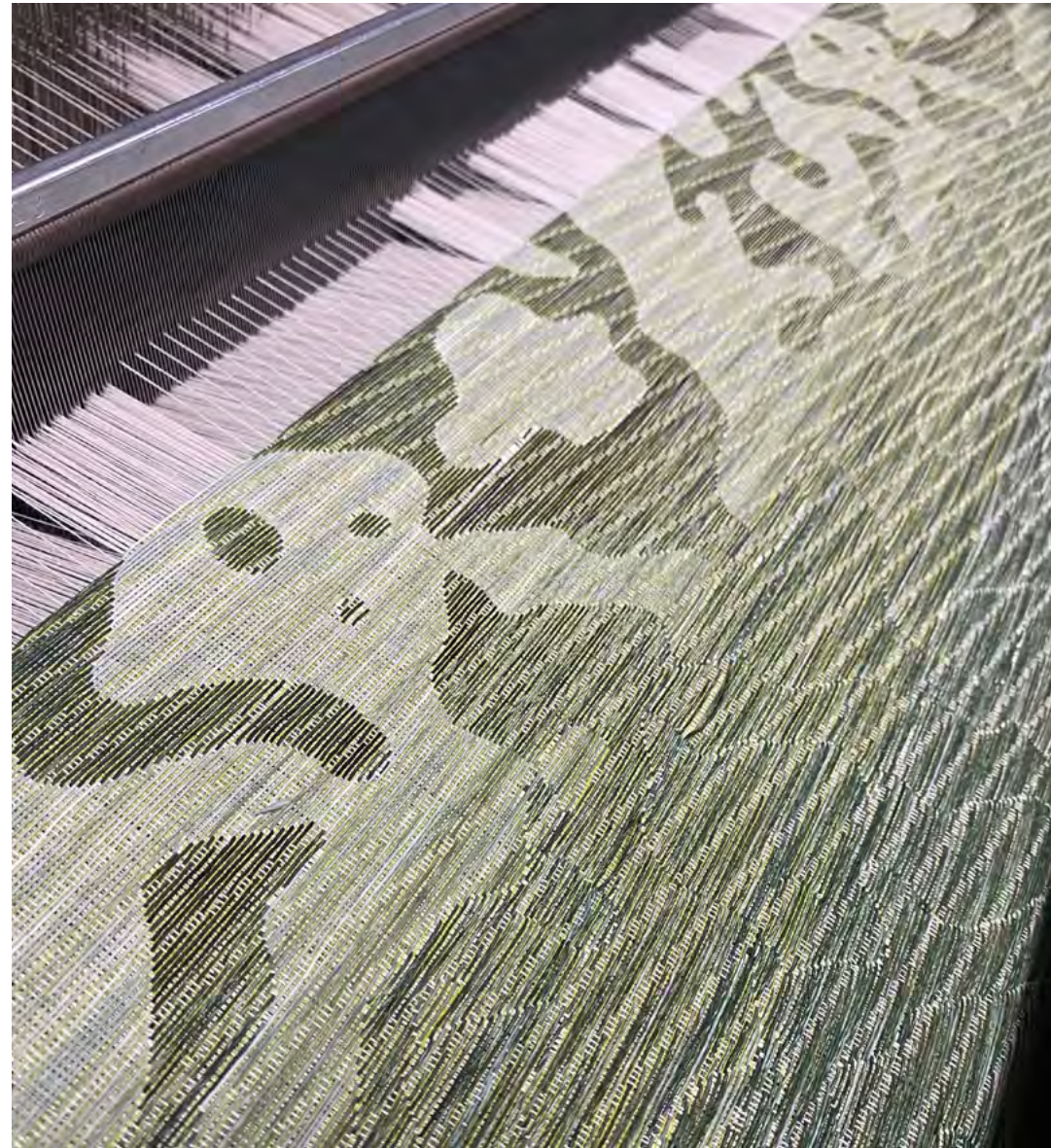
Looms and bindings

I have used a jacquard machine loom, a manual shaft loom and a shaft machine loom in this project.

The jacquard loom is the most advanced of them. Due to the number of shafts the possibilities of how to interlace the threads are endless.

