

The Golden Age

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Historical Research

Tudor History is observed through the years 1485 to 1603, beginning with the reign of Henry VII and ending with Queen Elizabeth I. The Tudor history era was significant in the shaping and reshaping of the English monarchy, religious views, political factions, and the ordinary lives of the common people.

The Elizabethan era was the period of English history during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I (1558-1603) during the Tudor period. Historians often describe it as the Golden Age of English history. This "Golden Age" represented the height of the English Renaissance and saw a boom in poetry, music and literature. It was also known for its theater, with plays written by William Shakespeare and many others that broke with England's theatrical past. It was a time of foreign exploration and expansion, and England during this period had a centralized, well-organized, and effective government, thanks in large part to Elizabeth I.



Moodboard

Queen Elizabeth I was intelligent, decisive and shrewd. The rise of England as a world power under Elizabeth's rule is considered to be one of the most glorious periods in English history. The arts, especially literature and music, achieved a brilliant prosperity.



Clothing Research

Polychrome (multicoloured) silk embroidery became fashionable in the reign of Elizabeth, and from c. 1590 to 1620 a uniquely English fashion arose for embroidered linen jackets worn informally or as part of masquing costume. These jackets usually featured scrolling floral patterns worked in a multiplicity of stitches.



Clothing Research

The early cut-out lace was called Reticella and a needle and thread was used, stitch by stitch, to create an increasingly complex pattern. The pattern was still mostly based on the warp and weft of the fabric, which automatically lead to geometric patterns.



Clothing Research



Portraits of nobles and royals



Hand fan



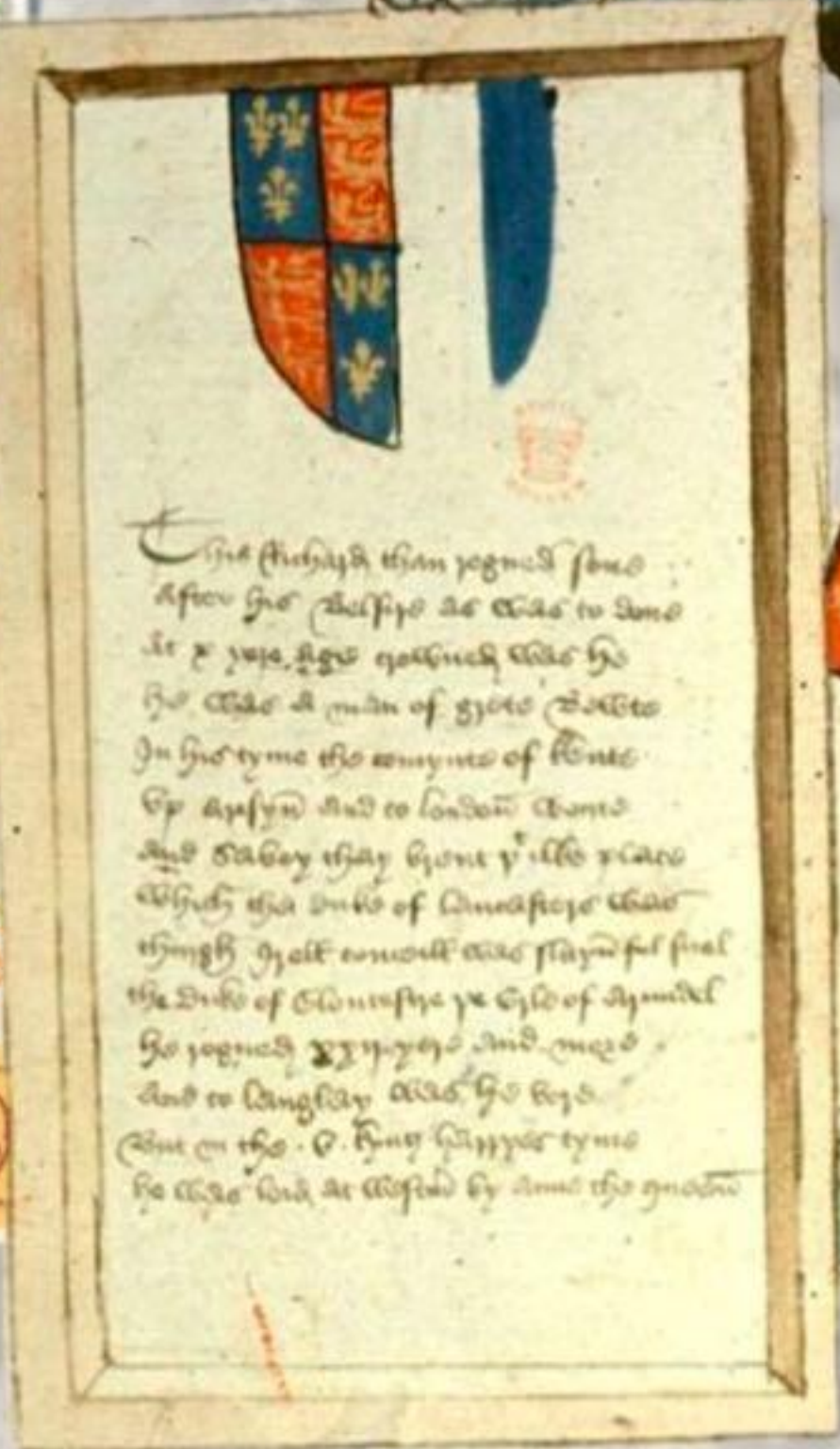
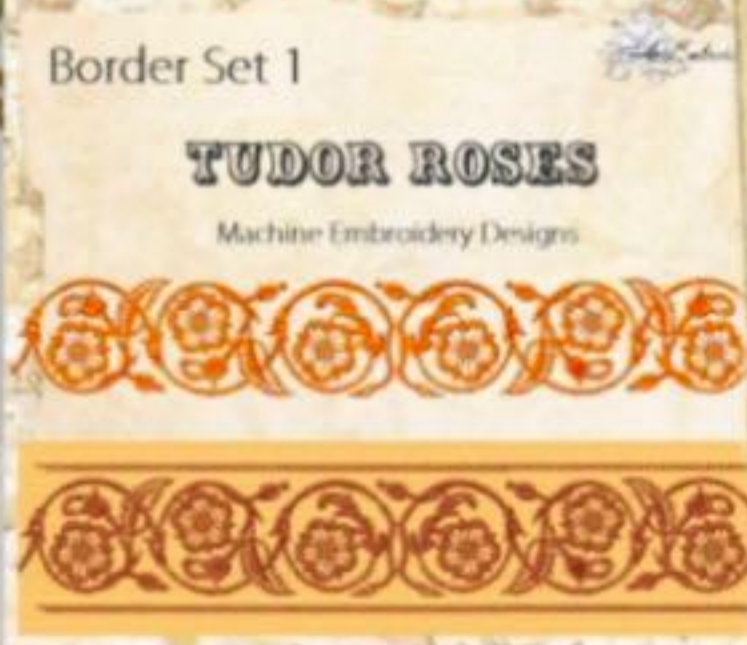
Sieve is the symbol of virginity



Clothing Research

The Tudor rose was used in Queen Elizabeth I's portraits to refer to the Tudor dynasty and the unity it brought to the realm.

The rose also had religious connotations, as the medieval symbol of the Virgin Mary. It was used to allude to Elizabeth, the Virgin Queen, as the secular successor to the Virgin Mary.



