

Dress “Landscape”

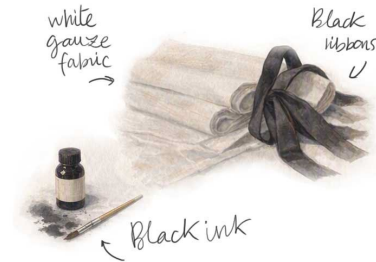
SHORT

This voluminous dress is based on the personal story of Maria, who was forced to leave her hometown Oleshky during the occupation. The piece includes her handwritten poem on a light, semi-transparent fabric. A gradient from dark to light reflects loss and hope. The dress explores life between the memory of home and the need to move forward.

ARTISTIC

This work is based on the story of Maria, who is originally from Oleshky, a town near the Dnipro River close to Kherson. At the beginning of the full-scale war, the town came under occupation. She lived there for some time and later managed to leave for western Ukraine, while part of her family remained there.

Today Maria is building a new life, but her thoughts often return to her homeland - to the river, the sea, and the open space she describes in her poetry.



SUSTAINABILITY

Materials used are SUSTAINABLE and the work is created with a focus on manual processes and conscious use of materials. The production minimizes waste and works with available resources.



PARTICIPANTS



Yaryna Stoliar
Supervisor

Yaryna Stoliar is a designer from Ukraine and the founder of a modern embroidered clothing brand. In her work, she reinterprets traditional Ukrainian clothing in a contemporary way. She combines original designs, machine embroidery, and cultural references. Her inspiration often comes from Ukrainian literature, history, and heritage, which she transforms into visual forms. For her, design is a way of self-expression, rethinking tradition, and creating something new. Alongside her brand, she also works with different social groups, involving people in creative processes.



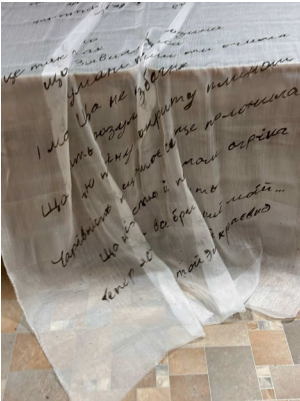
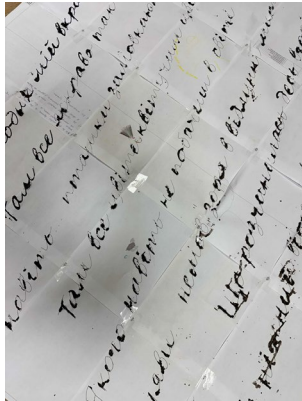
Users Participating in the project

María

Dress “Landscape”
finished garment



Dress “Landscape”
design process



Constrained Sleeves

METHOD AND PROCESS

The dress is made from a light, semi-transparent fabric that carries the handwritten text of Maria’s poem. This allows the garment to combine material form with a personal narrative.

The structure of the dress is based on a gradient from dark to light. The darker lower part reflects the experience of occupation, loss, and uncertainty. The lighter upper part represents hope, movement, and a new stage in life.

Asymmetrical dark ribbons are integrated into the form, symbolizing broken connections — with home, place, and people. In its form and details, a subtle marine feeling can be sensed, referring to the south, the wind, and open space.

The dress has a deliberately voluminous shape, emphasizing its presence as both a garment and an art object.

CULTURAL RELEVANCE

This work reflects the current Ukrainian experience of war, displacement, and emotional connection to home.

It speaks about a condition many people live in today — between memory and the need to rebuild life. Through the combination of text, material, and form, the dress becomes more than clothing. It becomes a carrier of personal and shared stories.

This work is not about one person only. It reflects the experience of many people living between past and present.