

Homesick for Another World is a group exhibition curated by Felix Choong that borrows its title from Ottessa Moshfegh's 2017 short story anthology, where the worlds depicted are as cruel and savage as they are beautiful. Featuring work that grapples with this same dichotomy, the show brings together a group of artists, designers and practitioners who use fashion and dress to envision alternatives to our present reality and perceived future. With the sustained assault on Black lives, the LGBTQ* community and other minority groups, the perpetual threat of environmental collapse, the lingering effects of the coronavirus pandemic, the state's inability to safeguard the most affected and the most vulnerable in times of war, famine and crisis, sartorial creations looks further afield with greater boldness and intensity to express and understand the current state of the world, and imagine alternatives. Dress, long central to human culture, has been used to align and distinguish the self with and from others. As such, it can be used as an act of resistance against everyday struggles for power and existence. Whether it be transforming the body into a work of art or into a system of prefigured symbols and metaphors, dress enables us to go beyond our physical limitations. Fashioning the body works to turn pervading ideas, beliefs, thoughts, emotions and aspirations into something tangible and visible.

Numerous themes run through the exhibition, simultaneously presenting the body as a site under distress, duress and upheaval, states that also serve as potential sources of renewal. Ideas of metamorphosis and the physical self as a site under continual construction and reconfiguration are explored through broader frameworks of both utopian and dystopian imaginings. Feelings of placelessness, transience and temporality are distilled, but also remedied through the exhibitors' creative endeavours. Contentions between old and new, life and death, the natural and the artificial, the individual and the collective and so forth are all interplayed. Gestures to formality and professionalism are made through invocations of workwear, but become twisted and spliced under the weight of capitalist expectations. Our relationship to the natural world is mediated and rendered in an abundance of crocheted flowers and monofilament spikes. Elsewhere childhood appears stifling and sinister. A tin toy turns into a hooded garment that zips entirely shut, engulfing the wearer, sealing the hands and masking the face.

Against a backdrop of instability and rapid change, the works reveal and revel in our desires and anxieties, articulating the potential threats and promises of the future. As society pushes forward towards self-creation and self-destruction, the crisis of the individual perseveres. This show is not a comprehensive exploration of our contemporary condition, but rather pulls at particular strands. The exhibition space becomes an interstice between idealism and collective sickness.¹ If fashion speaks, it speaks independently of its creator's vision and here they are presented to the viewer to consider freely. Free to be linked to their own ideas and to imbue it with their own meanings.

¹http://www.matthewlinde.com/uploads/9/4/2/7/9427795/the_emancipation_of_conformity_the_telfar_citizen_matthew_linde_compressed_.pdf

Aliou Janha

Provence Rosé - Spring Season Infinity
Panel Skirt, Scrunchie Top, Hood Hat
(all-purpose rags, cotton stockinette, spray paint)

@ali.ou.est.tu

Carl Gustaf von Platen

Jaktmiddag 2020 - AW20
Napkin Bra, Chanterelle Skirt (indigo-dyed
cotton, stuffed nylon)

<https://www.carlgustafvonplaten.com/>
@cgvonplaten

Chet Lo

Cnidaria's Wife - AW21
Moss Durian Top, Durian Tights (dyed
monofilament)

<https://www.Chetlo.com/> / @chet__lo

Feben

It's not right, but it's okay - AW20
Zilla Suit (wool suiting with printed, padded
panels)

<https://www.Feb-en.com/> / @its.febs

Isabel MacInnes

Tunnel Vision - AW19
Spectre T-shirt, T-shirt Pocket Jogging Trousers
(Sublimation printed jersey, jersey, nylon)

@isabel_macinnes

Katya Zelentsova

*If You Spend Two Weeks On A Train All Your
Clothes Become Loungewear* - MA 2020
Crochet Bouquet Dress, Intarsia Leggings (wool,
viscose, cotton, lurex)

<https://www.katyzelentsova.com/>
@ekatzelentsova

Mainline RUS/Fr.CA/DE

AW20
KAI Polo Shirt, AXEL Trousers (cotton,
bengaline binding, PE nylon, cotton twill
and ribbing)

<https://rusfrcade.com/>
@mainline_rusfrcade

Marie Lueder

Amateur(ism) - AW20
Cocoon Shirt, Amazonian Bra, Chaps,
Amateur Shoes (linen/silk blend,
elasticated strips, piped leather
drawstrings, wicking fabric, multicoloured
coil, Japanese Kaihara denim from
sponsor, silver buckles, burnt orange
vegetable tanned Japanese leather and
up-cycled running sneakers)

<https://luederluederlueder.com/>
@marie.lueder

San Kim

Tin Toy Balloons - 2020 Pre-Fall
Tin Toy Balloon Top, Three Panel Wool Jeans
(polyester, air, wool)

@sankim_official

Taylor Thoroski

Styled garments c/o *Thegrotesquearchive*
Kosuke Tsumura Hat, Mihara Yasuhiro Vest,
Junya Watanabe Dress, Yohji Yamamoto Dress
(mohair, cotton, wool, silk, polyester, elastic,
metal hardware, kilt pin)

@taylor_thoroski

The Exquisite Corpse Project

C/o Valerie Kong - 2019
Wind Chime Jacket, Socktop Dress, Beaded Belt
(bleach, dye, zippers, tulle, image transfer, fabric,
wind chimes, patchwork, plastic, fabric, cassette
tape, beads, shoe laces, keychains, plates,
pouch)

www.valeriekong.com/ / @va.l.e.rie

Yasmina Atta

Cosmos in Blue - AW20
Engraved Jacket, Robo Legs, Foam Mini,
Engraved Wings (leather, wool, lace, acrylic,
foam, motor and electronics)

@yasmina_____