On the manual shaft loom it is possible to manipulate the threads by hand and therefore achieve more freedom in how the weft threads are inserted.

On the shaft machine loom I was able to set a warp of paper yarn and I could therefore weave with paper yarn in a bigger scale. The paper yarn warp differs from the cotton because of the materiality of the paper yarn but also in density. Therefore it is possible to achieve transparent and more rigid textiles with the paper warp and dense and softer textiles with the cotton warp.



Process of weaving samples for Moss on jacquard loom



Process of weaving samples for Mist on jacquard loom



Weaving floats on jacquard loom



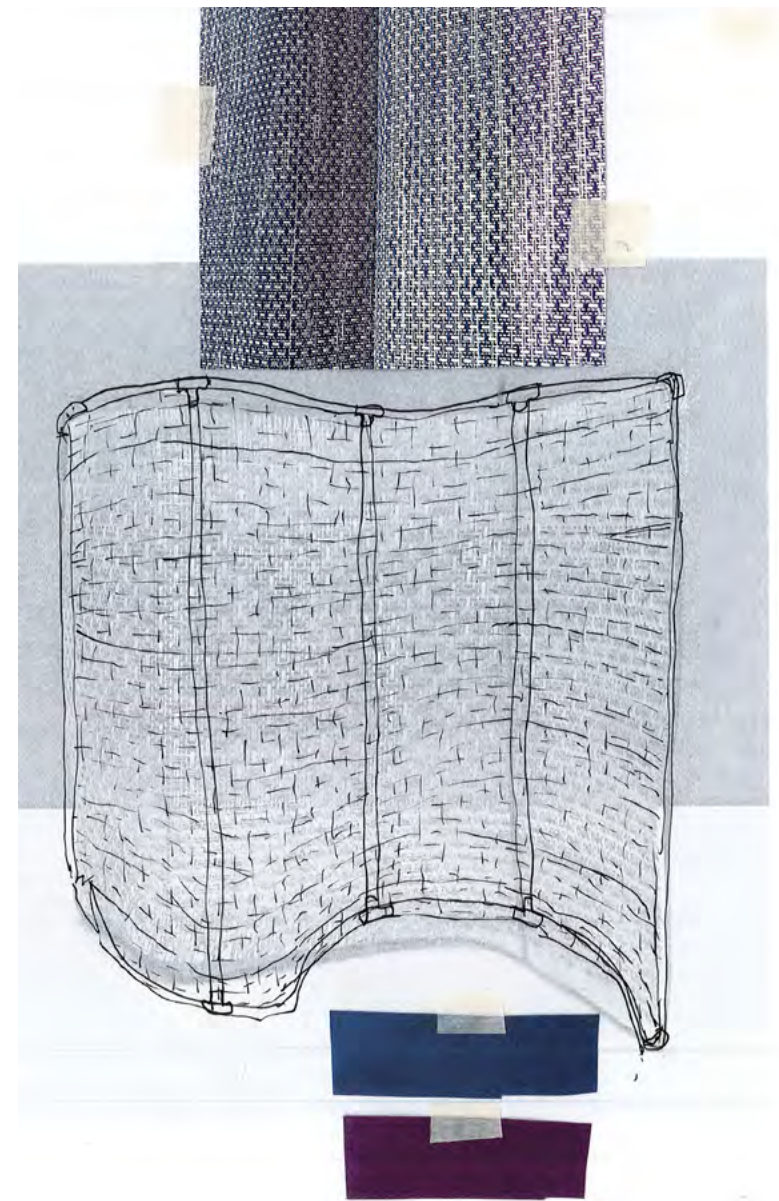
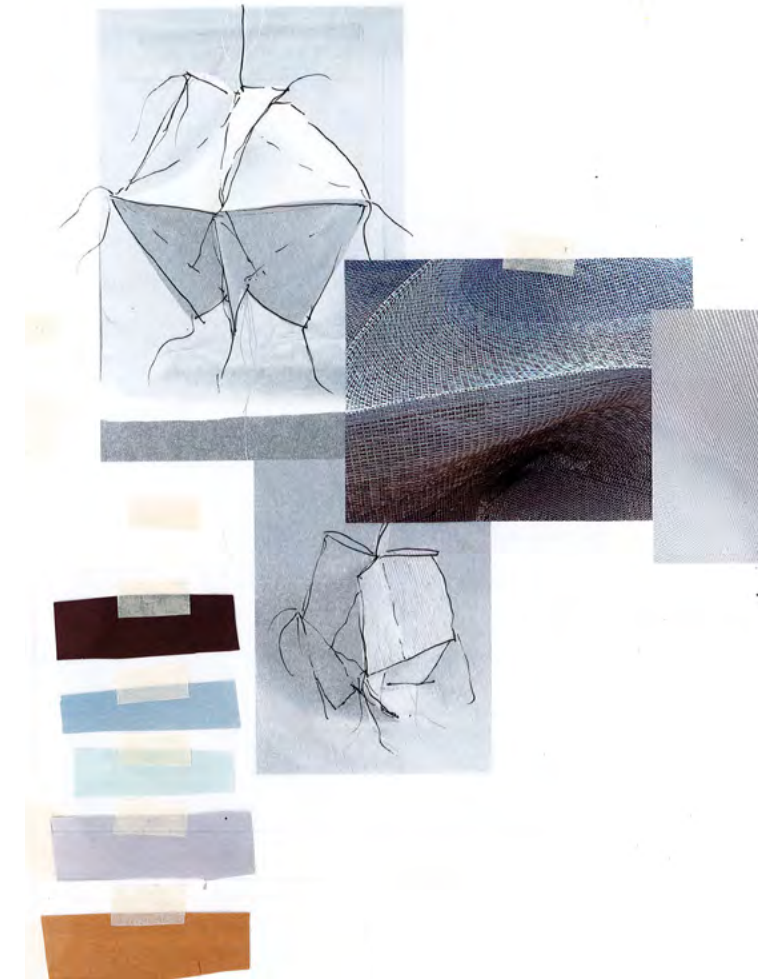
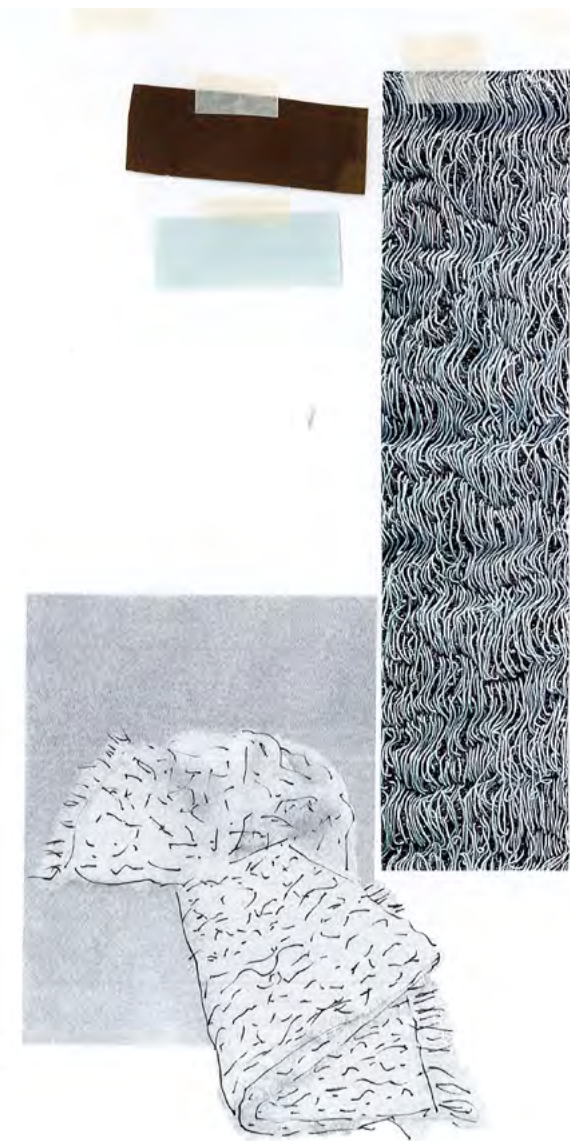
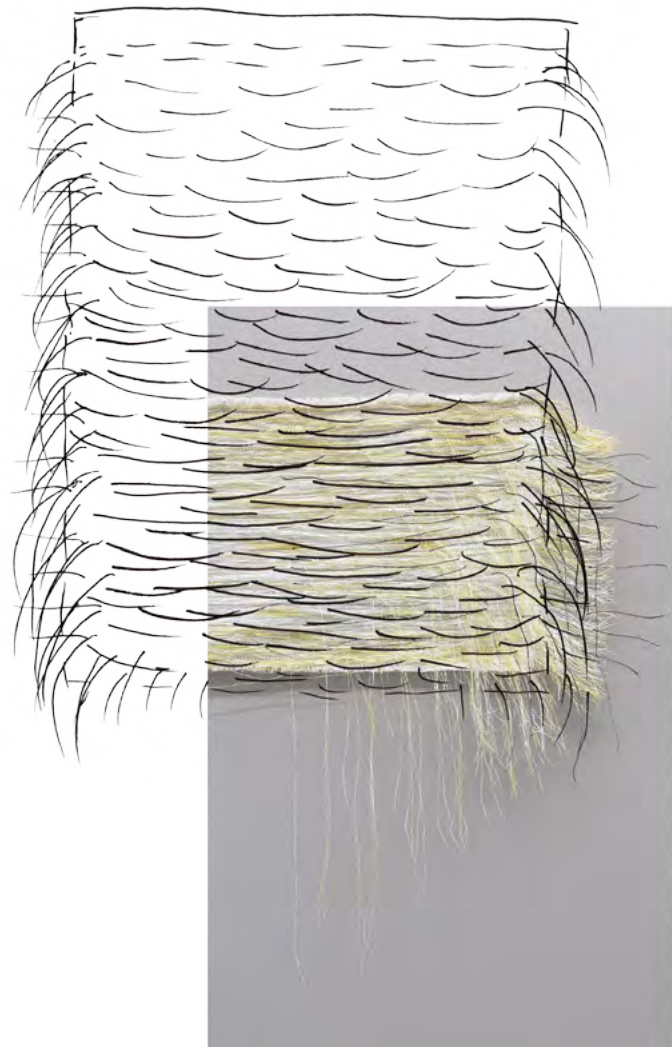
