

Guirong
Li
(1950-2025)

She was
dawn's
early
light
upon a
fading
age,
A
mirror to
the new.
Her
courage,
firm as
ancient
stone,
Her self,
a song
she wrote
alone.
A life
she
shaped
and
made
true.

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STRENGTH IN WOMAN

MAO SUIT

IRON LADY

Wenjing Wang

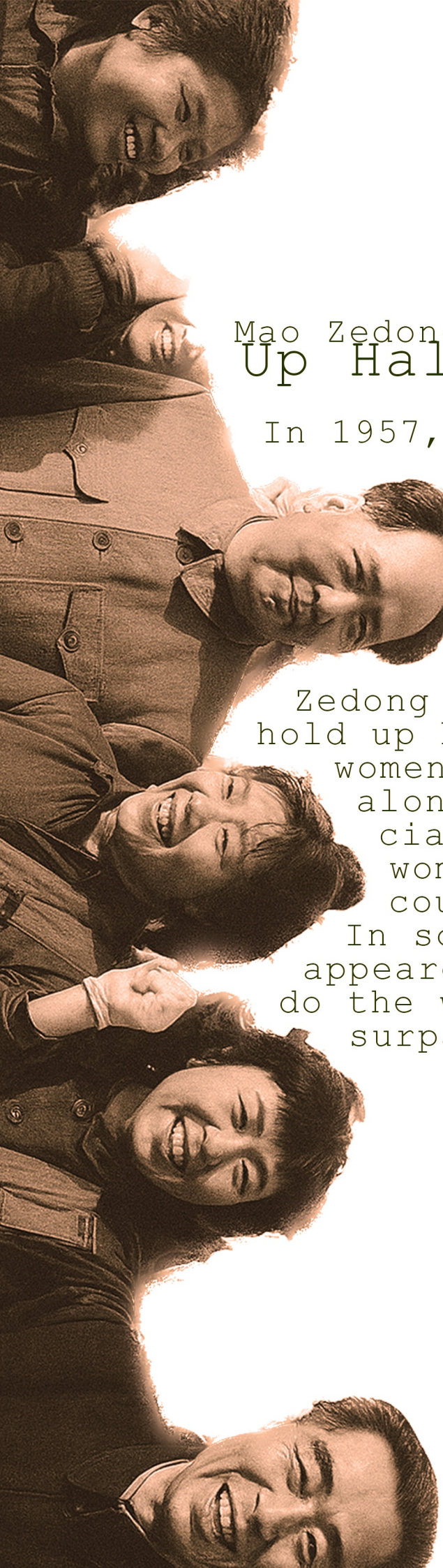




With all her
life
experience,
my
grandmother
always told
me:

never
trust
others
—
only
yourself
is
worth
trusting

Her words
compelled
me to look
into what
it meant to
be a woman
in her time
— the
struggles,
the
expectatio
ns, and the
broader
societal
challenges
she faced.



Mao Zedong Era: "Women Hold Up Half the Sky"

In 1957, the eighth year after the founding of the People's Republic of China, the country promoted socialist construction and the full liberation of women, entering a "Great Leap Forward for Women." Mao Zedong used the slogan "women hold up half the sky" to encourage women to work and produce alongside men in building socialism. The phrase meant that women had great potential and could do whatever men could. In some regions, slogans even appeared such as "One person must do the work of two, and women must surpass men."



In the early 1950s, the All-China Sports Federation was set up and right from the start, it paid a lot of attention to motorcycle sports. That's how the first female motorcycle riders in New China came to be.

In 1959, the first National Games opened at the Workers' Stadium in Beijing. After that, the "motorcycle spirit" started to inspire women all over China. Almost every woman either learned to ride a motorcycle or took pictures with one.

