



Esme Curtis
21000590
Group E
Fashion Design and Development
Year 3



“a
**Big Time
CHARLIE POTATO**

is, yano... he's the man about town, he thinks he's something he's not, he thinks, yano.... he thinks he's well off,

when he isn't.”

Gramps, 2025

WHAT is WeALTH?



OBVIOUS INDICATORS OF OBSCENE WEALTH:

- * A KNICKER BOCKER GLORY ON A SUNNY DAY
- * A FAMILY DAY OUT TO IKEA
- * THE SMELL OF SUN CREAM
- * A TRINKET FILLED BEDROOM
- * LISTENING TO YOUR FAVOURITE SONG AT ZAM WHEN EVERYONE ELSE IS ASLEEP
- * FOX GLOVES IN THE GARDEN
- * LYING ON GREEN GRASS
- * PRETENDING TO LAUGH AT FAMILY ANECDOTES YOU'VE HEARD BEFORE ... ABOUT 5000 TIMES
- * A SPRING TIME WALK
- * A SUMMER THUNDER-STORM



Despite growing up on a council estate in the North West, being raised by a single mum and believing the height of culture was a day out to Blackpool, it never appeared to me that my family weren't wealthy. For what is wealth? To me, wealth is falling asleep in the living room and waking up with a patchwork cushion imprint on my face. Or the first time in the year where you can smell freshly bloomed spring flowers. Wealth is laughing until your stomach hurts and your face is scarlet red, paired with an ice cream on a park bench.

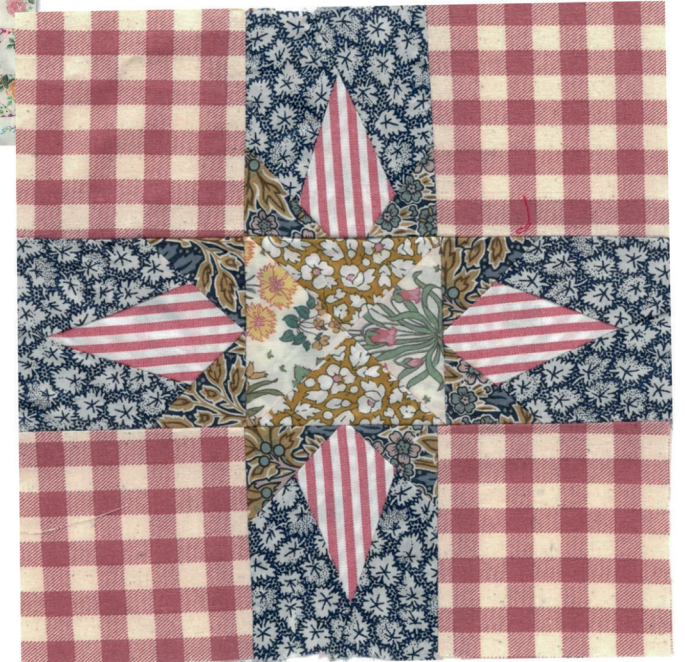
When I moved to London at 18 and discovered my childhood had not been the pinnacle of wealth it hit me; I am a Big Time Charlie Potato. A saying I had always heard my grandad use, referring to those waltzing around like they'd made it big time, without having a penny to their name.



Home Sweet Home

Taking inspiration from the textures within my childhood home, I have incorporated patchwork quilting wherever possible. These patchwork samples were created using reclaimed fabrics to reflect the resourcefulness and warmth of working-class homes. The textures, prints, and layering techniques within my collection are all inspired by domestic interiors- couches covered in throws, mismatched bedding, and homemade curtains.

Many of my samples have been made from scrap selvedge Liberty fabric, which I was able to get written off for free at my retail job, as they would otherwise be discarded.



IN MY ROOM

Adrienne Salinger

I love this series of photographs by Adrienne Salinger called 'In my Room', of teenagers in their bedrooms, taken in the 1980s. My work draws so much inspiration from home interiors, specifically bedrooms, as to me they always feel like a visual inspiration of somebody's brain. In these photos, I love the mismatched bedding, layering of items on the wall and the printed wallpaper.



My Bedroom
My collection consists of numerous prints, all completely mismatched. This is inspired by my bedroom back home, which is full of trinkets, cushions and blankets (oh my). I love this hodge podge look of everything being slightly all over the place.