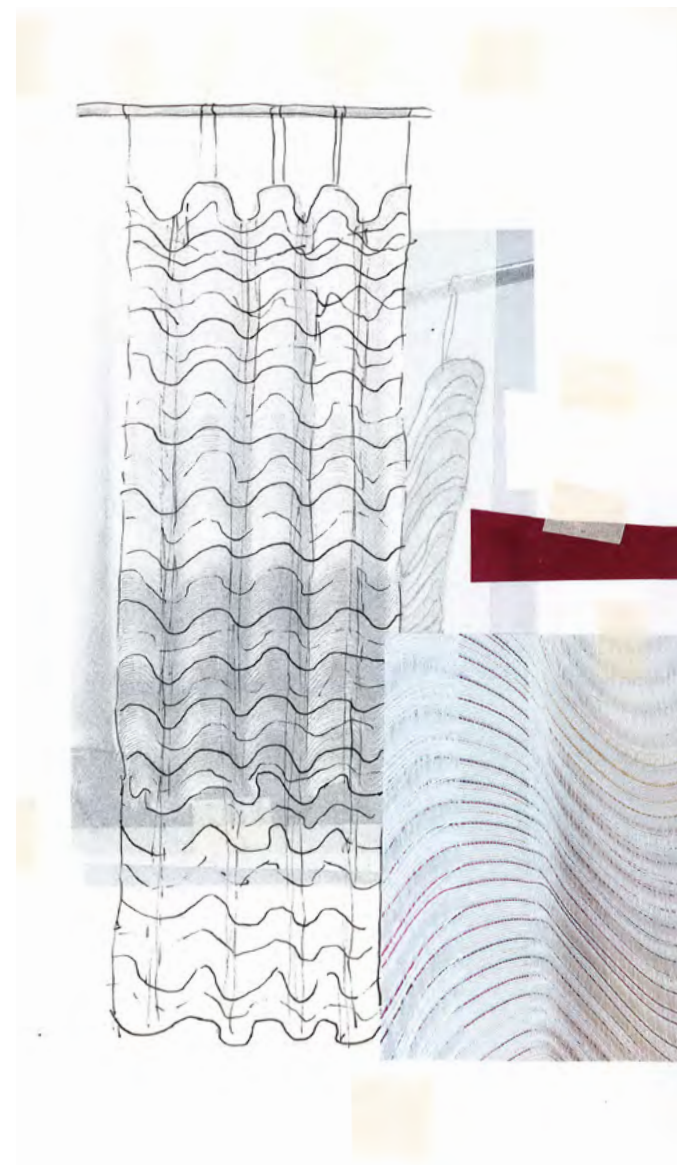
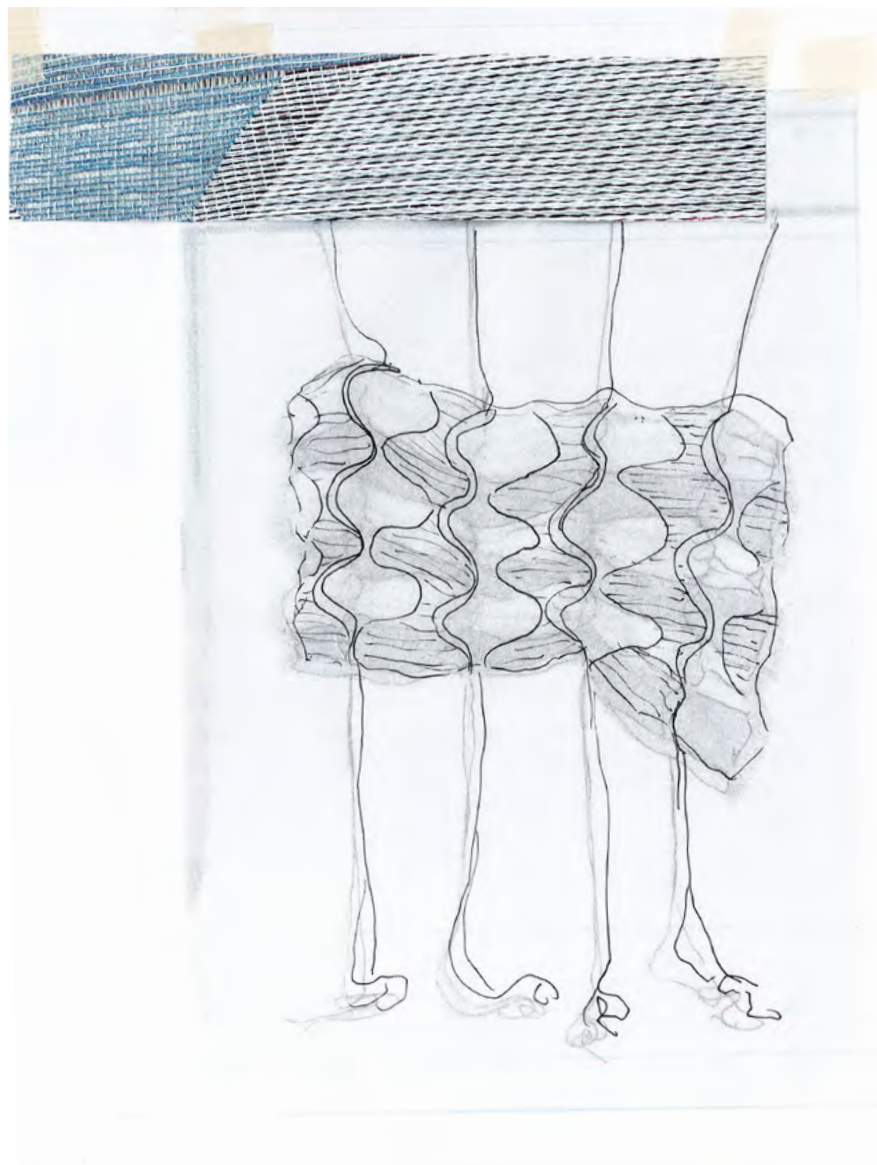
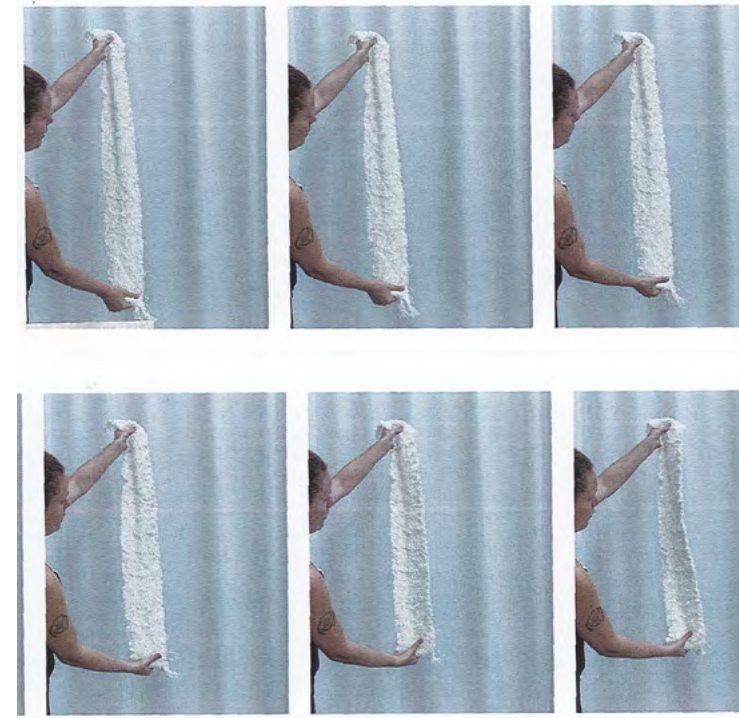
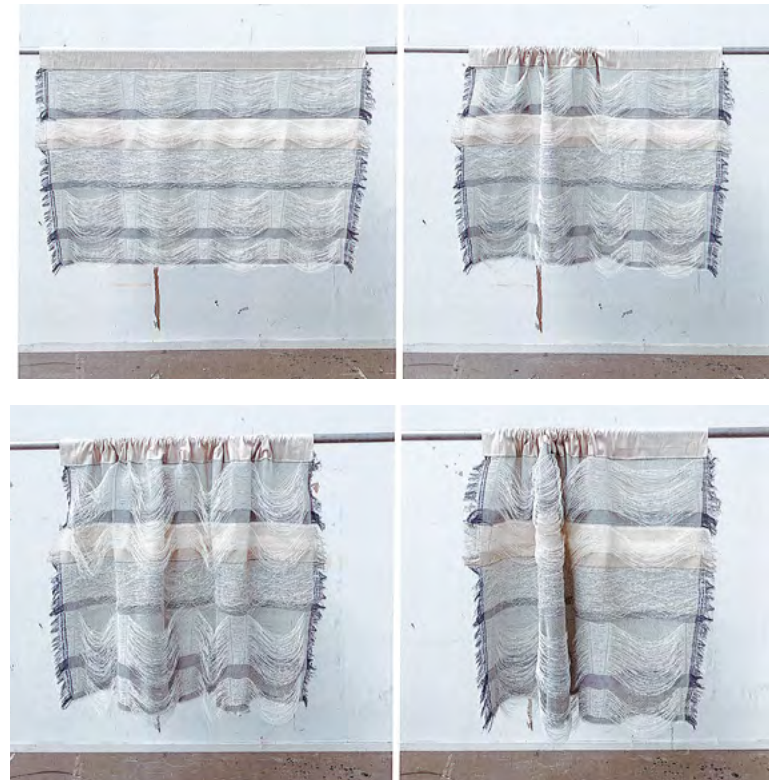
Process of weaving mist on jacquard loom