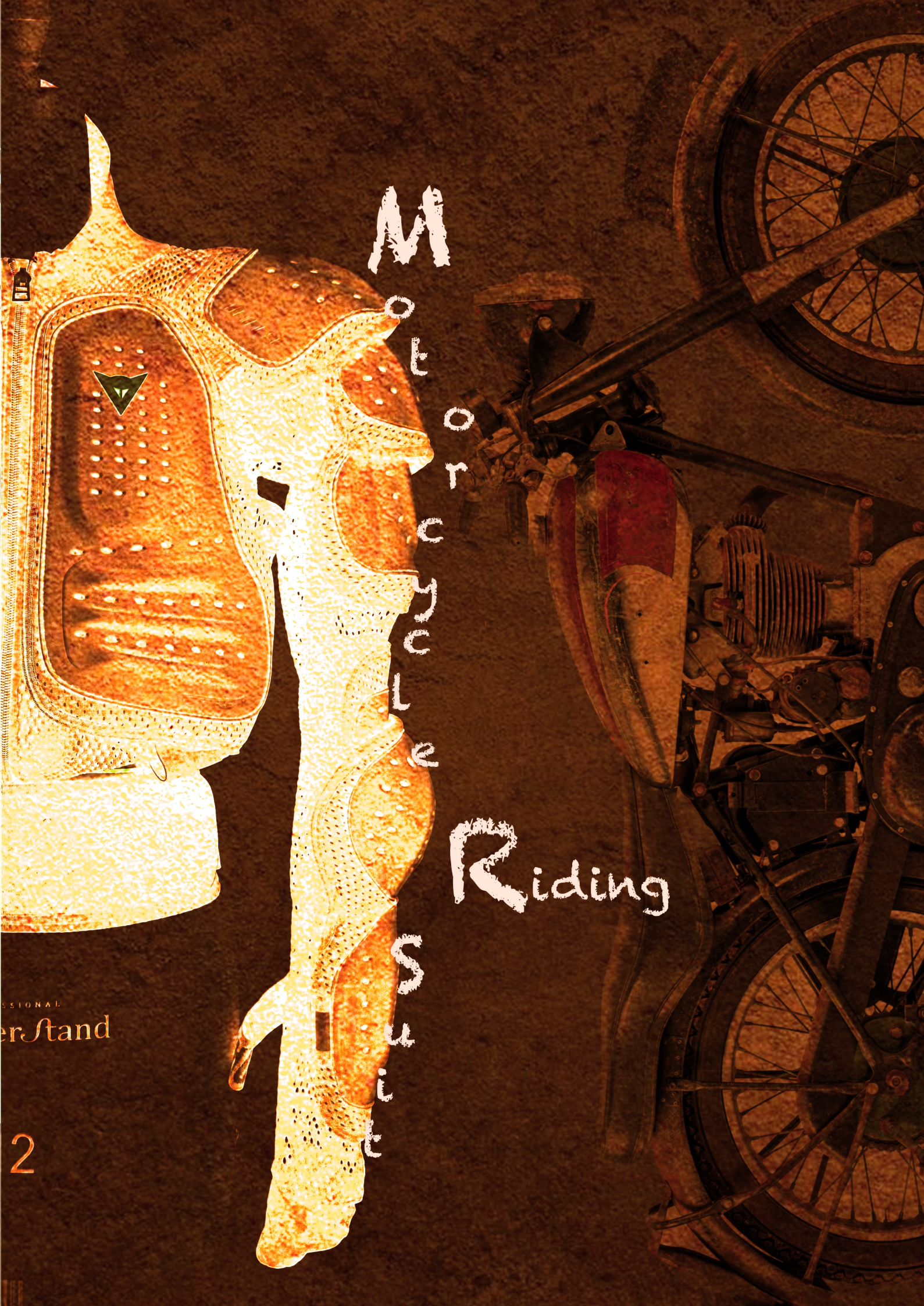
[This photo was taken in 1968, when my 27-year-old grandmother, dressed in a Mao suit, went to Beijing on behalf of her work unit to attend a political meeting.]





