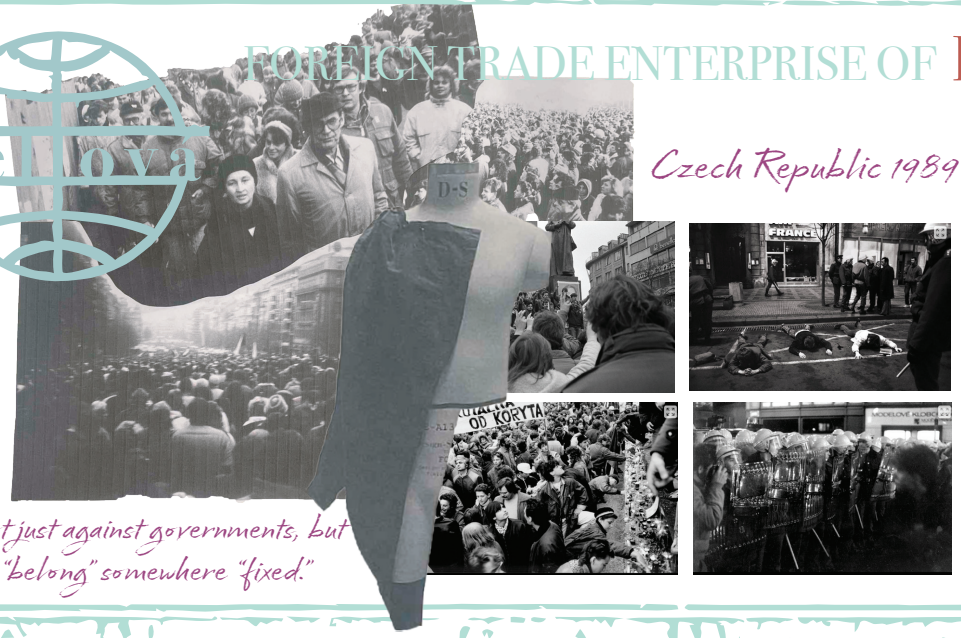
II/1989

ČÍSLO: 17042026

HOMESICK FOR NOWHERE

FOREIGN TRADE ENTERPRISE OF HALINA BELLOVÁ



Czech Republic 1989 Velvet Revolution

What if we rebel not just against governments, but also the pressure to "belong" somewhere "fixed."

Utility and Resistance

ČÍSLO: 01/12 -17042026

Homesick for Nowhere is my graduate project, exploring my dual Czech and American heritage through classic Americana workwear staples and heritage fabrics that reflect on how clothing carries meaning beyond function. This submitted look embodies that narrative through a naturally avocado-dyed chore coat and trousers, crafted from vintage 1930s French cotton bed linen. Designed as enduring wardrobe staples, the garments celebrate craftsmanship, material longevity and the value of natural processes as an alternative to disposable fashion.

The look is an homage to the Czech 1989 Velvet Revolution. It honours the people who made it happen through nostalgic chore coat-inspired silhouettes and references to political heritage. Informed by cultural memory, political history and lived experience, it reflects on resistance, identity and collective change, alongside a quiet disillusionment with inherited systems.

The colour palette and construction details were informed by Prague's Old Town architecture, particularly its oxidised copper rooftops and layered façades. As copper slowly transforms over time, it became both a visual and material metaphor for renewal following the Velvet Revolution. This process inspired the natural avocado dye, whose gradual development reflects transformation through natural means. The garments communicate the tension between softness and structure, individuality and collective memory, celebrating natural processes as symbols of resilience, renewal and hope.