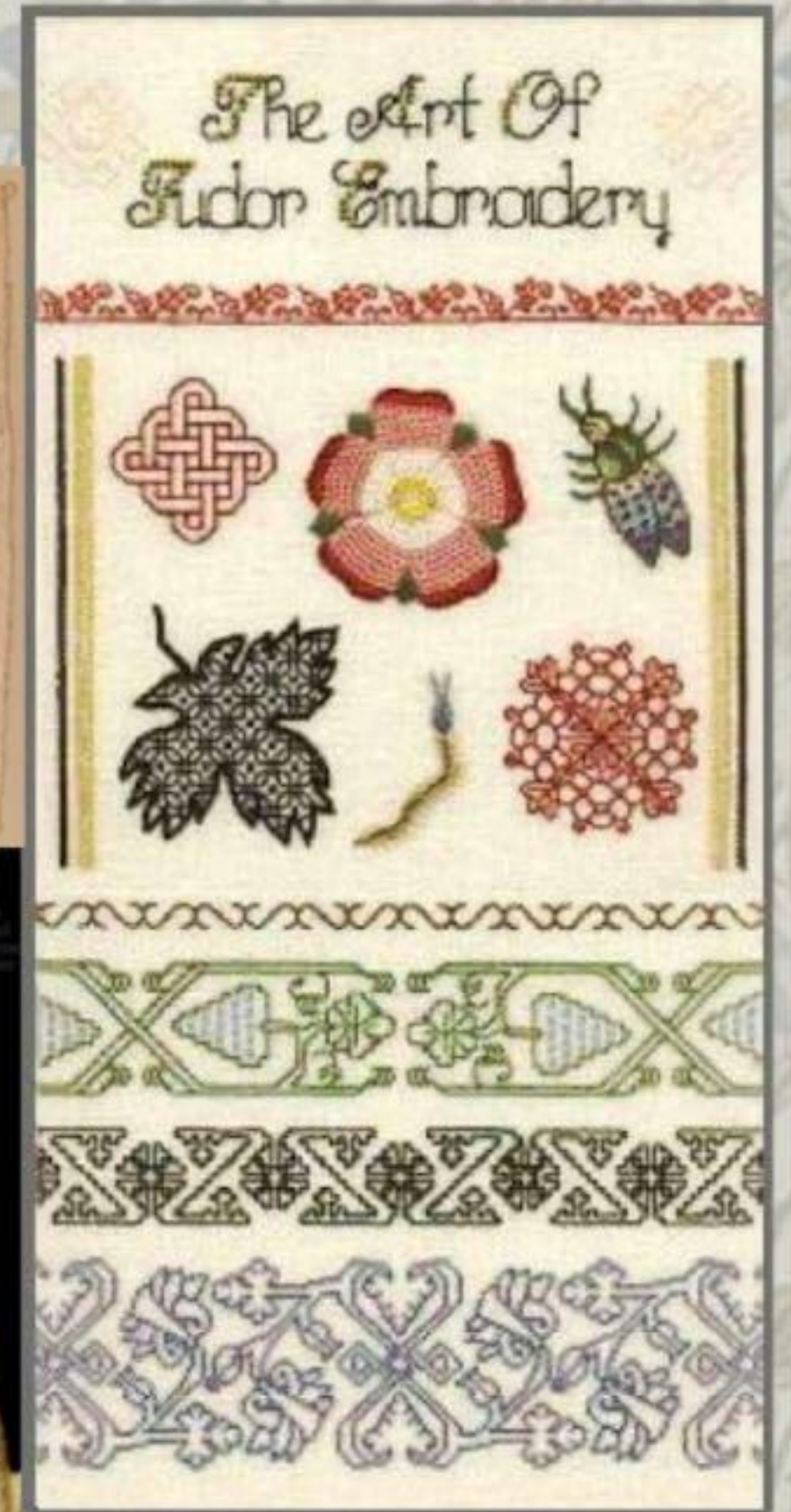
Color Story Board



Technique Research

Embroidery

During the Middle Ages, English artisans were famed throughout Europe for their embroidered church vestments. However, from the time that King Henry VIII severed relations with the Catholic church in 1534 and established the Church of England, the need for elaborately decorated religious vestments and furnishings for worship diminished greatly. But by the late sixteenth century, the taste for rich clothing and domestic decorations increased and a larger segment of society could afford to buy or make these luxury items during the relatively peaceful and prosperous late years of Elizabeth I's reign.



