

FASHION BEYOND THE SIGHT

research seminar

Body is rarely seen without clothing, dress and the body are closely connected. Clothing, as one of the most visible forms of consumption, performs a major role in the construction of identity. Dress is a part of defining identity and a part of interactions with others. Currently, fashion products are developed based on the transmission of an image, referred to a 'culture-screen', which makes the interaction process focused on the visual experience. How can we create fashion perceptible beyond the visual stimuli?

How can clothing be experienced with the other senses than the visual one?

What are the possibilities for constructing and maintaining identities?

Who am I if I cannot see myself?

What kinds of non-visual identities do I have?

Research Workshop Place: Textile Museum (2nd Floor),
Textile Fashion Center, Skaraborgsvägen 3, Borås

Research Workshop Date: 7th-9th March, 2017

During a three days research workshop at the Swedish School of Textiles we explore non-visual aesthetics of fashion design. The guest speaker Ph.D. student Emilie Giles will present her investigations of the sonic-haptic interactions within the field of e-textiles. The Ph.D. student Vidmina Stasiulyte will share her findings on sonic identities in the field of fashion design. The MA student Rugile Gumuliauskaite and Irma Jokstyte will introduce to a haptic value and present tactile fashion illustrations.

***Emilie Giles** is a researcher, artist and educator. Her work spans creative technology, physical computing and crafting. She is a Ph.D. student at The Open University exploring how e-textiles can be used in participatory design by blind and visually impaired people. As part of her research, Emilie will be facilitating hands-on making workshops with blind and visually impaired people, in which they will create soft e-textile objects that reflect personal memories and stories through different textures and sounds.*

***Vidmina Stasiulyte** is a researcher, fashion designer, audiovisual artist, and educator. Vidmina is doing her Ph.D. at the Swedish School of Textiles within the ArcInTexETN program. She is investigating the non-visual aesthetics based on sonic identities and auditory imagination in the field of fashion design.*

***Rugile Gumuliauskaite** is a MA student at Vilnius Art Academy in Vilnius (Lithuania). She is doing an investigation on a tactile value in the field of fashion design. She will present a collaborative project "Tactile Fashion Sketches" that she did with people who have different seeing abilities.*

***Irma Jokstyte** is an actress at the New Theater in Vilnius (Lithuania) and organiser of national and international art events. Irma works as a reporter at radio station (Gold FM) that has a program "Blind Date" dedicated for collaborations between people with different seeing abilities.*

Program

7th March (Tuesday)

15:30-16:00 Good afternoon: Coffee and Tea

16:00-16:30 A walk through the exhibition “Textile Power”

(Textile Museum, 1st floor)

16:30-17:30 Listening route (blindfolded) at Textile Museum (2nd floor). Reflections and Discussion

17:30-18:00 BEYOND SEEING teaser; Discussion on three main questions of a project; Introduction to the research workshop program

18:00 Dinner at the restaurant “Cyrano”

8th March (Wednesday)

9:30-10:00 Good morning: Coffee and Tea

10:00-10:30 Presentation “Tactile Fashion” by Rugile Gumuliauskaite and Irma Jokstyte. Discussion on the new method for a dialogue between fashion designer and the customers with different seeing abilities

10:30-11:00 Exercise: Illustrating fashion without visuals (“seeing” tactile sketches; collecting clothes from the wardrobe). Reflections and Discussions

11:00-11:30 Presentation “Sonic Identities” by Vidmina Stasiulyte

11:30-12:00 Exercise “Sonic-Self I”: introducing Self (blindfolded)

12:00-13:00 Lunch

13:00-13:30 Presentation “Touch, E-textiles and Participation: Using e-textiles to facilitate hands-on making workshops with visually-impaired users” by Emilie Giles

13:30-14:30 Exercise “Sonic-Self II”: selecting different sounds for same textile object. Reflections and Discussions

14:30-15:00 Coffee and Tea

15:00-16:00 *Designing Future Sonic Identity and Communication*. Round table discussion (introduction for a task on Thursday)

9th March (Thursday)

9:30-10:00 Good morning: Coffee and Tea

10:00-10:30 *How we Design with Sound?* Round table discussion

10:30-11:00 Exercise: Designing Form of Sounds: discussing on ideas and selecting materials (working in groups);

11:00-12:00 Exercise: Designing Form of Sounds (working in groups);

12:00-13:00 Lunch

13:00-15:00 Designing Future Sonic Identity and Communication (working in groups)

15:00-16:00 Presentation of outcomes

16:00-17:00 Reflection and Discussion; Further plans for Beyond Seeing project

Saying Goodbye and Hugging Ceremony 😊