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ČÍSLO: 02/12-17042026

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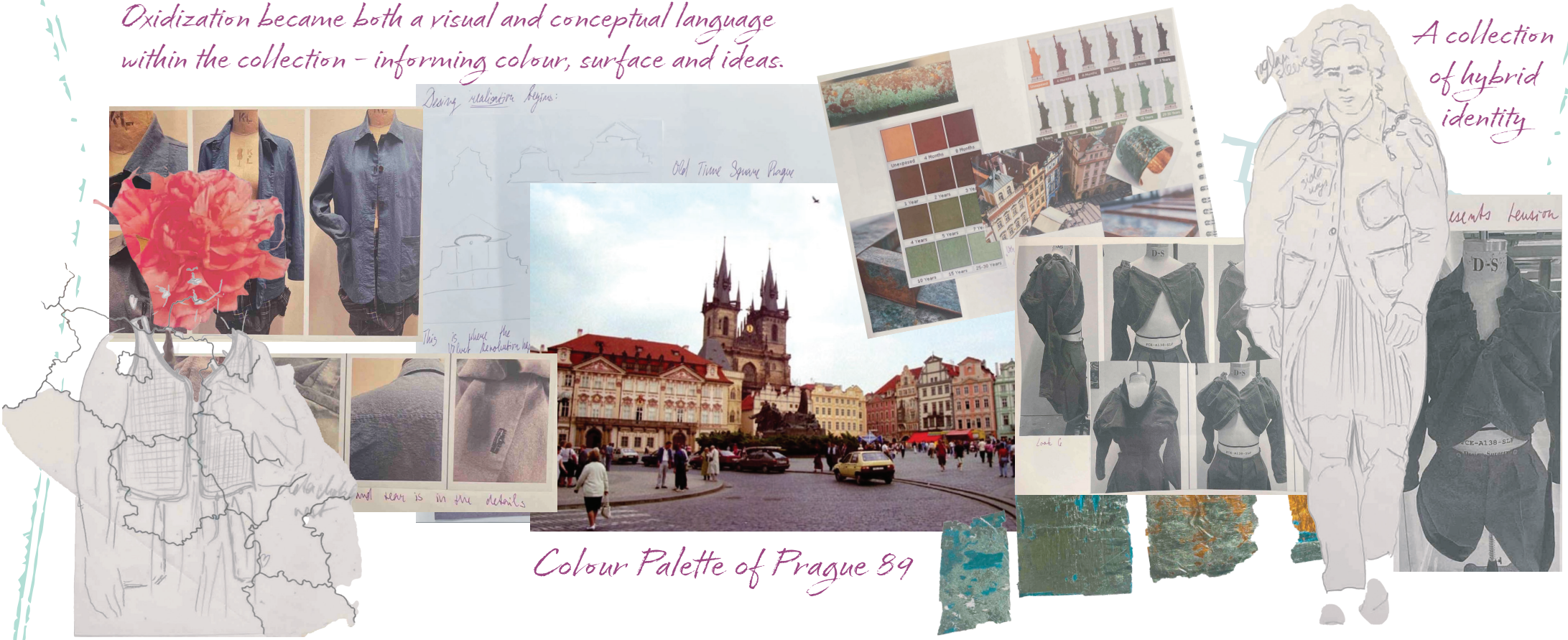
Oxidization became both a visual and conceptual language within the collection – informing colour, surface and ideas.

A collection of hybrid identity

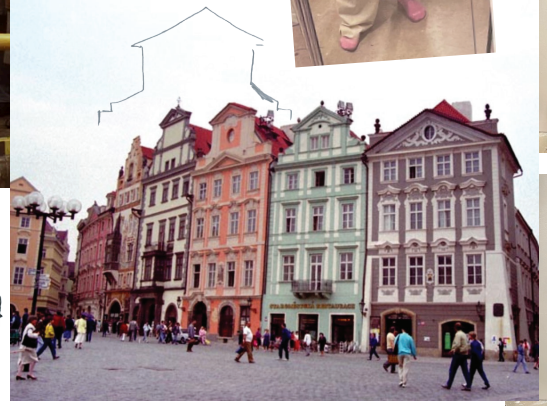


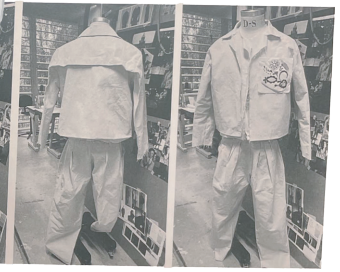
Colour Palette of Prague 89

II/1989

ČÍSLO: 04/12-17042026

Dissilusionment with authority embodied through the Chore coat silhouette





Details inspired by the facade of the Old Town Square

II/1989

ČÍSLO: 05/12-17042026

Avocado Natural Dye Process:

1)Fabric Preparation

2) Soy Milk Treatment

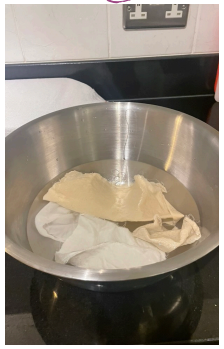
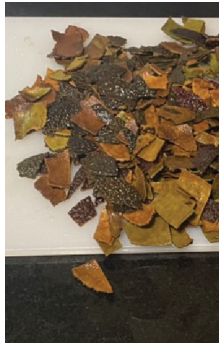
- Dip garment in unsweetened soy milk and air dry.
- Repeat three times.
- Cure for a minimum of one week.

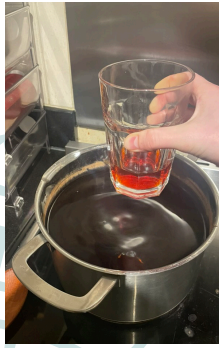
3) Avocado Dye Bath

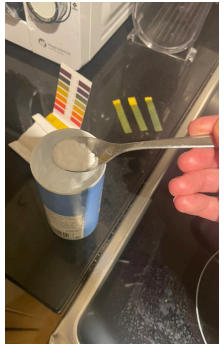
- Use a 2:1 ratio of avocado waste to fabric weight.
- Clean skins and pits thoroughly.
- Chop skins and cover with warm water.
- Heat gently for 1 hour (do not boil).
- Steep overnight (up to 48 hours).
- Strain the dye bath.
- Adjust to pH 8–9 with dissolved baking soda.

4) Dyeing

- Add soy-treated garment to the dye bath.
- Heat gently for 1–1.5 hours (never boil).
- Leave to cool in the bath overnight.
- Remove and air dry.
- Allow the colour to cure for several days before washing.