Fabric Manipulations & Fabric Selection

1. Organza + Beads (Embroidery)



2. Organza + Embroidery + Iron wire

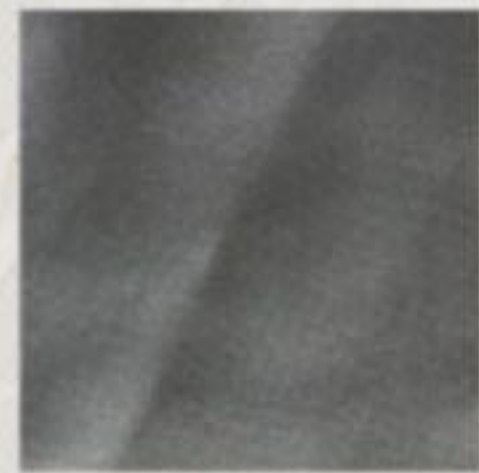
3. Lace + Embroidery



Organza



Lace



Stretch Satin



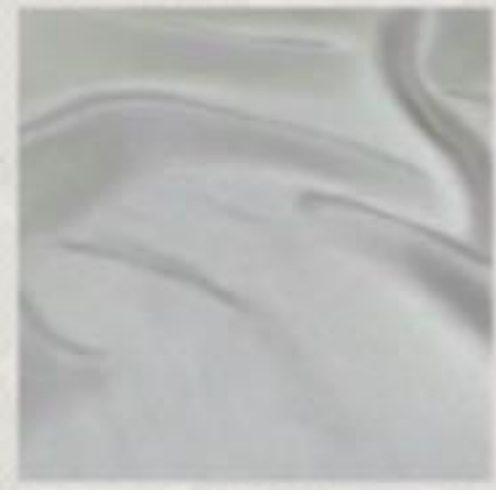
Organza

Fabric Manipulations & Fabric Selection

4. Lace + Embroidery



5. Organza + Beads



Plain Satin



Silky Satin



Viscose Fiber



Satin

*Inspired by
Elizabethan Ruff*



Working Process



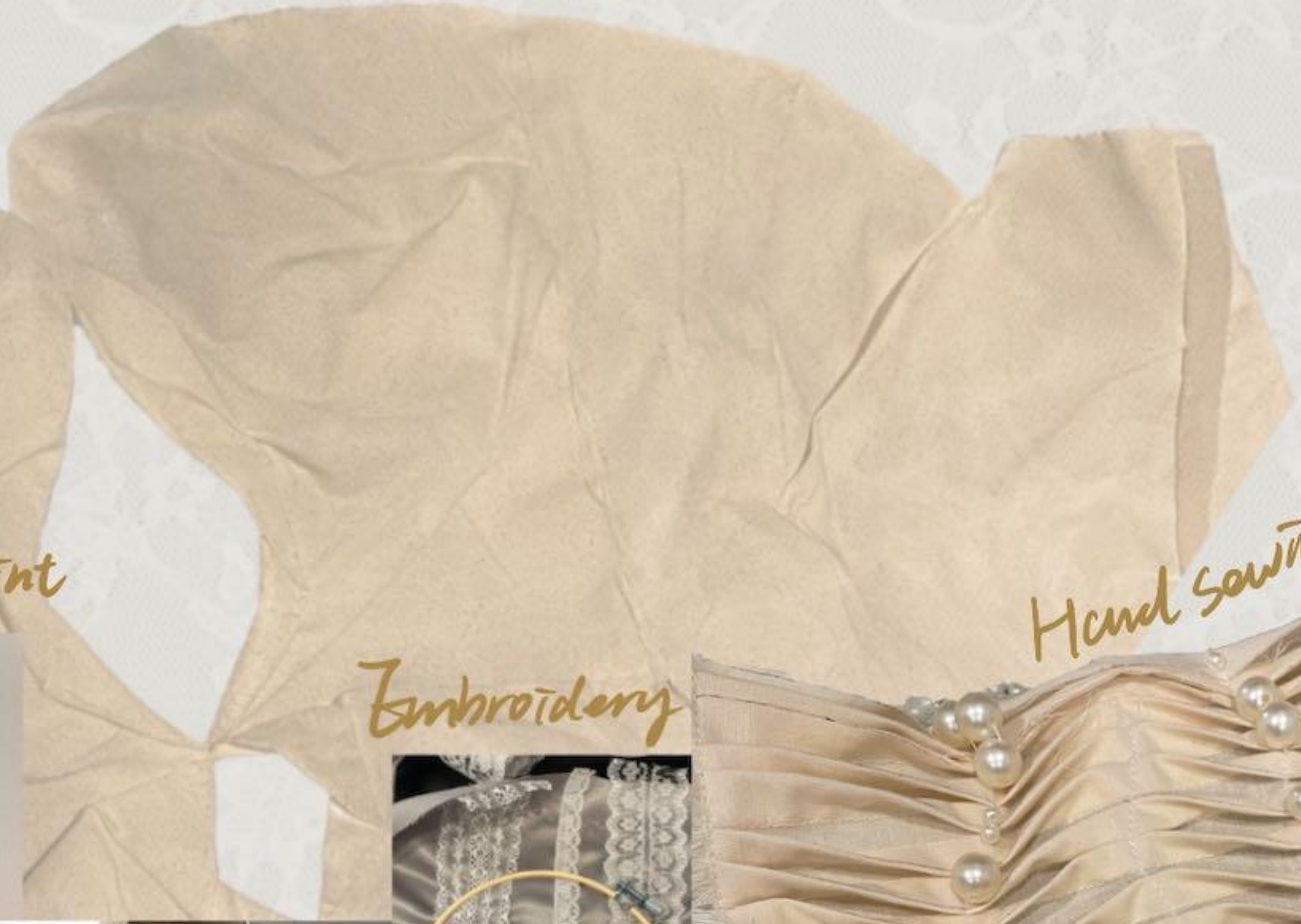
Draping on the form and hand-stitched



Using spray paint



Making structure with boning



Embroidery



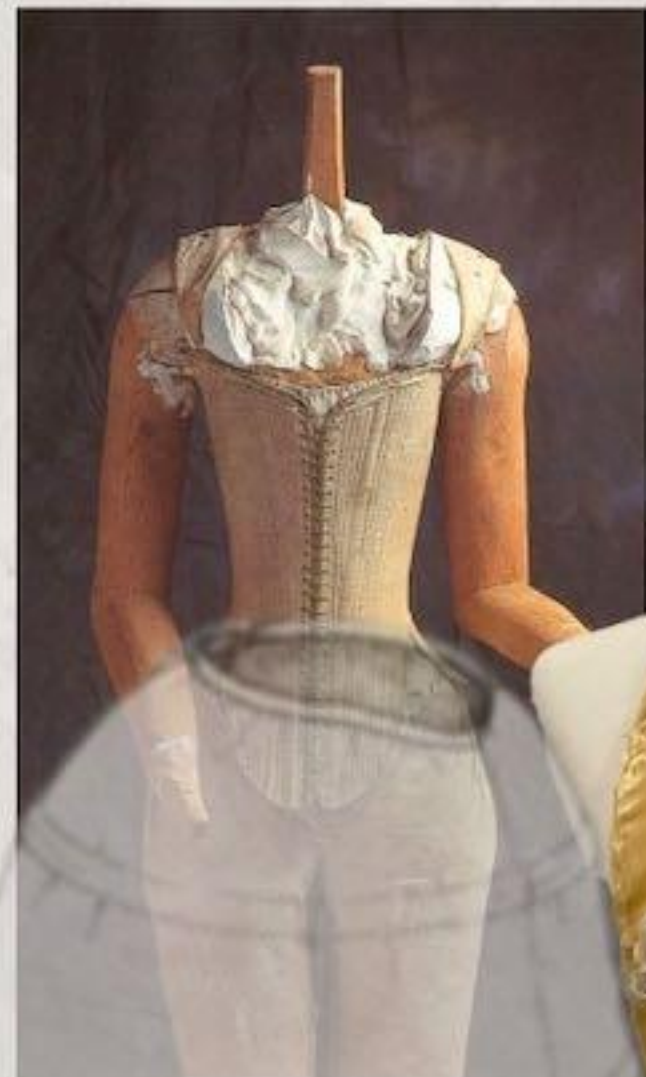
Hand sewing with pearls

Technique Research

Boning - Farthingales

Farthingale, underskirt expanded by a series of circular hoops that increase in diameter from the waist down to the hem and are sewn into the underskirt to make it rigid. The fashion spread from Spain to the rest of Europe from 1545 onward. The frame could be made of whalebone, wood, or wire. The shape was first domed, coned, or bell-like; later it became more like a tub or drum. The fashion persisted in most European courts until 1620, with variations such as the French farthingale, also known as the wheel, or great, farthingale, which was tilted upward in the back, often with the help of a padded pillow called a "bum roll," to create the illusion of an elongated torso, and the Italian farthingale, which was a smaller and more delicate version, balanced equally at the hips and frequently worn alone as a skirt.





The first prototype was inspired by the skirt support underneath a woman's dress, which I transformed into a belt using wire.



Prototype 1 & 2

The second prototype is an armor shaped top that echoes the knight costume from my first project. I used the boning technique, where I made the waist intentionally narrow so that from a distance it would appear that the model was very thin-waisted, in keeping with Queen Elizabeth's dressing habits. I also utilized bead embroidery on this top.



The third prototype is a skirt with a silhouette inspired by my first project. I used organza and wire, two materials with opposite textures, for the skirt. The "hard" and "soft" fabric materials also correspond to Queen Elizabeth's strong exterior and soft interior.



Prototype 3

Prototype 4



The fourth prototype is inspired by farthingale, and I utilize the boning technique. It can be a jacket or a skirt support. Also, The lace fabric makes this dress more in keeping with Queen Elizabeth's favorite style.

