



Coiffe

SHORT DESCRIPTION

A headpiece constructed from reclaimed champagne wire caps (muselets), reshaped and assembled into a human-scale structure. Originally designed to protect bottle corks, the material is transformed into a delicate protective veil-like form for the head. Combined with embroidered tulle, it creates transparency and light volume, oscillating between mask and veil.

ARTISTIC INSPIRATION

This piece originates from an exploration of discarded industrial materials and their potential for transformation. The headpiece is built from champagne capsule wire elements (muselets), originally designed to secure and protect bottle corks under pressure. The term “coiffe,” meaning a head accessory, became a conceptual anchor, linking the original function of protection with the human head. During a workshop visit with participants, a box of these metal wire pieces was discovered in a material reuse space dedicated to artistic experimentation. The idea of protection—both physical and symbolic—became central, as the assembled structure evokes a fragile shield, oscillating between veil, mask, and memory object.

SUSTAINABILITY

The headpiece is made primarily from reclaimed champagne muselet wires collected in a material reuse context dedicated to artistic and textile experimentation. These metal elements, originally industrial waste from the beverage industry, were repurposed instead of discarded.

Eco-responsible Methods

The project follows a strong upcycling approach by transforming industrial waste into a wearable artistic object. The muselet wires were manually flattened and reshaped, avoiding energy-intensive processes and maintaining a low-impact production method. The work was developed within a workshop context that encouraged material reuse, experimentation, and collective handling of found objects. By extending the life cycle of both industrial and textile materials, the piece reduces waste and promotes circular creative practices rooted in sustainability and hands-on craftsmanship.



PARTICIPANTS



Louise Limontas

Louise Limontas is a Brussels-based textile designer and artist. With experience in both industrial and craft textile techniques—such as weaving, knitting, printing, embroidery, rope-making, and lace-making—she explores their boundaries and potential fusions. Using yarns as a narrative base, her work focuses on the body and the home through textiles, revealing the intimate connection between them. Her practice is rooted in material sensitivity and sustainability, frequently using resourced materials, including leftover yarns and textile waste from companies. By recontextualizing these discarded materials, she develops tactile, sculptural pieces that reflect on care, transformation, and the emotional dimensions of everyday environments.



**Users Participating
in the project**

Mouad, Jonathan.

Coiffe
/ finished headpiece



Coiffe

METHOD AND PROCESS

The muselet wires were flattened, reshaped, and reassembled manually into a new structure that follows and responds to the shape of the head. The process involved repetitive handwork, allowing the material to lose its original industrial rigidity and become flexible and expressive. The headpiece was further developed through embroidery on a mix of tulle, adding softness, transparency, and slight volume. The contrast between rigid metal and delicate textile creates tension between protection and exposure. Workshop participants contributed to the material exploration phase, reinforcing a collective and experimental approach to making.

CULTURAL RELEVANCE

The piece reinterprets an everyday industrial object tied to wine production and celebration into a contemporary textile and wearable form. By reusing champagne muselet wires, it connects industrial heritage with craft-based transformation. The notion of “coiffe” links historical traditions of head coverings—such as veils, masks, and ceremonial headpieces—with a contemporary sculptural reinterpretation. Through this transformation, the work reflects on protection, identity, and fragility, while engaging with sustainable practices of reuse and material revaluation.

Coiffe
/ design process

