

Marios Schwab

MARIOS SCHWAB SPRING SUMMER 2008

“VIGOUR-MORTIS”

MARIOS SCHWAB'S SPRING SUMMER 2008 COLLECTION TAKES A LITERAL JOURNEY WITHIN THE BODY. ENTHUSED BY ANDREAS VESALIUS' DE HUMANI CORPORIS FABRICA, THE FABRIC OF THE HUMAN BODY BECOMES THE FABRIC OF THE COLLECTION. THIS FASCINATION WITH THE BODY'S TOPOGRAPHY IS EXPLORED THROUGH THE INNER STRUCTURE OF A GARMENT, WHICH IS TRANSFORMED AND REFLECTED ON THE OUTSIDE.

A DRESS HOLDS COMPLEX INTERNAL HARNESSSES; STRAPS PULL FABRIC AWAY FROM, AND AROUND THE BODY; FABRIC IS MANIPULATED WITH THE USE OF WIRE, SIMULATING VEINS, TWISTING AND TURNING TO FIT - HOLDING A LOOSE SILHOUETTE STRATEGICALLY IN PLACE IN ORDER TO REVEAL THE FORM BENEATH. SECTIONS OF A JACKET ARE DISSECTED, AND ROLLED AWAY FROM THE BODY, REVEALING CONTRASTING LAYERS OF PRINT, COLOUR OR THE SKIN ITSELF.

STRINGS OF PEARLS, USED OUT OF THEIR TRADITIONAL CONTEXT, ARE JUXTAPOSED WITH EVERYDAY CHUNKY PLASTIC ZIPS; ACTING AS SYMMETRICAL MUSCULAR STRUCTURES TO FORM A SUPPORTIVE FRAME AROUND BODY AND GARMENT.

PRE-OCCUPIED WITH THE CONCEPT OF CLOTHES AS A PERSONAL LIVING SPACE, THE COLLECTION ALSO EXPLORES GIULIANA BRUNO'S 'ATLAS OF EMOTION', THE EXCERPT 'ADDRESS TO A DRESS', WHICH DISCUSSES HABITATION, HABITUS AND ABITO. THESE THREE WORDS COME FROM THE SAME LATIN ROOT: ABITO TRANSLATING AS 'DRESS'; LIVING SPACE AND CLOTHES ARE INEVITABLY INTERTWINED.

HEAT REACTIVE FABRICS, AFFECTED BY PERSONAL TOUCH AND THE BODY'S NATURAL WARMTH, ARE INSTANTLY ALTERED TO AN INIMITABLE STATE: EACH PIECE BECOMES UNIQUE TO THE WEARER AT ONE PARTICULAR TIME, ONES CONTACT BECOMES VISIBLE.

“TO LIVE IS TO LEAVE TRACES”.

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