Paper warp and dyed yarns on the loom



Shaft machine with paper warp



1 *Cloud*

2 *Mist*

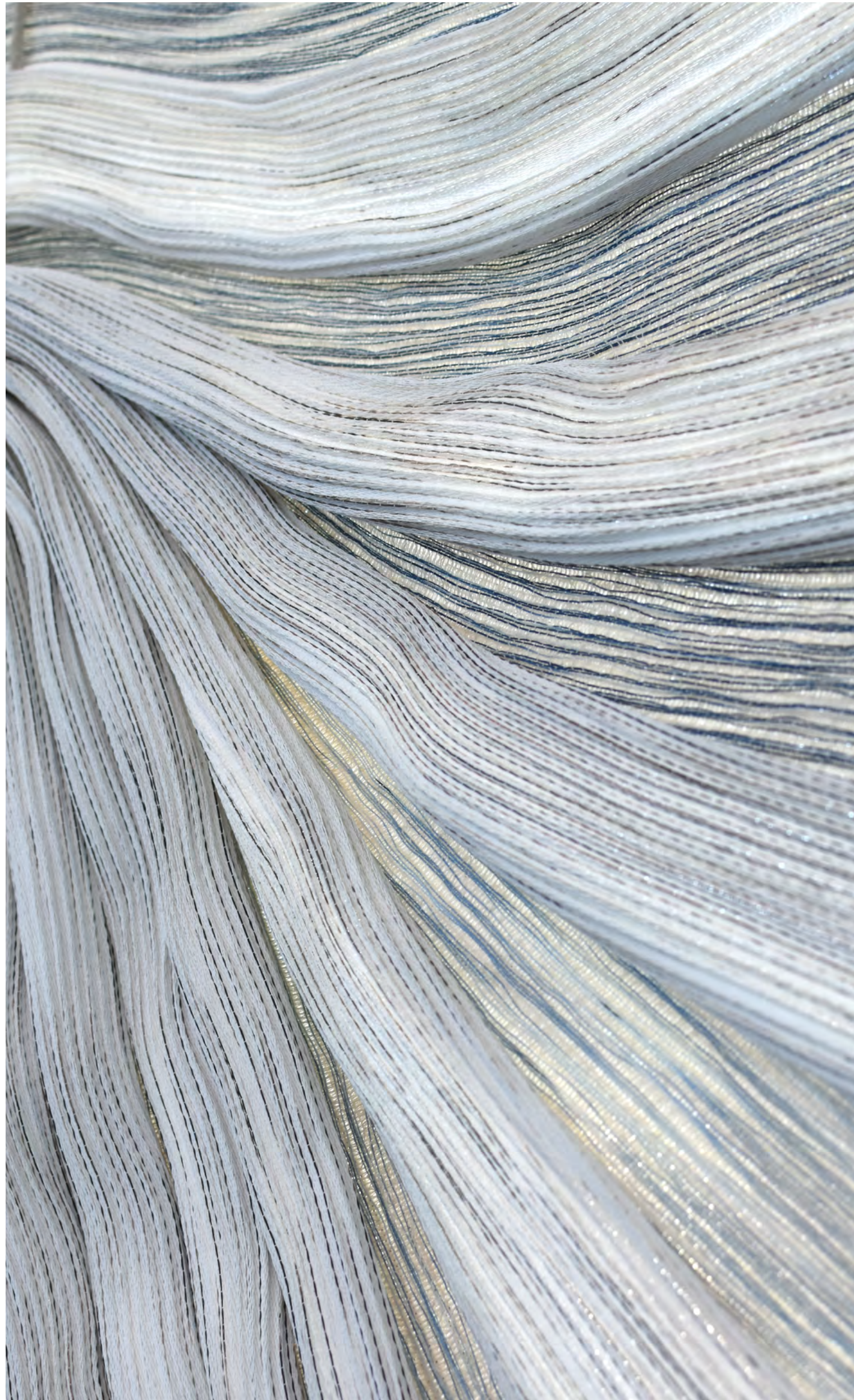
3 *Rays*

4 *Moss*

5 *Spheres*

6 *Haze*

The process of developing samples into 6 different textiles for the collection.