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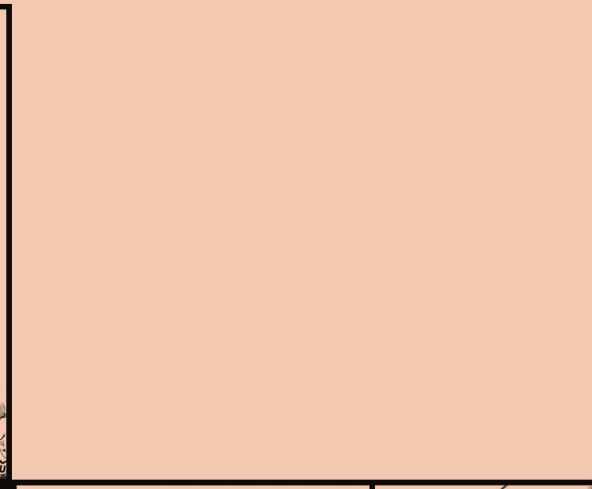
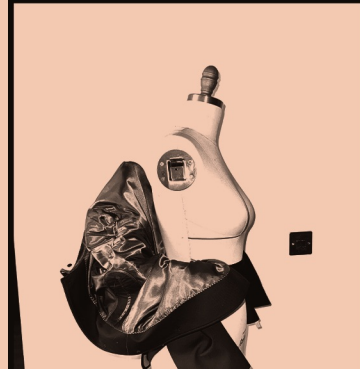
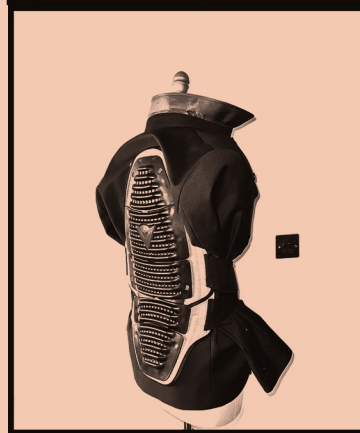
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Riding