As my work is so heavily influenced by music, I have selected some of my favourite musicians and separated them in archetypes, looking at the patterns in the clothes and costumes that they wear. I will combine these features to create an eclectic collection.

ingénue

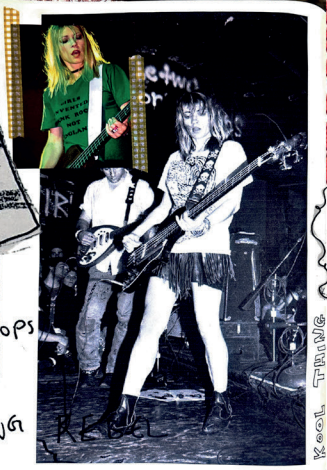


- * feminine
- * uniform-like
- * Bows, frills, ruffles

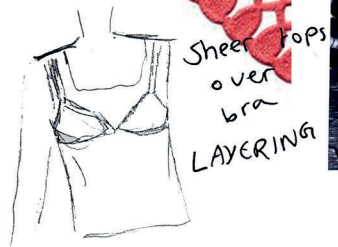


Meet me in St. Louis

REBEL



GIRLS INVENTED PUNK ROCK NOT ENGLAND



Sheer tops over bra LAYERING

Bomb Shell

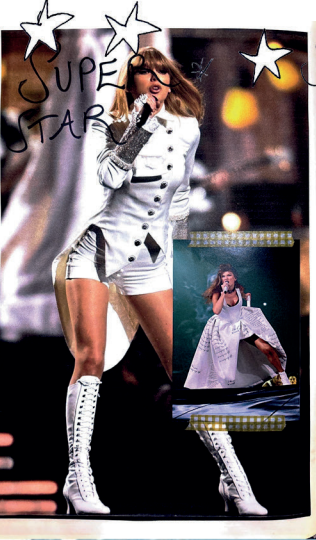


Beauty Pageant Sash



- Marilyn Monroe
- Brigitte Bardot
- Sabrina Carpenter

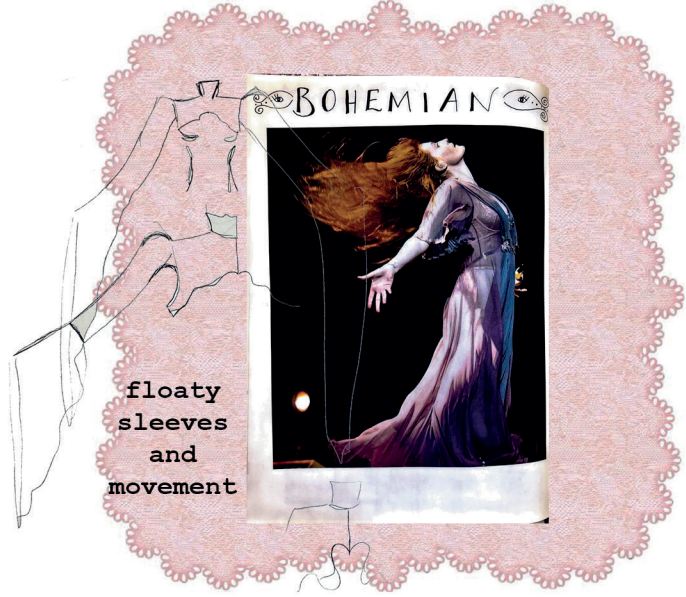
TEXT!!



SUPER STAR



Asymmetric shirts - makes look more mobile



BOHEMIAN



floaty sleeves and movement



* Beachwear
* sweetheart neckline



GIRLY GRUNGE

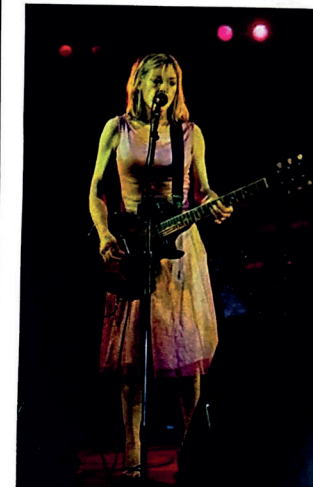
Using tulle for godets as it is sheer, and this combined with its unnatural composition (nylon), feels slightly more rock and roll against my very feminine fabrics.



Stevie Nicks



Using female musicians as inspiration, combining grunge sounds with a girly image.



Kim Gordon

I love this photo of Kim Gordon in this pink dress, because although I think it can be a bit cliché to put a rock/ alternative performer in a hyper feminine outfit, I don't think this looks like it's done to be purposefully clashing the bands overall aesthetic. It just looks as though she had the dress in her wardrobe and decided to wear it.

Playing with lyrics: I made these letters out of fabric I applied with felt with iron on adhesive. I intended to do this on my final design, however preferred the look of the dress without patches.

The lyrics are from the Sonic Youth song 'Kool Thing'



Clairo

BIG TIME CHARLIE POTATO