Prototype 5



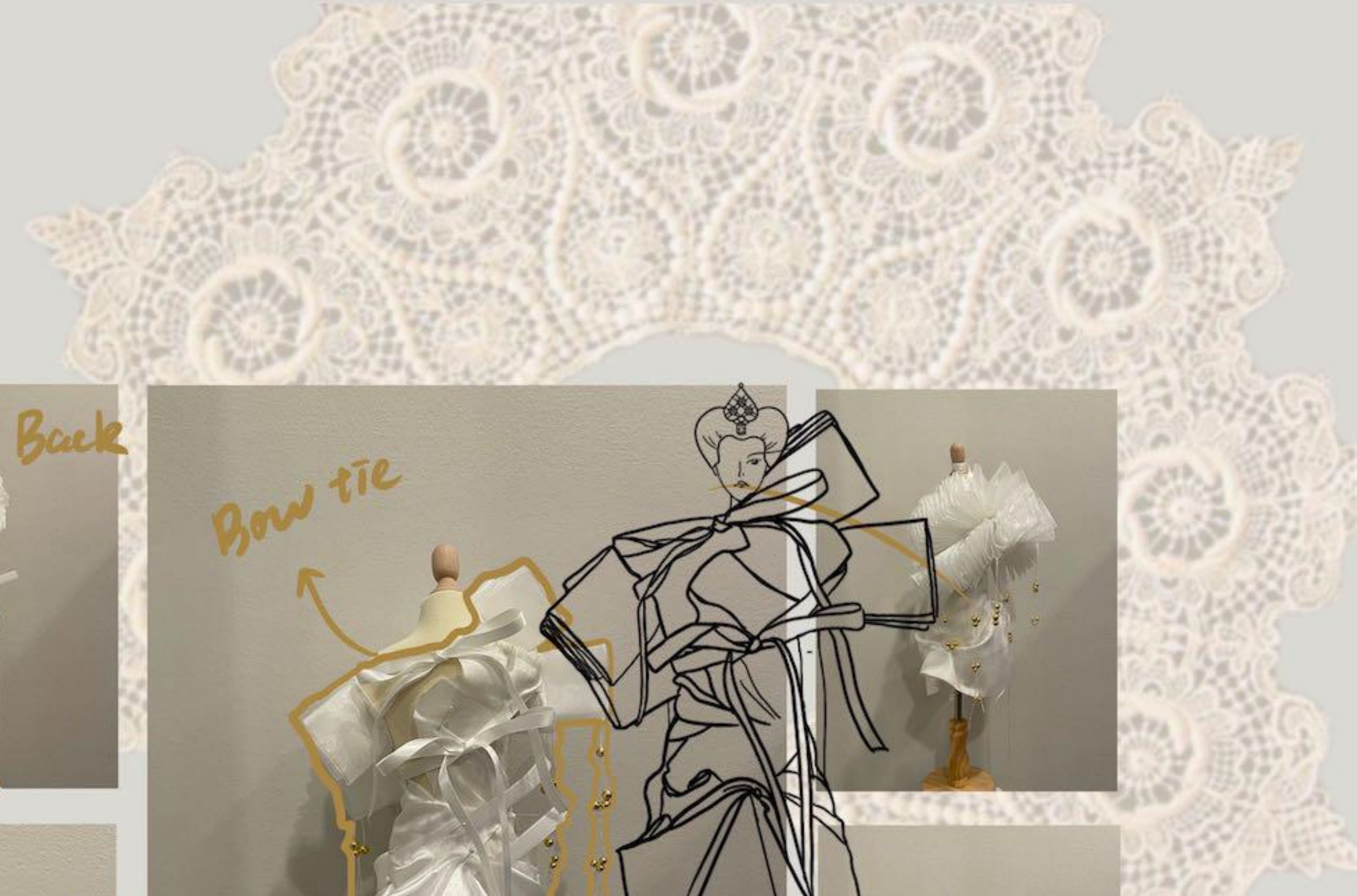
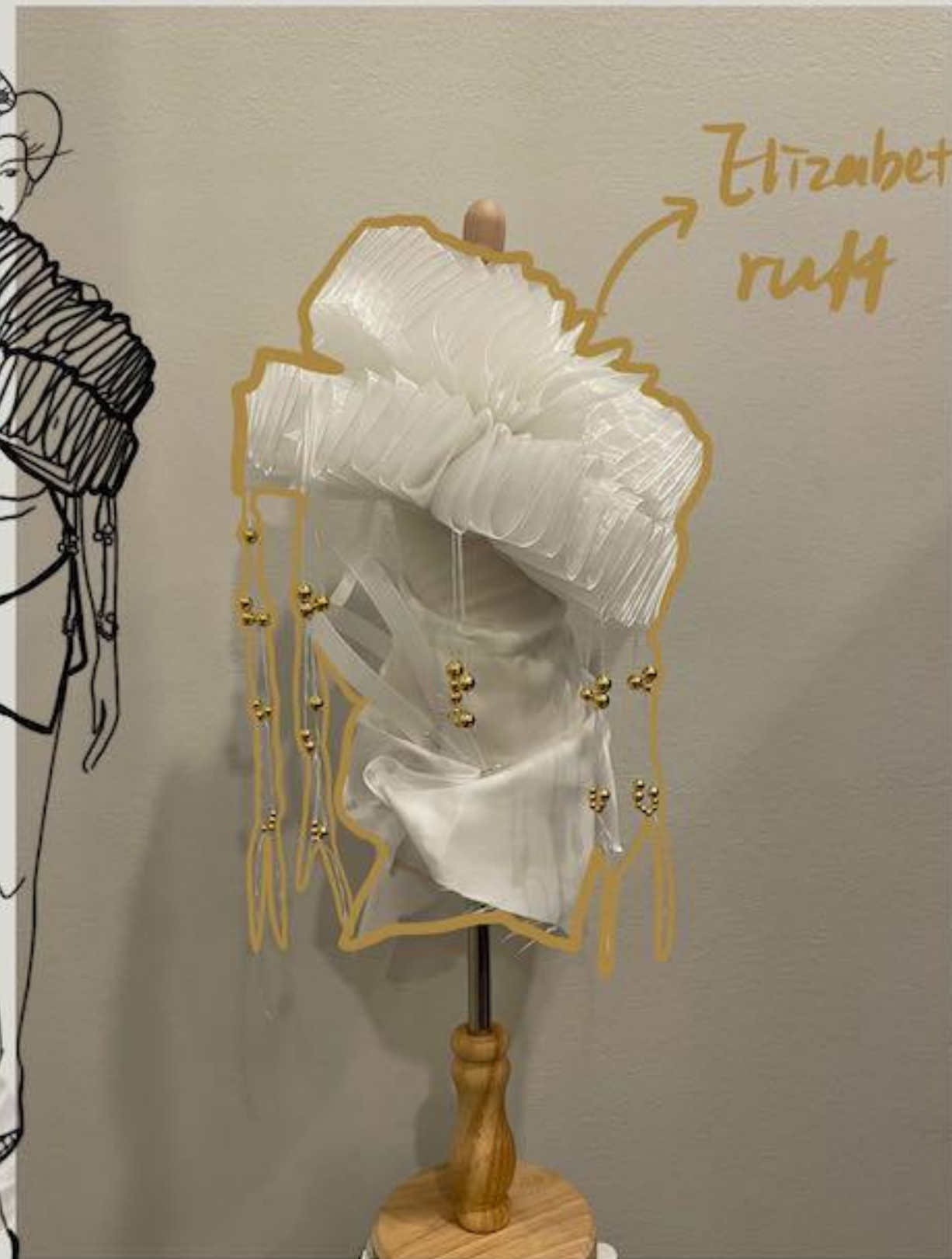
The fifth prototype is a sleeveless top that uses beading techniques and lace, and the back of the top is designed to be dropped down or turned into a gauzy circular shawl decorated on the back of Queen Elizabeth's gown.

Prototype 6



The sixth prototype contains bead embroidery, and the irregular shape of the organza on the skirt makes the dress stand out. I also created Elizabethan ruffles to match the dress.

Draping



Draping



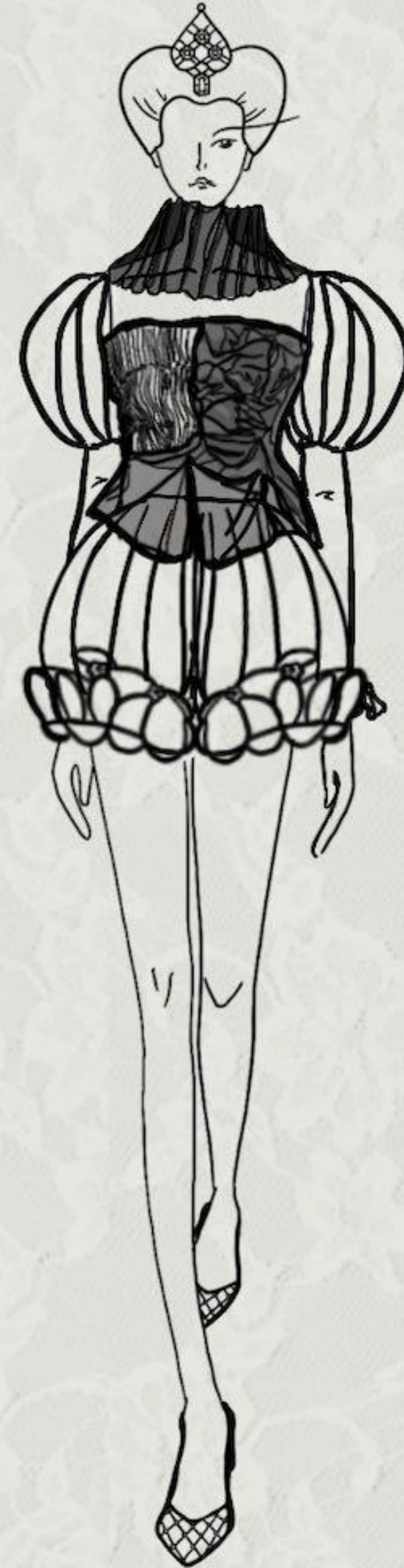
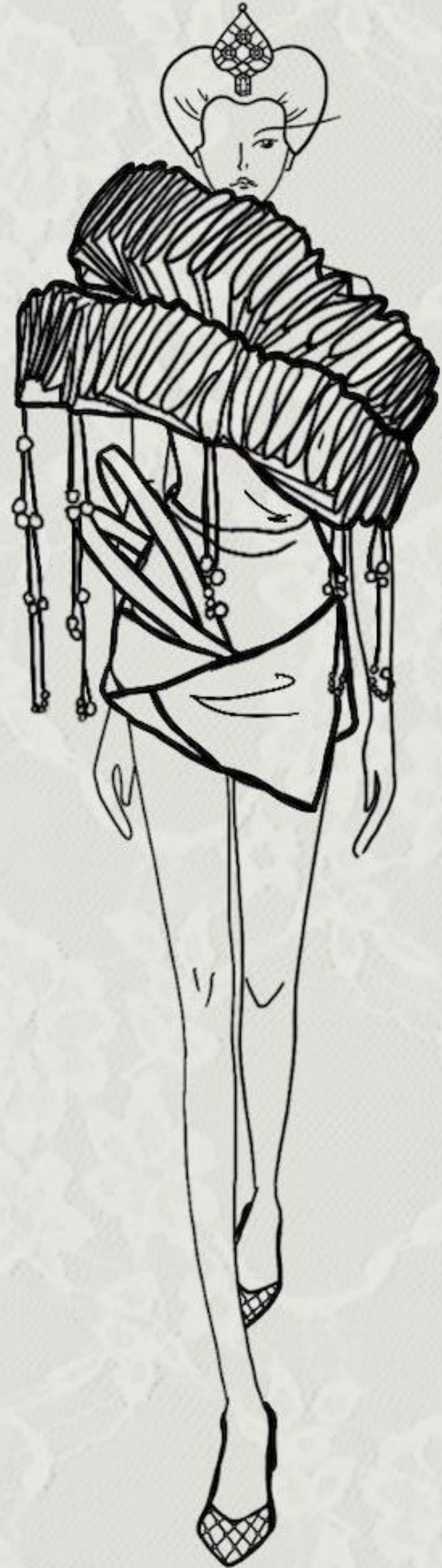
dress

