

Face Dress Lace

SHORT DESCRIPTION

A contemporary patchwork dress made of layered tulle and experimental lace embroidery. The piece features vibrant colors and expressive embroidered faces, combining lightness, transparency, and emotional storytelling through textile techniques.

ARTISTIC INSPIRATION

The piece is inspired by the concept “From Darkness to Light” and the idea that a person contains many emotional states, identities, and inner “faces.”

Through conversations, participants reflected on how healing is not about removing darkness, but learning to live with and accept all parts of oneself.

Initial portrait drawings became the basis for embroidered faces, symbolizing different moods, memories, and emotional layers. A poetic phrase created by one participant was also incorporated into the textile.

SUSTAINABILITY

Materials: reused and recycled. All materials used are textile scraps and tulle discarded by a fashion company.

These swatches were originally part of seasonal sample books and were never used in production, making them ideal for creative reuse.



PARTICIPANTS



Inge Bolen
Supervisor

I am a textile designer and artist with over 20 years of experience in fashion design, graphics, and prints. I have decided to return to my roots in textile art, my true passion, exploring new techniques and creative approaches to grow as a creator and connect emotionally with the audience.



Users Participating in the project

Inge, Mark, Luisa, Ana, Maria, Noemi,

Face Dress Lace
finished garment



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METHOD AND PROCESS

The process began with group discussions about darkness and light, followed by free drawing exercises to unlock creativity. These drawings were later translated into embroidery. Each participant created their own portrait, which was then integrated into a collective garment.

The final dress was composed using recycled tulle and fabric scraps, layered in a vibrant and expressive composition.

Working with sewing techniques was initially challenging for some participants, but over time they gained confidence and creative freedom.

CULTURAL RELEVANCE

The piece reinterprets traditional Spanish textile practices such as lace and embroidery in a contemporary and experimental way. Spain has a strong heritage of handcrafted textiles, and this work transforms those traditions into a modern, expressive, and inclusive language.

Face Dress Lace / design process

