

YK2#

(ways)

Quando não souber
pra onde ir, olhe para
as tranças.

"When you don't know where to go,
look at the braids."





This project was developed by the
undergraduate student *Maria Izabel*
currently studying Fashion Design
at Belas Artes University.

este projeto
foi desenvolvido
pela universitária Maria Izabel
cursando Design de Moda
na Universidade Belas Artes



*A 26-year-old
Passionate about creating.*

Hello, my name is Maria Izabel and I am currently a 6th-semester Fashion Design student at the Centro Universitário Belas Artes de São Paulo.

Throughout my journey, I have been developing an authorial language that connects ancestral references with a contemporary aesthetic, reflecting on identity, culture, and the paths traced through the body and clothing.

I enjoy exploring different materials and techniques, especially manual processes, as a way of creating new surfaces and structures. Experimentation plays a central role in my creative process, allowing me to transform simple elements into more complex visual compositions.

I am particularly interested in transforming patterns and references by deconstructing and recombining forms, creating pieces that move beyond their original context. This approach allows me to build visual narratives that exist between the symbolic and the material.

Currently, I develop projects that integrate aesthetics, identity, and construction, exploring fashion design as a tool for expression and reflection.

Sobre o Projeto

"Caminhos" é uma coleção que resgata a ancestralidade afro-brasileira por meio da estética trançada e dos percursos traçados pelo corpo negro. Inspirada nas trajetórias das tracistas e no ato de pisar firme em territórios de resistência, a peça representa identidade, memória e movimento.

About the Project

"Caminhos" is a collection that reconnects with Afro-Brazilian ancestry through braided aesthetics and the pathways traced by the Black body. Inspired by the journeys of braiders and the act of stepping firmly into territories of resistance, the piece represents identity, memory, and movement.

Context of the Theme: Nagô Braids

Nagô braids, originating from African cultures, were brought to Brazil by enslaved people during the colonial period.

This braiding technique was not only an aesthetic practice, but also a form of communication, cultural expression, and resistance.

As tranças Nagô, originárias das culturas africanas, foram trazidas para o Brasil pelos escravizados durante o período colonial. Essa técnica de trançar o cabelo não era apenas um ato estético, mas também uma forma de comunicação, expressão cultural e resistência.

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Africans preserved their traditions through these braids, even in a context of brutal exploitation. They became a way to maintain identity, communicate secret messages, and were often used as maps of escape routes to quilombos, while also maintaining a connection to their roots.

Os africanos mantiveram suas tradições através dessas tranças, mesmo em um contexto de brutal exploração. Elas se tornaram um modo de preservar a identidade, comunicar mensagens secretas e muitas vezes eram mapas de rotas de fuga para os quilombos além de manter uma conexão com suas raízes.



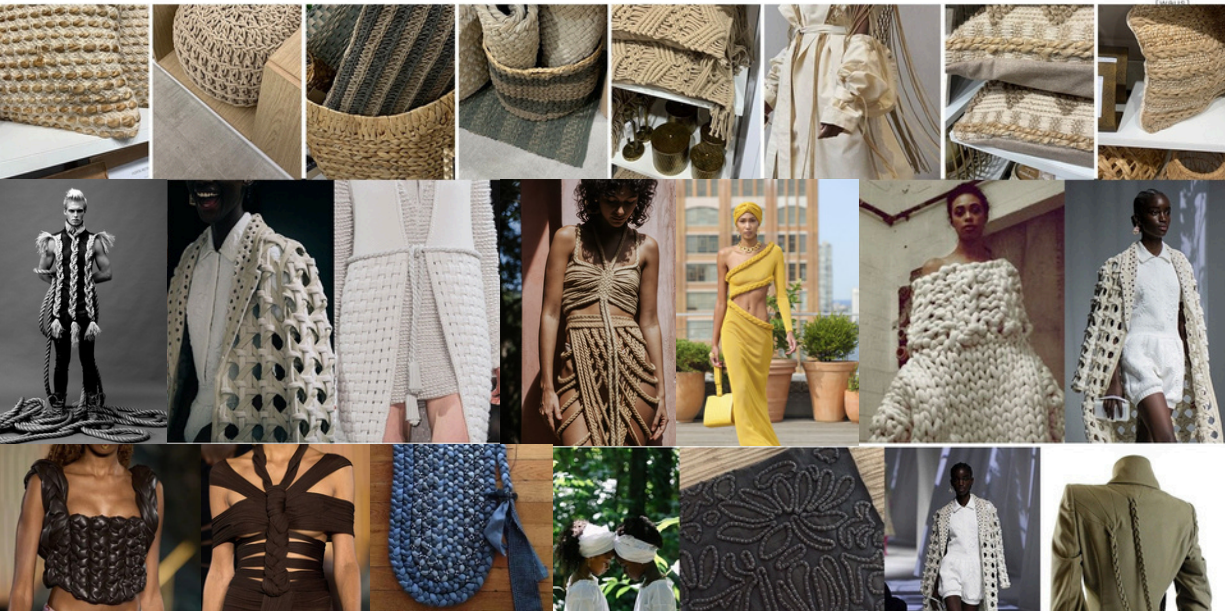
Moodboard

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Form Study

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O processo de construção da coleção Caminhos foi desenvolvido a partir de estudos de forma baseados em diferentes tipologias de tranças, como as tranças nagô, tranças de raiz, caracóis e outros trançados. A partir desses recortes, foram criadas composições que exploram direções, fluxos e continuidades, remetendo a percursos que se desenham sobre o corpo.

