

Coat “Suzilnist”

SHORT DESCRIPTION

The coat is crafted in a bright yellow color that, at first glance, conveys lightness and ease.

However, its voluminous silhouette and complex sleeve construction introduce a sense of weight and intricacy, revealing a deeper complexity upon closer inspection. The piece explores the coexistence of opposites—light and dark—bringing together brightness and heaviness within a single design.

ARTISTIC INSPIRATION

The creative concept behind this piece is deeply connected to the emotional landscape shaped by the current situation in the country. Constant exposure to difficult news and everyday uncertainty often makes it challenging to focus on moments of lightness and hope. This coat emerges as a response to that experience—an exploration of how brightness can still exist, even in the darkest of times. The use of vivid color symbolizes a conscious search for optimism, a visual reminder that light can be found or created despite external circumstances. At the same time, the garment goes beyond visual expression.

Its enveloping form is designed to provide a sense of protection and comfort, almost like a shield against the outside world.



SUSTAINABILITY

Materials used are SUSTAINABLE and The waste of the material was minimized, and ensured that all remaining materials could be used as parts of other pieces.



PARTICIPANTS



Valeria Kraniansa
Supervisor

An emerging fashion designer who began their journey with sketching garments just a few years ago, transforming a long-standing passion for fashion into a dedicated creative practice.

With a strong focus on experimentation, the designer explores the relationship between form and emotion, often combining contrasting elements—such as lightness and heaviness, simplicity and complexity—within a single piece. Each design is approached as both a visual and tactile experience, where silhouettes, textures, and construction details play a key role in conveying meaning.



Users Participating in the project



Coat “Suzilnist”
finished garment

Coat “Suzilnist”
design process



Coat “Suzilnist”

METHOD AND PROCESS

The piece was born from the story of an immigrant displaced during the Great War. She spoke of the profound sense of losing one's home and how certain garments provided the strength to move forward. For her, clothing was more than fabric; it was a sanctuary. The vibrant colors of our design serve as a tribute to her memories of the sun-drenched, occupied Crimea. To capture this sense of comfort and protection, we utilized draping techniques to create an oversized, ethereal silhouette, transitioning from initial sketches into the final structural modeling and sewing.

CULTURAL RELEVANCE

This piece is deeply connected to Ukrainian cultural identity, particularly in the context of the ongoing war since 2022. In times of uncertainty and resilience, clothing becomes more than a functional object—it carries emotional, cultural, and symbolic meaning. The coat reflects this reality by drawing on the enduring strength and spirit embedded in Ukrainian heritage.

Traditionally, Ukrainian garments often embody protection, warmth, and symbolism, whether through layering, craftsmanship, or the idea of clothing as a form of personal and cultural armor.

This piece reinterprets that notion through its enveloping silhouette, offering a sense of safety and comfort, much like traditional attire once did in both practical and symbolic ways. At the same time, the use of bold color can be seen as a contemporary echo of the richness and vibrancy found in Ukrainian folk elements, where color has always played an important role in expressing identity, emotion, and hope. Rather than directly replicating traditional forms or ornamentation, the design translates these values into a modern language—minimal, sculptural, and conceptual.