Fabric: repurposed 1930 French Cotton - Bed Linen

Preparation:

- Soak 1930s French cotton overnight in cold water.
- Wash at 20°C, then 40°C to pre-shrink.

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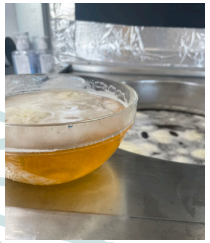
ČÍSLO: 06/12-17042026

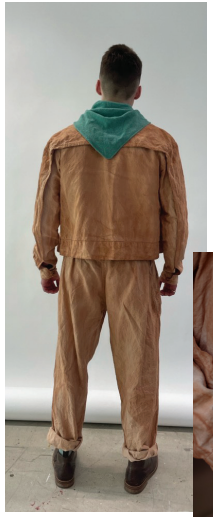
Button fly design reduces synthetics

52 AVOCADOS collected from friends

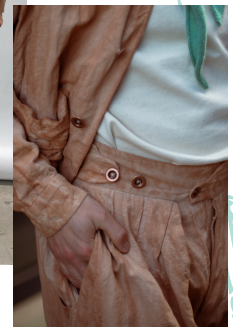
Soy mordanting

Natural Garment Dying





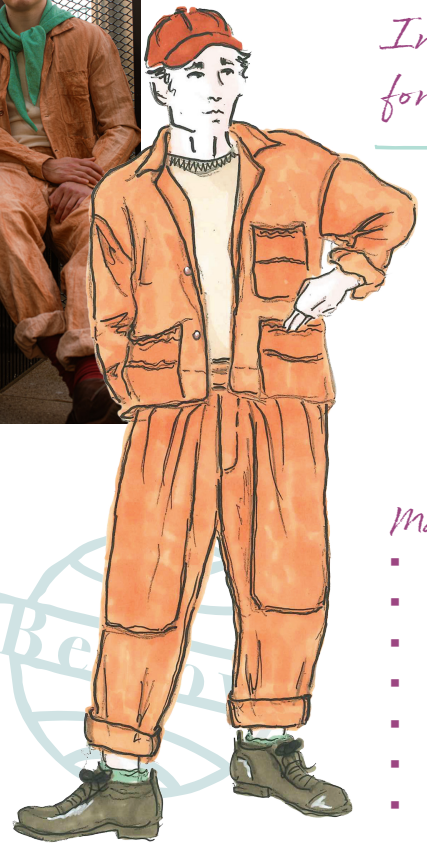
Adjustable waistband for different identities



Recyclable copper buttons inspired by the rooftops of Prague

II/1989

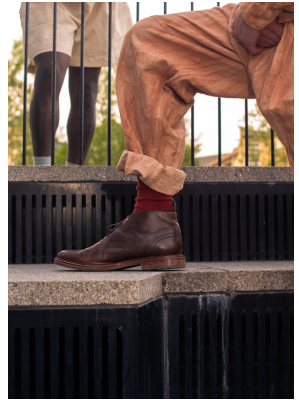
ČÍSLO: 07/12-17042026



Inspired by copper oxidation, avocado dye was chosen for its organic variation and gradual colour development.

Materials:

- *Repurposed 1930s French cotton bed linen*
- *Cotton poplin (trouser pocket bags and bias binding)*
- *Copper button fastening*
- *Plain metal button fly - copper*
- *Cotton thread*
- *Styling: Natural cotton rugby knit jersey (T-shirt)*
- *Styling: 2-ply wool (fully fashioned scarf)*



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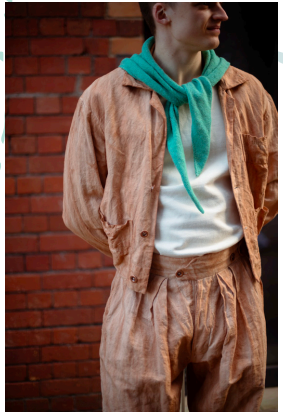
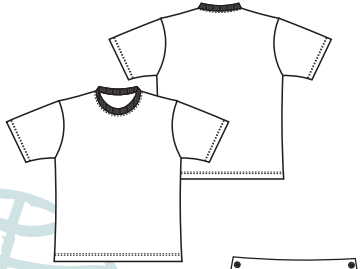
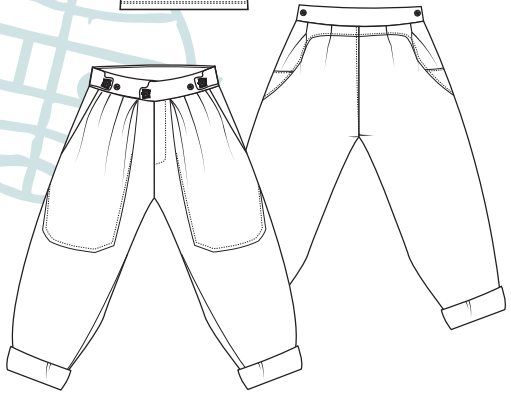
ČÍSLO: 08/12-17042026







Submission focuses on chore coat and trousers.