Satin + Lace

Preliminary Sketches



Preliminary Sketches



Preliminary Sketches



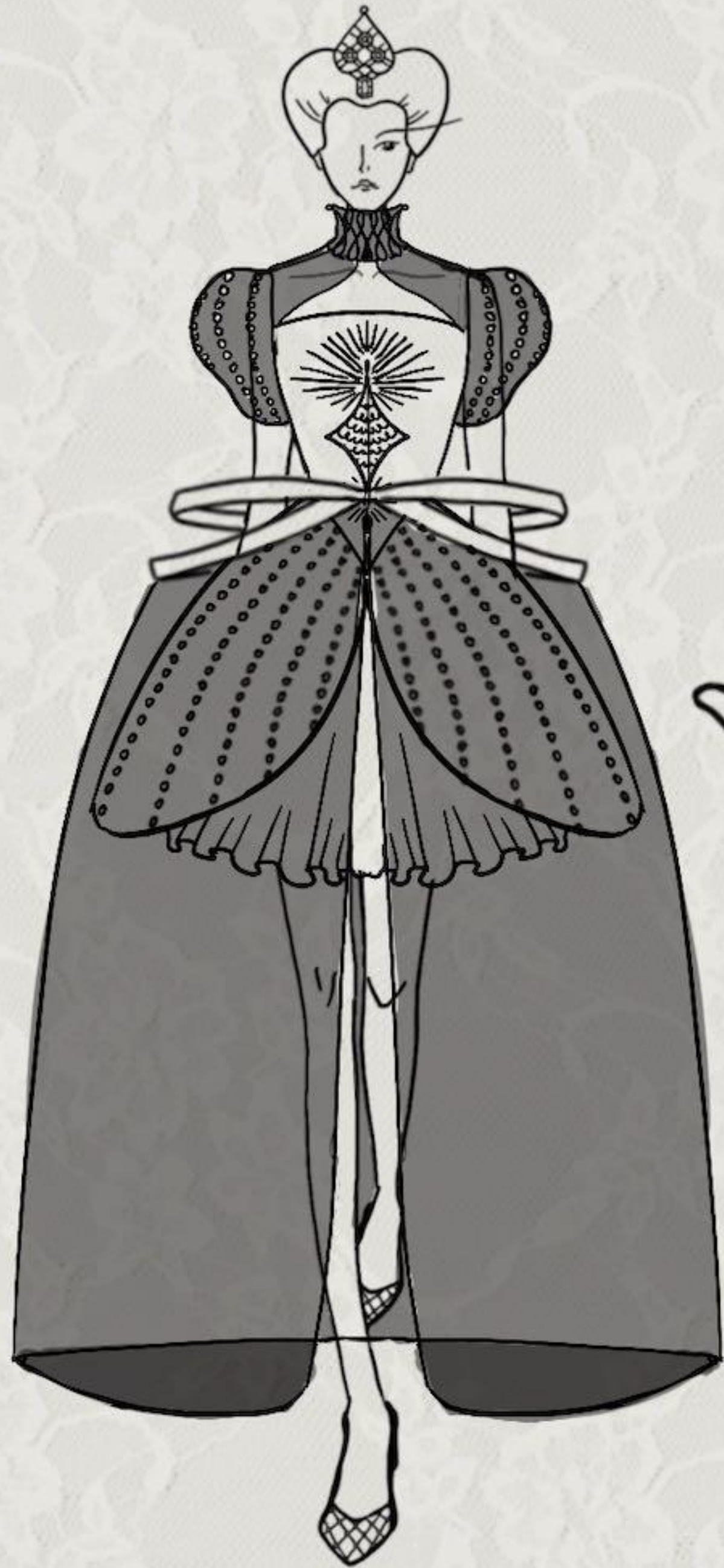
Preliminary Sketches



Preliminary Sketches



Preliminary Sketches



Final Line - Up



Final Line - Up



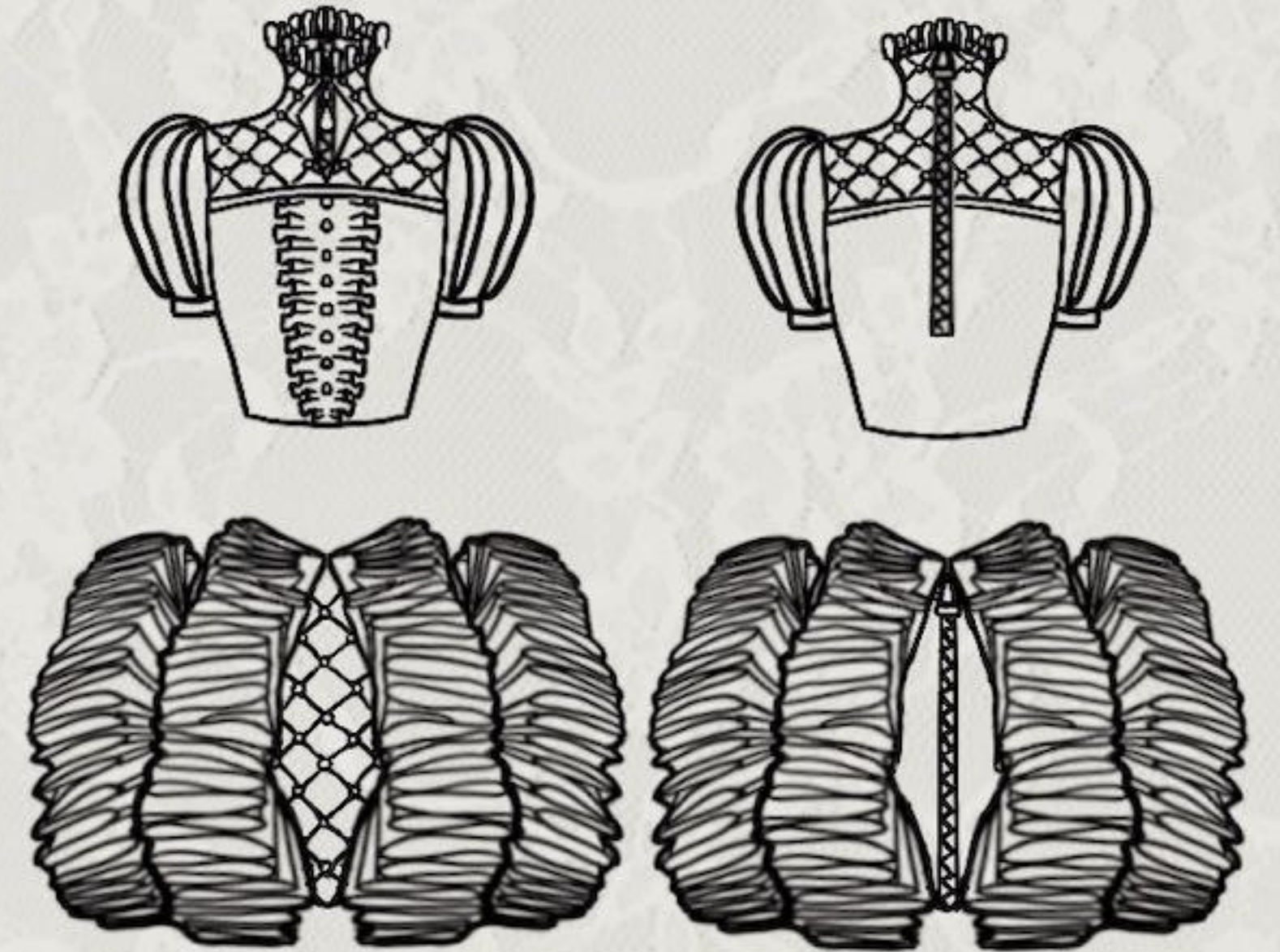
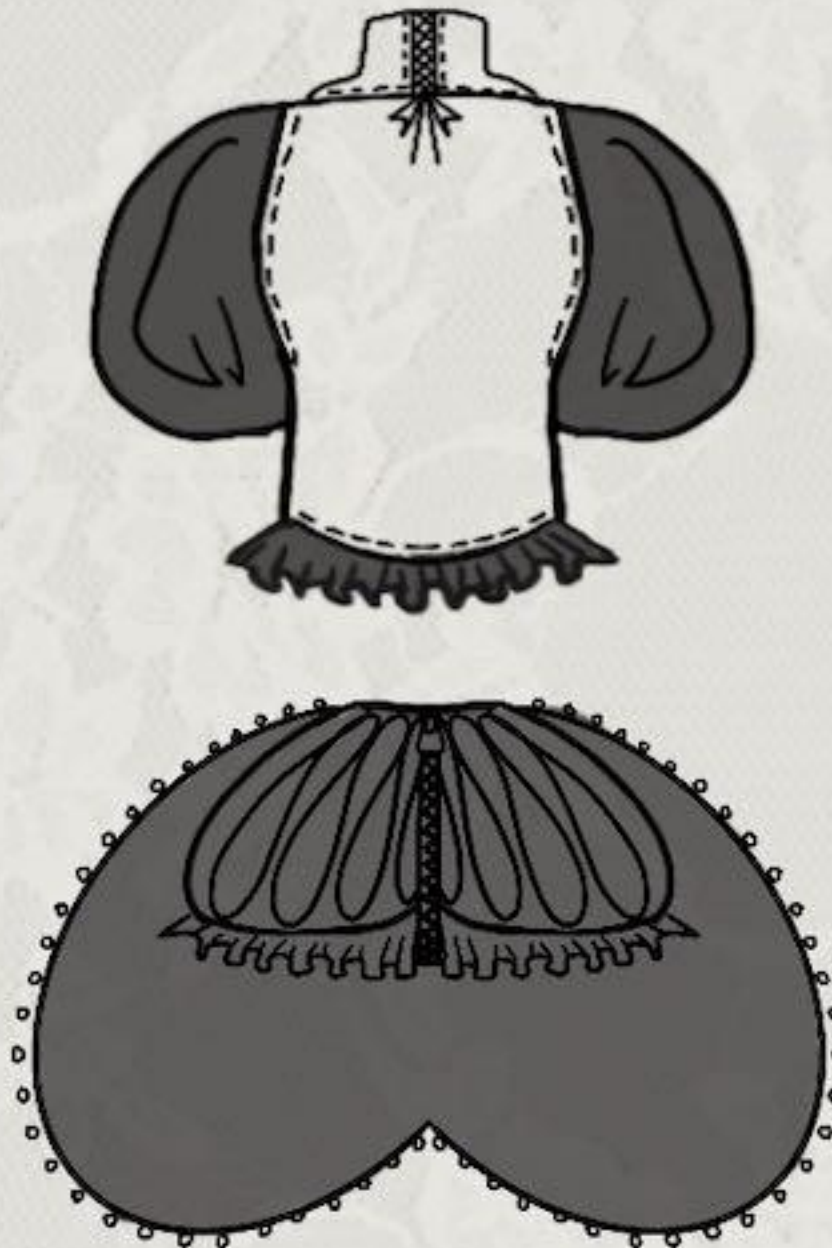
Final Line - Up



