



HOT NERDS

Zaz Alvarino

About me



As a designer, I believe I'm a hot nerd. Creativity is both emotional and highly technical. I don't see it as something completely random, I think there is a lot of discipline behind it. Creativity comes from being deeply informed, studying different materials and techniques other designers and artists have used before you, and recognizing how things like color, silhouette, and symbolism communicate meaning.

Once you understand those visual languages, you can begin interpreting them in your own way. Anyone can make something purely from instinct, but I think truly strong creativity comes from transforming existing references, emotions, and ideas into something personal, informed, and intentional.

Hi, I'm Zaz

Inspiration

My graduate collection is deeply inspired by my late friend, Jay. We began exploring our queer identities together during our first year of college, and throughout that time we constantly encouraged each other to be curious about culture, identity, relationships, and self-expression. That spirit of freedom became the emotional foundation of the collection.

As a designer, I've always been drawn to tailoring, but for a long time I felt confined by what tailoring was traditionally supposed to represent. Thinking about Jay, growing up as a gay kid in a rural town in Texas, and still choosing to embrace the things he genuinely loved, pushed me to approach design with more honesty and less fear.

This is Jay...



Modboard

The nature of
the groove



Life's a carnival



Queer embracement



Molting



the beautiful
sacrifice for growth

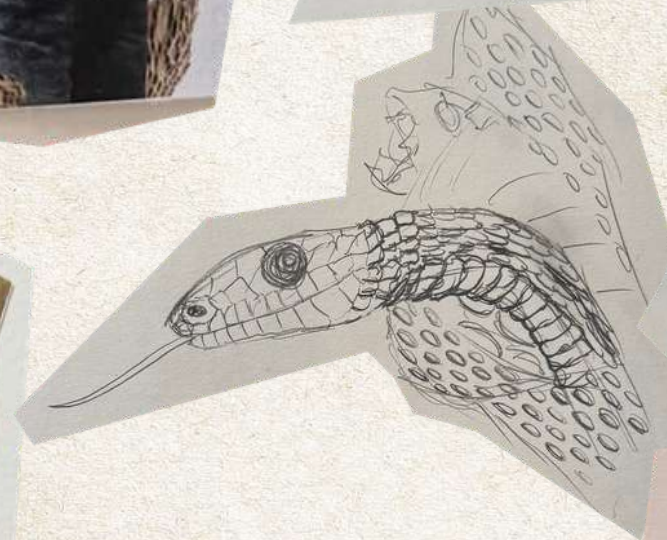
Concept



Design development

Finding the connection
between animal bodies,
garment textures, and
surface patterns

Observing and sketching
the process of animal
shedding / molting



Collage process



Collection

Overview

1



2



3



4



5



6



Garment construction

1



The Teacher's Pet



2



Ugly Duckling





The Wallflower



"invisible" back pockets



"high-waisted" pocket



5

The Prom Date



MATERIAL EXPLORATION

PLASTIC APPLIQUE

- PETG / PVC, laser cut
- Heat shaped
- Layered for depth
- Hand stitched

ORGANZA + VINYL

- Sheer organza for softness
- Vinyl for structure
- Adds translucency and prism effect

LEATHER + FUR

- Small leather shards
- Fur fragments for molting effect
- Hand cut and layered

BEADING + THREAD

- Glass beads and burls
- Metallic stitching
- Connective threads like veins

COLOR PALETTE

COOL TONES + AQUA + IRIDESCENT ACCENTS



The Genius

Fabric swatches



Nerd
symmetry



Accessories

2A21 ISABELLA

ALVARINO S1

PHOTOSHOOT

















Model: Philipp Schock
Designer & Photographer: Zaz Alvarino









Fashion Designer: Zaz Alvarino

Model: SARABAMBA

Lighting: Rocco Gurrieri

Photographer & Stylist: Irene Montini

POLIMODA

Thank you!