PROFESSIONAL
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2

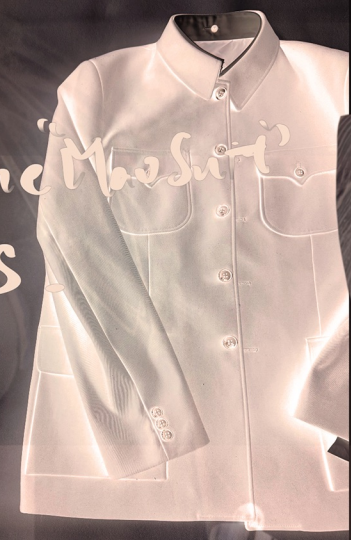






One piece
↓
Top and bottom
all use the whole
piece

use the outline of the 'The Suit'
sleeves for the legs

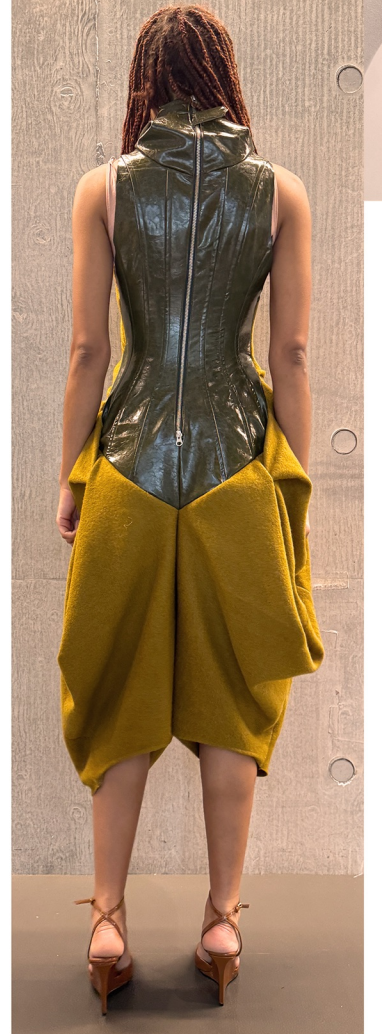


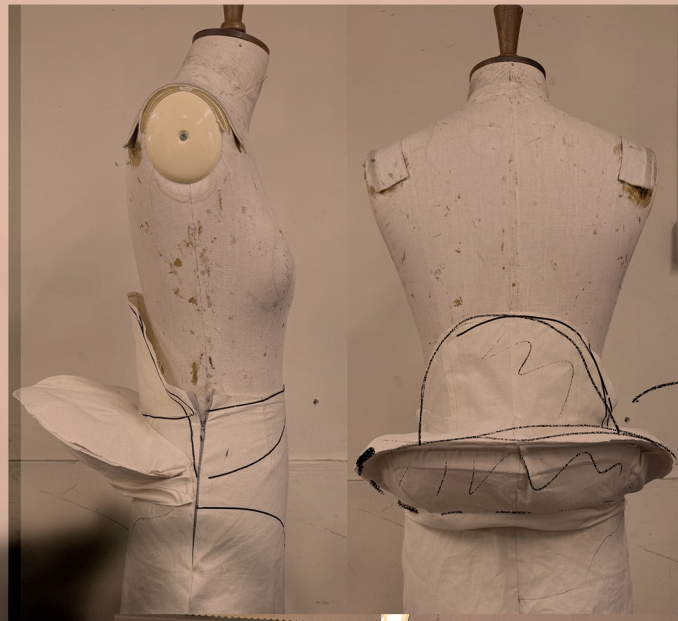
back

front

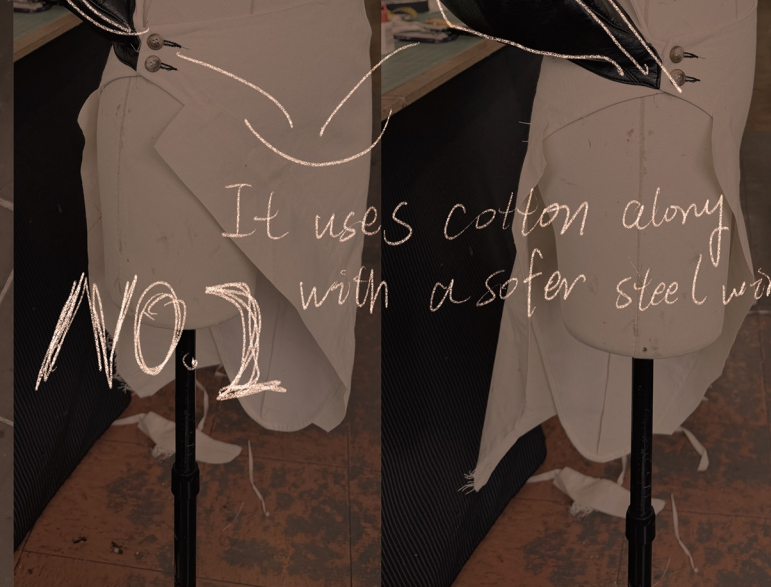


Sleeves

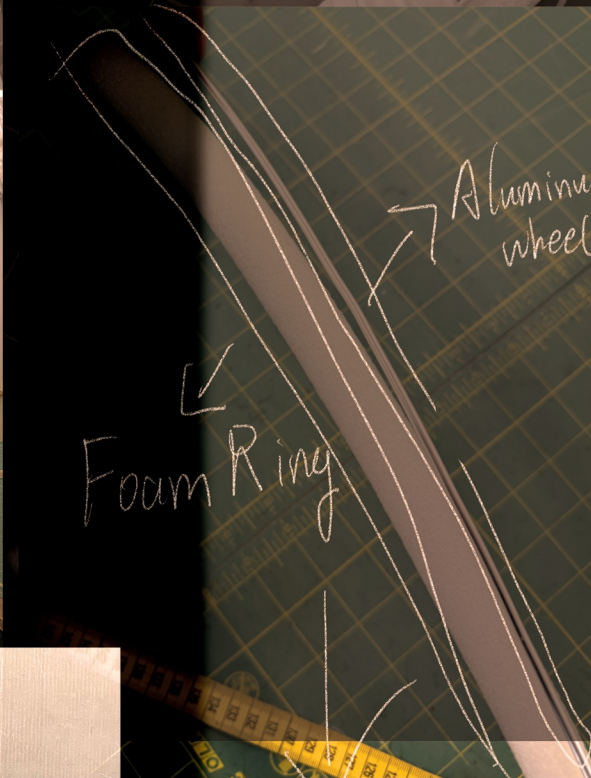


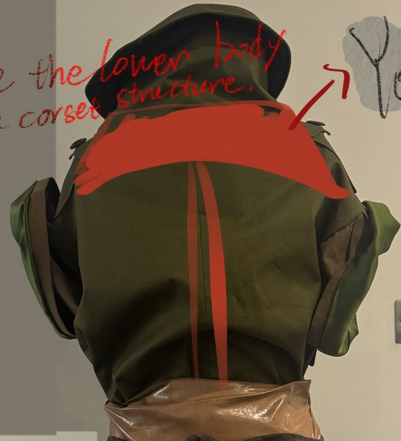
