

## **TAM 4480 Project 3 Process Paper**

### **Jenny Wu**

My design for project 3 is called rippling. It is inspired by one of the arts of nature, the shapes, and grills of oyster mushrooms. I used a textured fabric as the reflection of the appearances of oyster mushrooms as the 3D element of the dress. And the color of this fabric is a hazy blue which looks the color of water because the twisting shape and the layered bottom reminds me of the effect of ripples and waves.

The theme of project 3 is 3D shapes. In this project, we need to manipulate fabrics and use sewing techniques to produce a garment with a 3D effect, and we can choose our inspirations. For my design, it is called rippling. This is a dress that is inspired by the gills of oyster mushrooms because their shape and texture give the impression of gleaming ripples cuts the lakes surface, and also waves breaking as seen from underwater. As one of my favorite fungus, everytime when I was looking at the oyster mushroom, I will turn them over and viewed from its lower surface it becomes a fabulous combination of shapes and colors, gills and swirls. I want to use the fabric that I purchased in China which has a very similar texture as oyster mushroom's grills and also uses it to recreate the layered effect as my 3D element.

During the researching process, I looked at lots of photos of oyster mushrooms to see the texture of its gills, its superimposed shape, and the way it looks like petals. Their interesting texture has also become the inspiration for lots of pottery, interior design, and fashion. I was

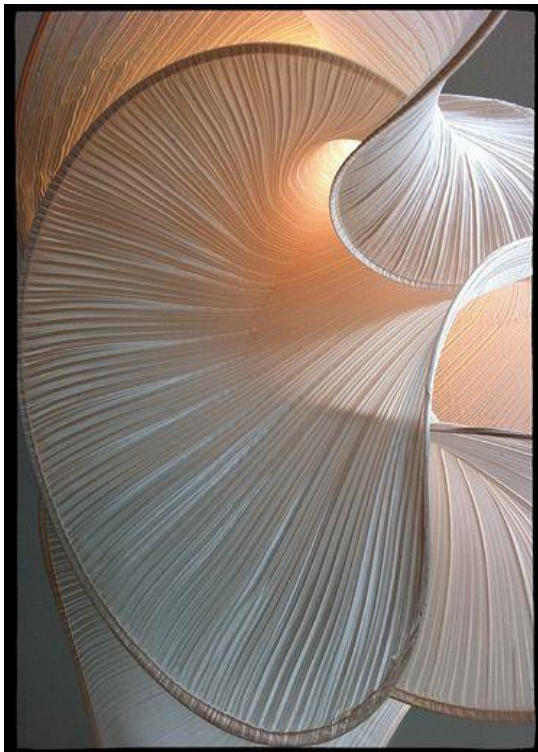
inspired by how designers and artists recreate the shape and texture of oyster mushroom and turn 2D effect into 3D effect through different materials.



**Oyster Mushroom**



**Oyster Mushroom Clay Tile**



**Praching**



**Spectacular 3D Illustrations**

For the choice of material, I used a pleated fabric that looks similar to the fabric Issey Miyake uses for his Yes Pleats line. When I know we can decide our inspirations for this 3D design element project, I am really excited. Because during this summer when I was in China, I purchased some fabric samples that look like what Issey Miyake used for his Yes pleats line. These samples have beautiful texture and color so this kind of start to giving me inspirations about the 3D element for my project. This pleated fabric is different from the one-way pleat on the market, its folds are fine and regular. Because of the exceptionally delicate pleats of this fabric, I was inspired by the grills of oyster mushrooms. Moreover, it is very fitting which looks amazing on the dress form and It can perfectly show the hourglass figure of the dress forms. What's interesting is that my friend actually gives me a scarf from Issey Miyake's Yes pleats collection for my birthday. And I got to feel the actual pleated that is created by Issey Miyake. The pleats on the scarf are even more and more detailed. They are sheer and feels very soft. I have to say this is an interesting comparison and I am very happy about my choice of fabric because all these characteristics of this pleated fabric give me lots of freedom for creativity.

With the help of fabric, my design process also went well, although I made lots of changes. At the very beginning, I came up with a dress with two puff sleeves and a large bottom in the shape of oyster mushrooms. And I came up with the idea of making a neckpiece to go with the whole design. However, when I was making this dress, I have to drape with this fabric on the form directly because of these pleats and its stretchiness, and this is causing some limitations to using this fabric. But I think those limitations pushed me to make something even more different better than my prior design. When I was working on the placement of the left sleeve, I put that piece of large ruffles around the chest and it looks has a flow. Also, with the neckpiece with the smaller ruffles, the dress looks from dense to lose. I really like the feeling of this as a start to make the

pleats on the chest look fluffy and irregular. The large pleated fabric of the chest also extends to the back, giving the dress a different 3D element at each Angle. Then I chose to leave the room at the waist to separate the chest and legs, and the skirt was irregularity inspired by the shape of oyster mushroom slices. There is also a feeling of oyster mushrooms being peeled off one by one. The folds of the skirt below the waist have been fixed by my hands, and the directions and shapes of each fold are different and irregular. This fabric allows me to make full use of its weight and texture, which perfectly reflects the 3D design in all the directions.

After all, I am really satisfied with designing and making the process of this dress. Everything time when I was putting this dress on, it looks a little bit different. And this is the best thing about this fabric, which let me keep having new inspiration, make the design more and more interesting. The texture of this dress is perfectly combined with the shape I created inspired by oyster mushrooms, bringing the 3D elements to the extreme. I feel that in my previous two works, I didn't make more use of the fabric and sewing skills to play with the fabric and reflected more 3D elements in the works. This time, I think I have improved and achieved this. Even though the process of production is not simple, and it needs to fight against gravity, I really like your saying to me that you use gravity in your design to make your work look better. It took a lot of work and time to fix every wrinkle and design detail of the dress through most of the hand seams, but it worked so well that it was well worth the effort. For the part I'm not satisfied with, I honestly think this is one of my best works at present. At the same time, I also like my additional two designs inspired by this dress. I hope I can make this series of ready-to-wear in the future. If you want to say that the place is not satisfied with the design and production may not consider the particularity of the fabric, when the model wears it may not be very convenient to walk. And because most design elements of this dress are hand-stitched, you have to be very careful when

you take them off. Some of them may not be strong enough. Overall, I am very satisfied with my design and the final product. Thanks to the fabric and the teacher's guidance, I can successfully use all the features of the fabric to complete the whole design. I really enjoy using this fabric and I want to explore this fabric more and create some interesting and 3D element designs in the future.

### **References**

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### **Process pictures**

**Final Product**