Clouds



Clouds - Paper yarn, Linen, Cotton



Rays - Paper yarn, Cotton



Rays



Spheres



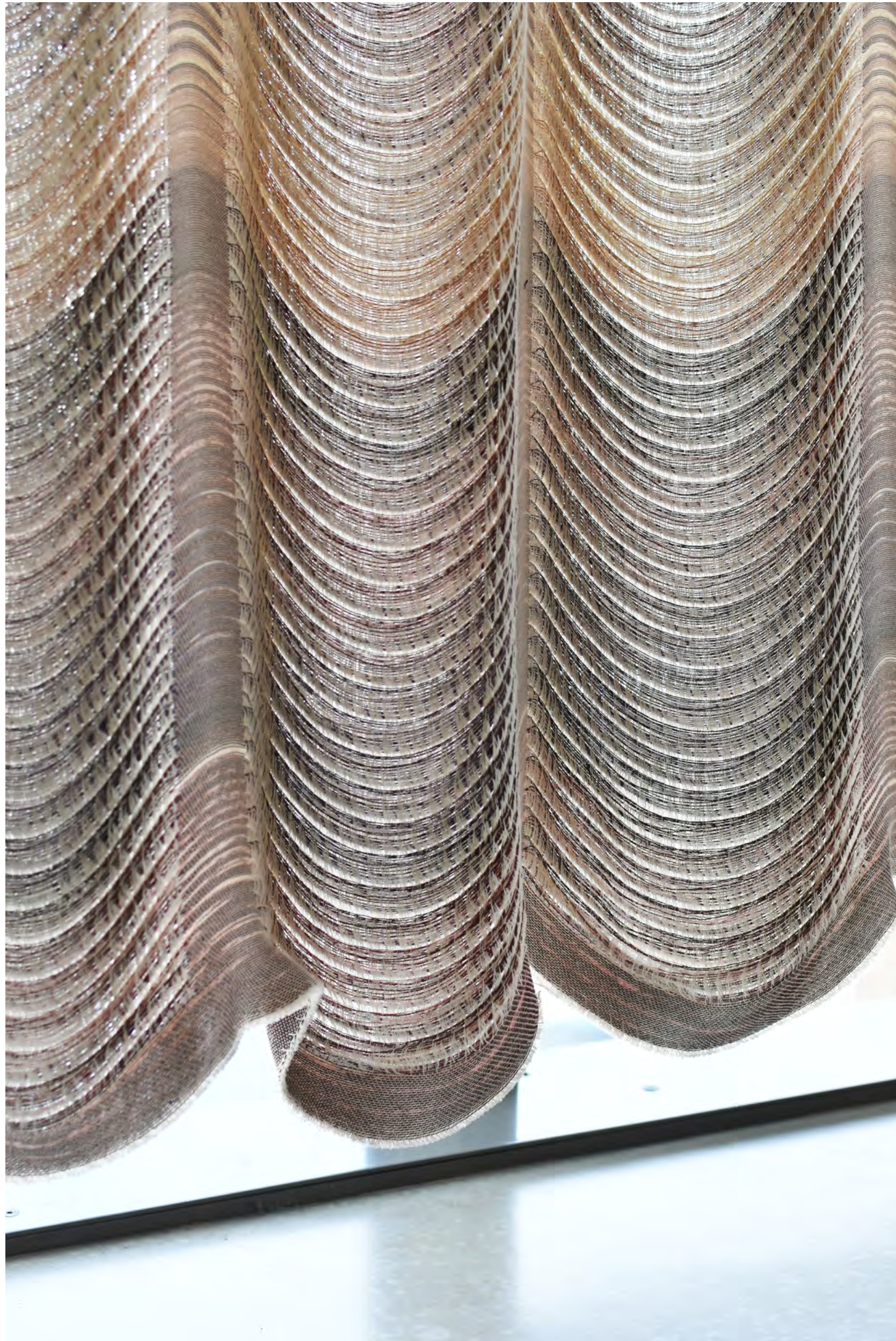
Spheres - Paper yarn



Mist - Paper yarn, cotton



Moss - Paper yarn, wool, cotton



Mist



Moss



Haze - Paper yarn



Overview of final collection