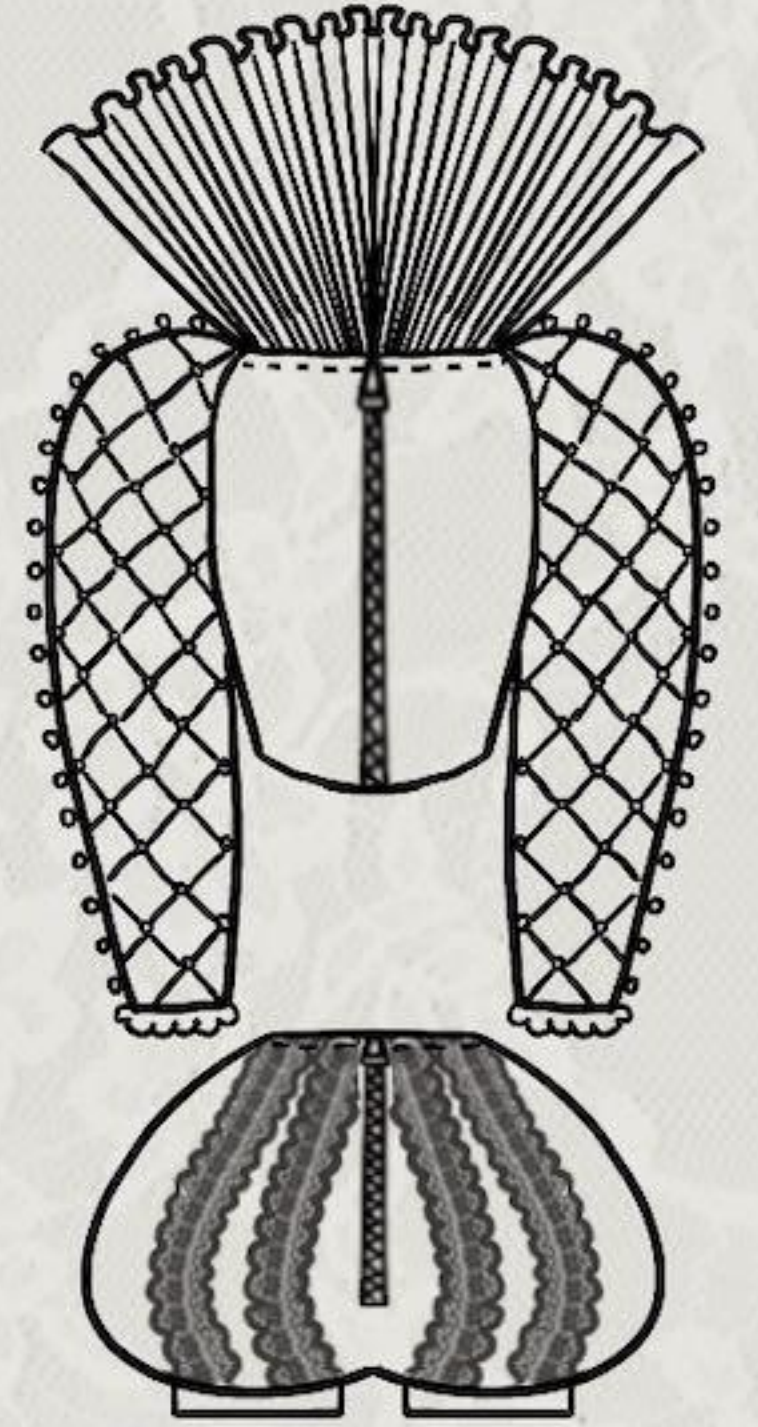
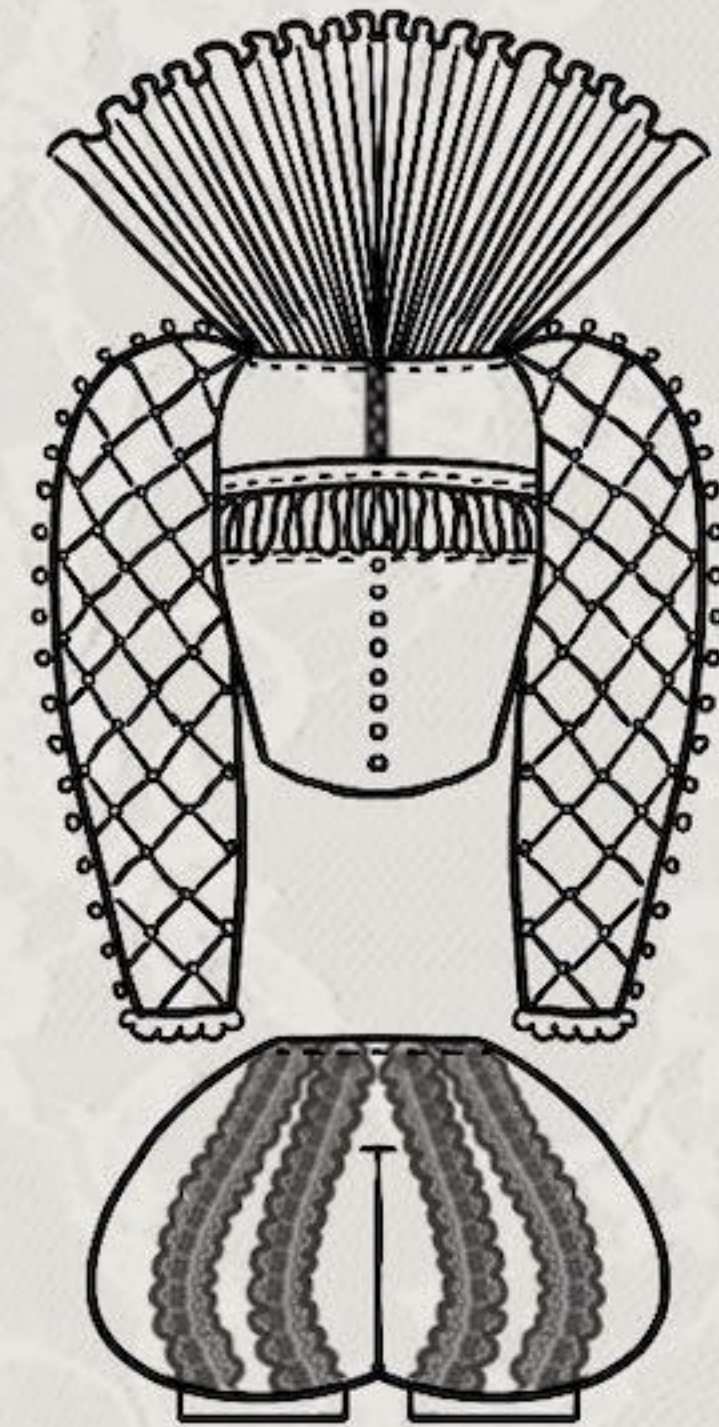
Flats