The construction process of the Caminhos collection was carefully developed through form studies based on different typologies of braids, such as cornrow braids, root braids, braided curls, and other weaving structures. From these elements, compositions were created to explore directions, flows, and continuities, evoking pathways that are drawn across the body.

Esses elementos foram reorganizados no desenho, permitindo a construção de novas formas que se distanciam de sua origem, mas ainda preservam sua lógica estrutural. As linhas das tranças passam a atuar como guias para a criação da peça, definindo fluxos e percursos sobre o corpo.

These elements were reorganized within the drawing, allowing the development of new forms that move away from their original context while still preserving their structural logic. The lines of the braids begin to act as guiding elements in the creation of the garment, defining flows and pathways across the body.

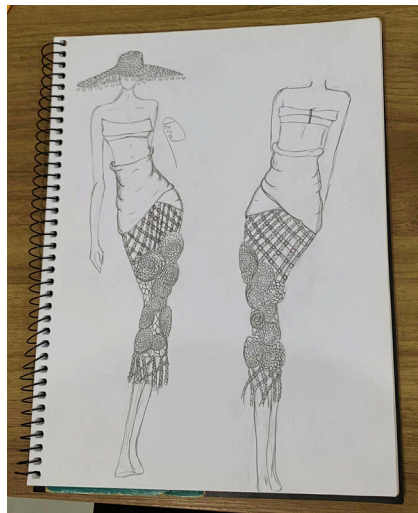
O croqui surge, então, como um espaço de transformação, onde estruturas originalmente aplicadas ao cabelo são traduzidas para o vestuário. Nesse processo, as formas deixam de ser apenas referência e passam a construir a própria linguagem da peça, estabelecendo uma relação entre desenho, corpo e estrutura.

The sketch then emerges as a space of transformation, where structures originally applied to hair are translated into clothing. In this process, the forms cease to be mere references and instead become the foundation of the garment's own language, establishing a relationship between drawing, body, and structure.



Organic spiral forms.

Sketches



FRENTE / FRONT

Busto tomara que caia com estrutura dobrada pra dentro e fechamento nas costas por zíper.

Strapless bust with internal structure and back zipper closure.

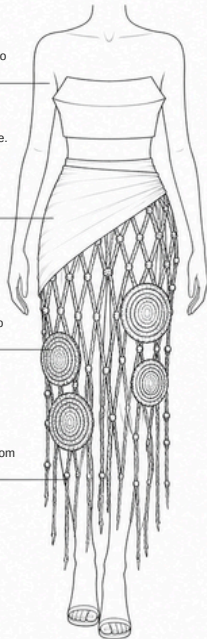
Faixa transpassada em couro.
wrap-around band in leather.

aplicações circulares trançado em couro.

Circular braided leather applications

Fitas de couro trançado com miçangas de madeira.

Braided leather strips with wooden beads.



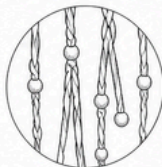
DETALHE BUSTO / BUST DETAIL



DETALHE FAIXA / WRAP DETAIL

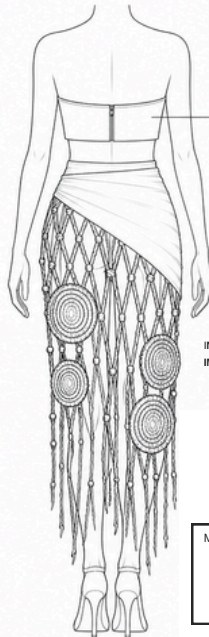


DETALHE FITAS / STRIPS DETAIL



COSTAS / BACK

Fechamento por zíper invisível nas costas
Invisible zipper closure at back.



INFORMAÇÕES IMPORTANTES/ IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Todas as fitas são de couro trançado.
- Todas as fitas possuem miçangas de madeira
- As aplicações circulares são em couro.
- All strips are braided leather.
- All strips have wooden beads.
- The circular appliques are leather.

Materiais / Materials

- Couro / Leather
- Miçangas de madeira / Wooden beads
- Zíper / zipper

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front

back



Bust detail

Braided leather



Braids with leather and wooden beads.



Materials

Color palette