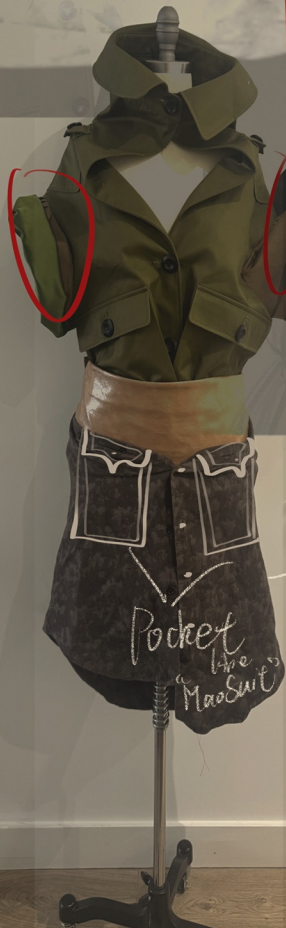


It's only stuffed with cotton and the silhouette loses easily.
NO.1



It uses cotton along with a softer steel wire.
NO.2



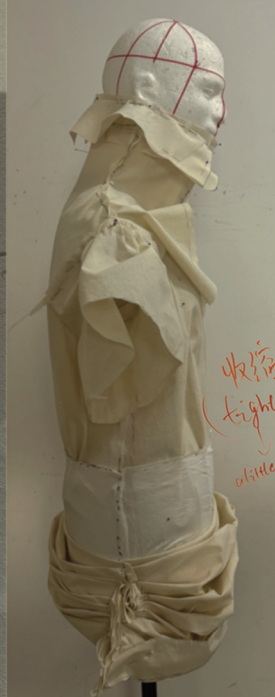


Yoke



Pockets on shoulder
收在肩线处

Pockets on shoulder line
收在肩线处



收得 tighter
at side hit.





motorcycle
wind screen

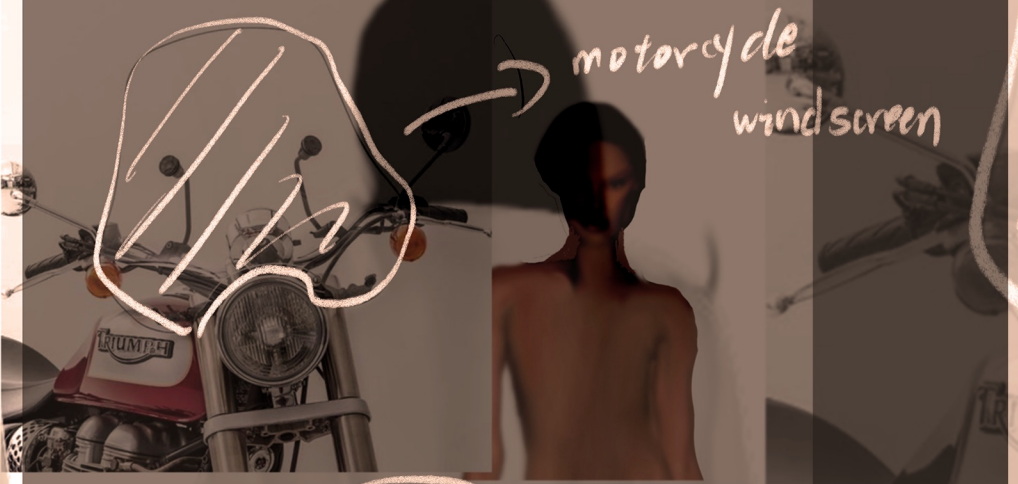
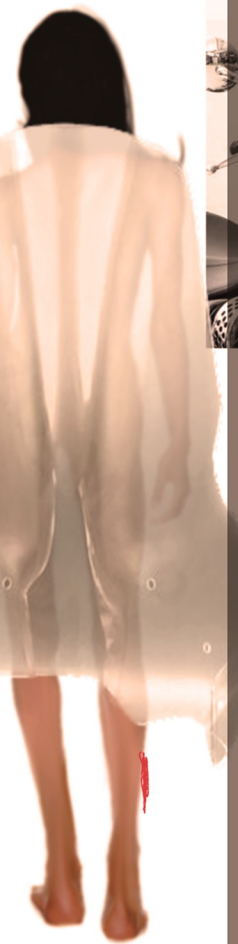
change the "CHEST CLIP" into a
"pocket" of a Mao suit