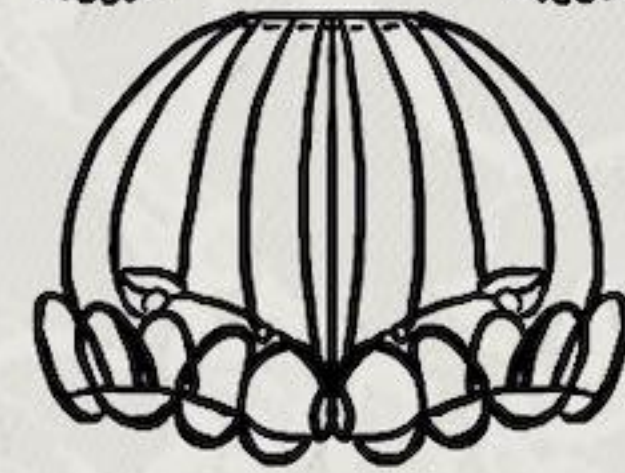
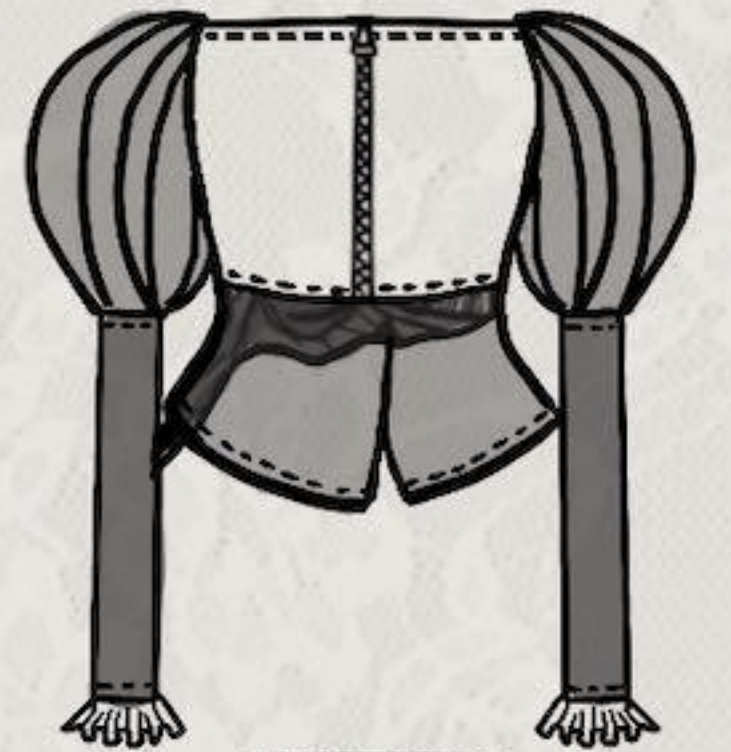
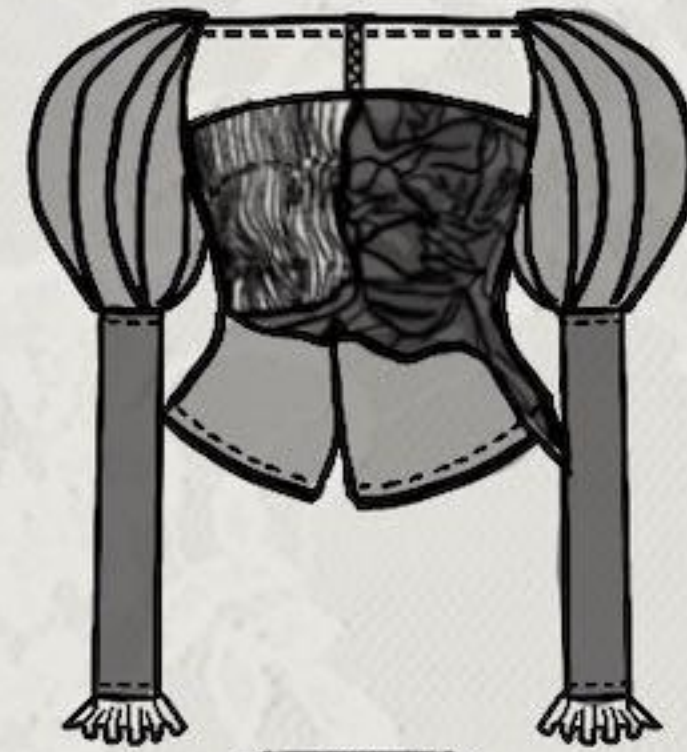
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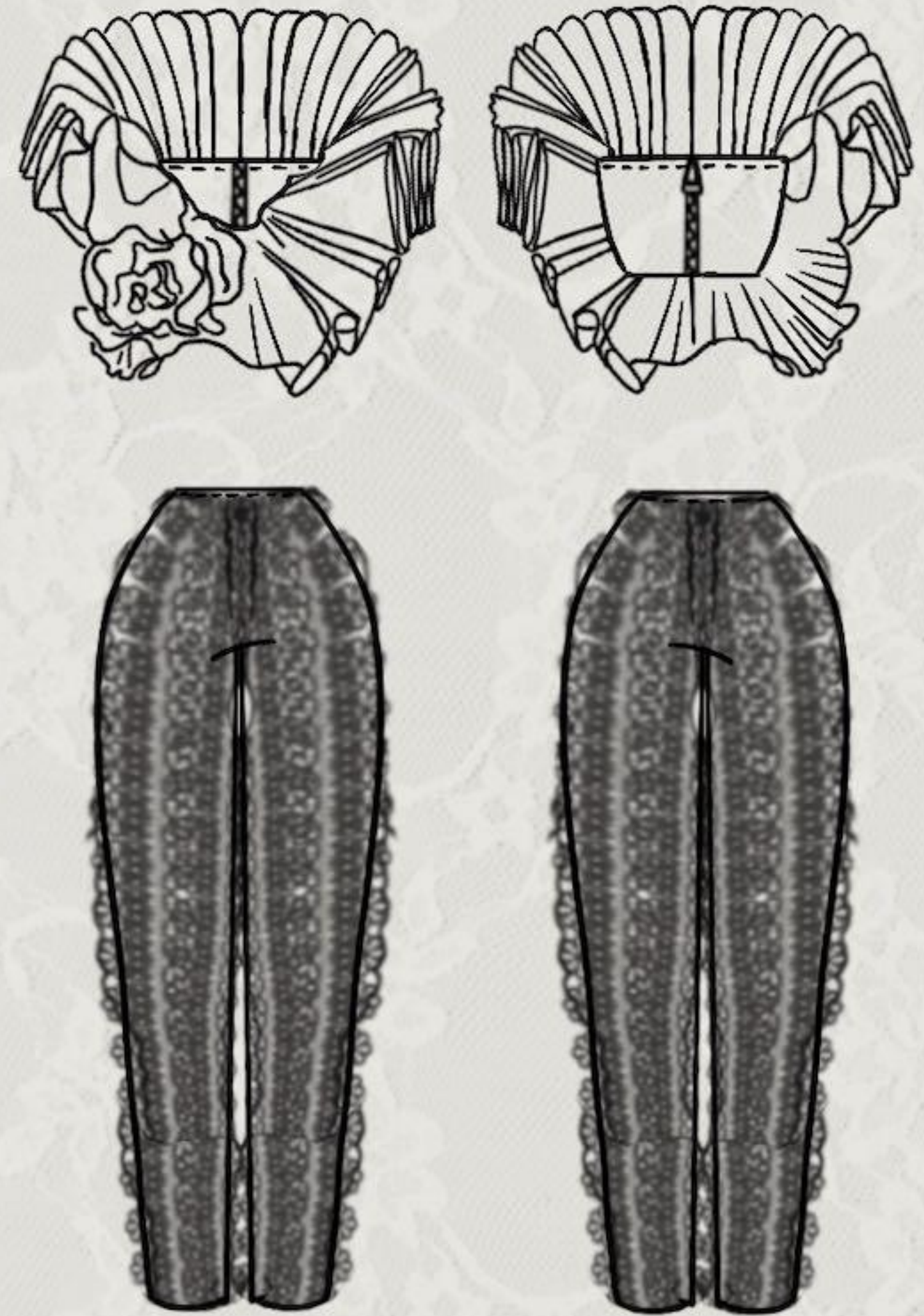
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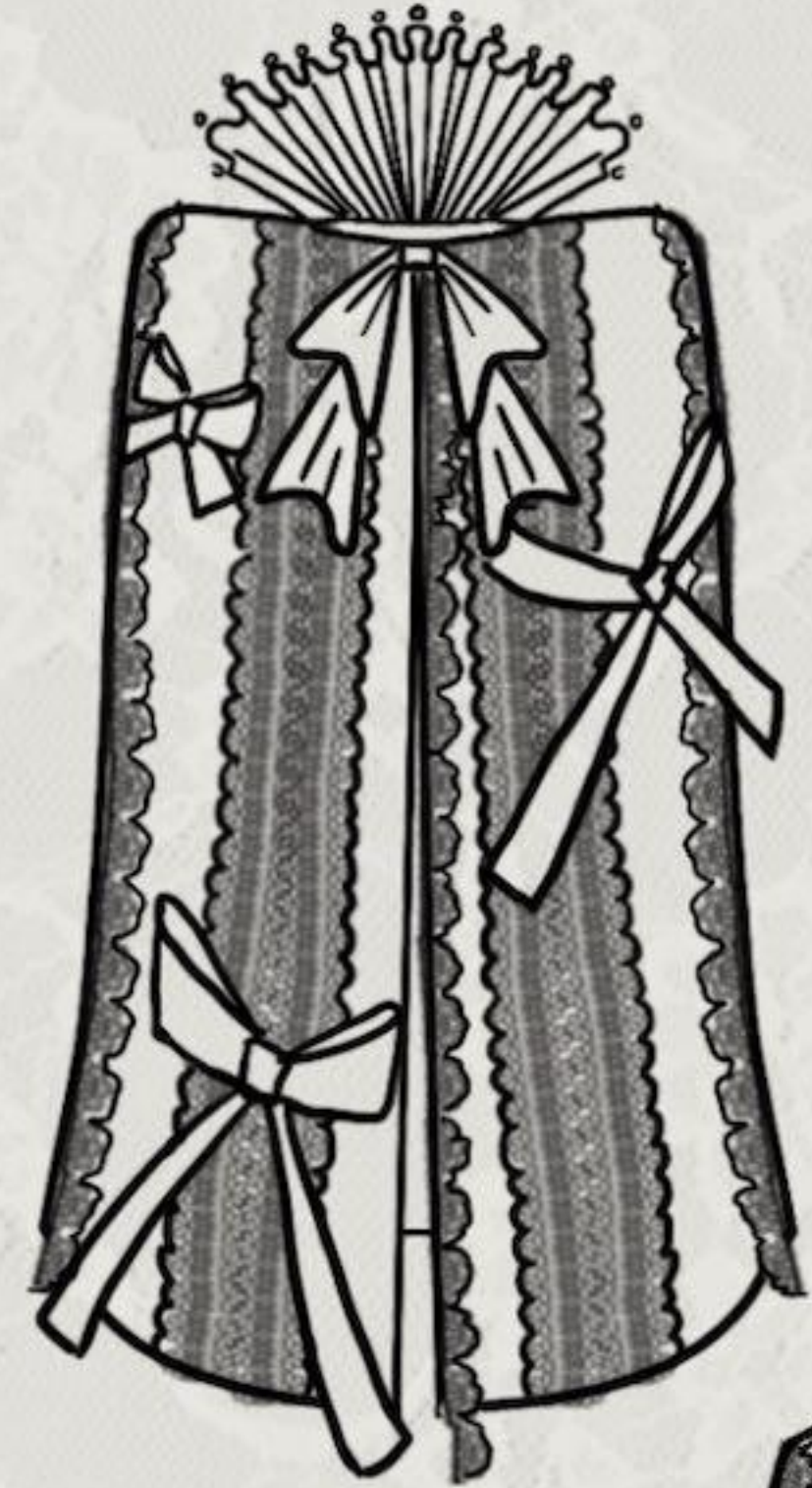
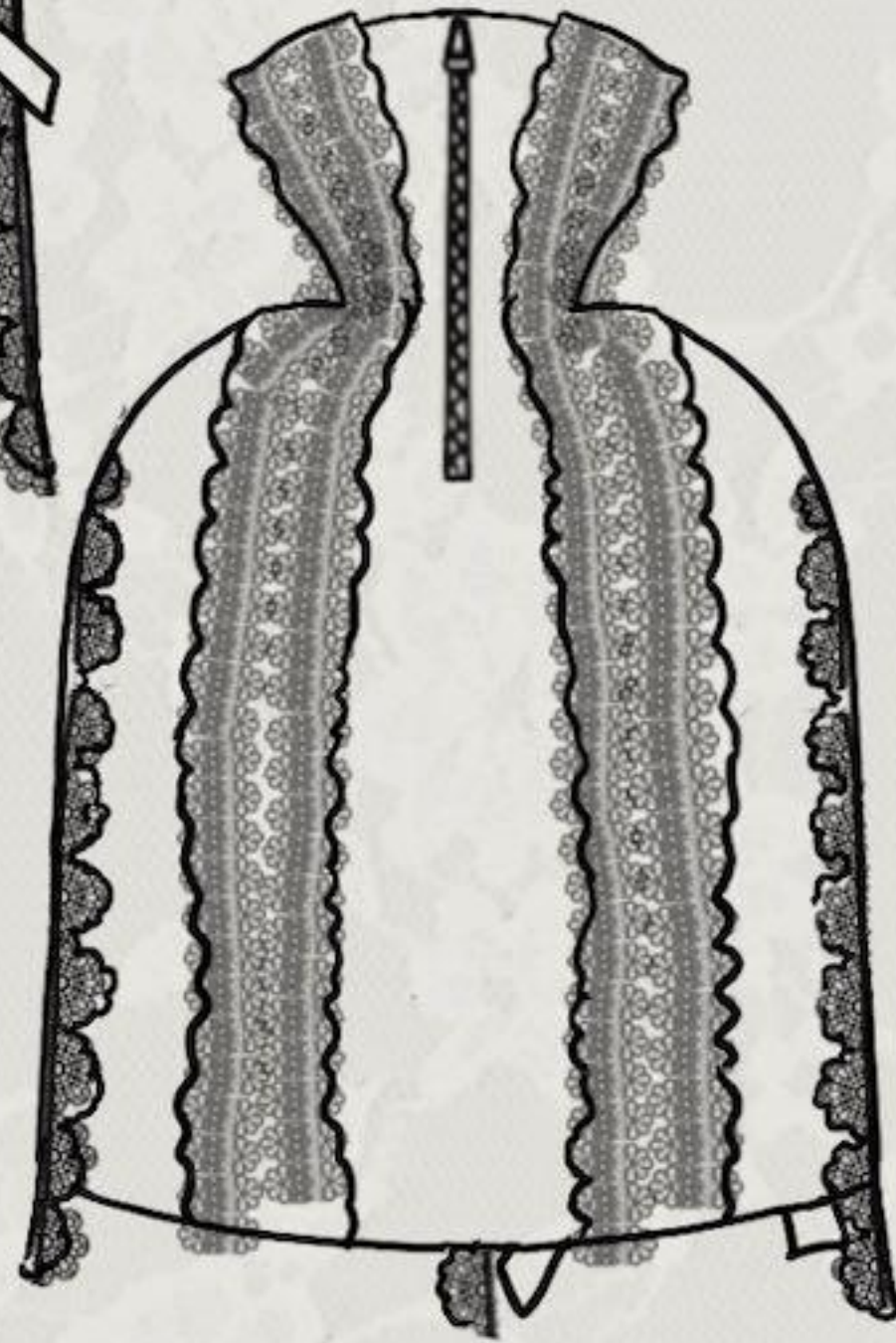
Flats



Flats



Flats



Products



Hat



Headress



Scarf



Handbag



Handbag



Clutch bag