Protection · Defense

Women's Iron will

connect the brass area
and the windbreaker
along the dotted lines

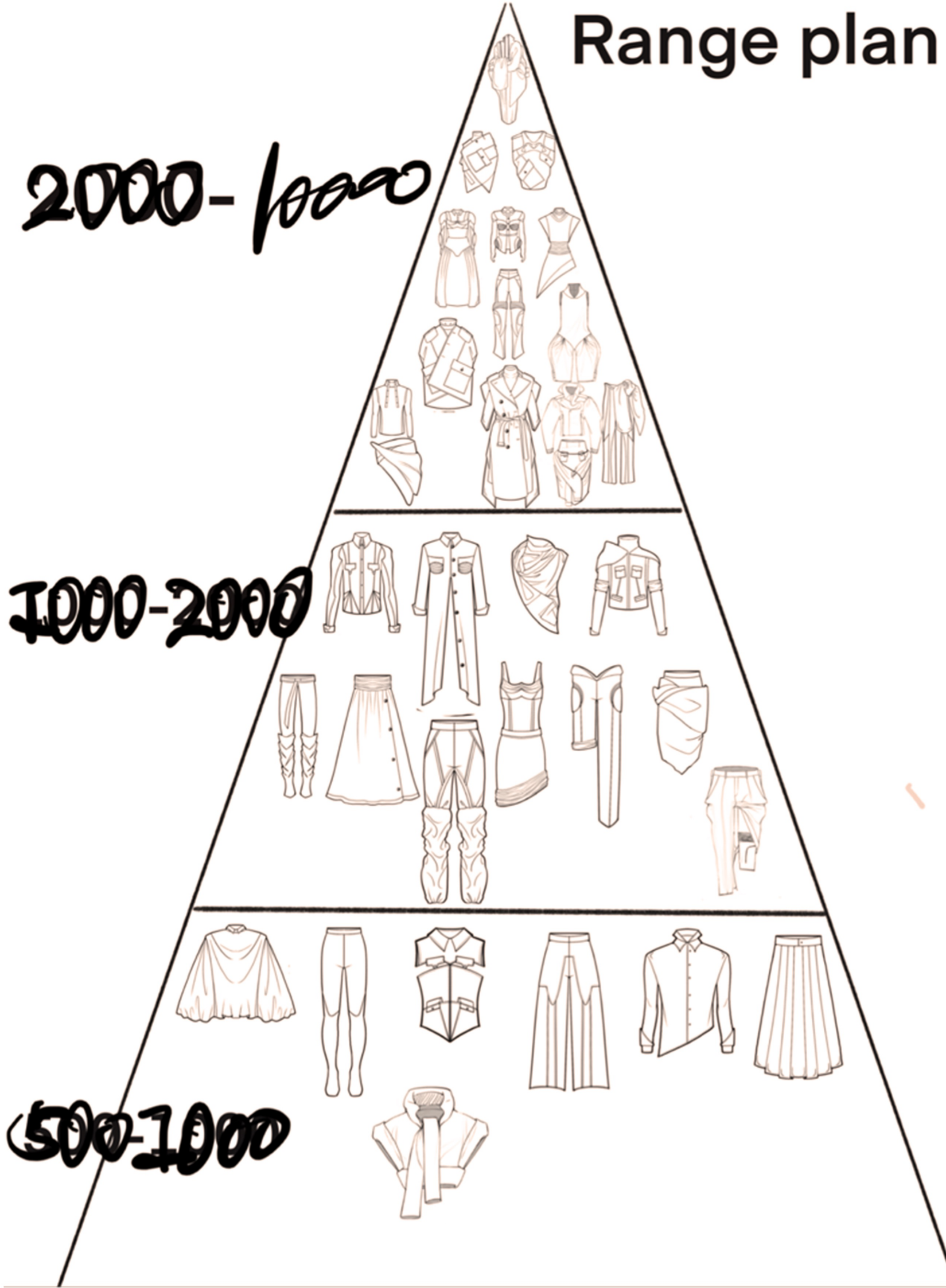


Range plan

2000-10000

1000-2000

500-1000



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China | And then there were none

China's problem with female representation is getting worse

Why there are no women on the Politburo

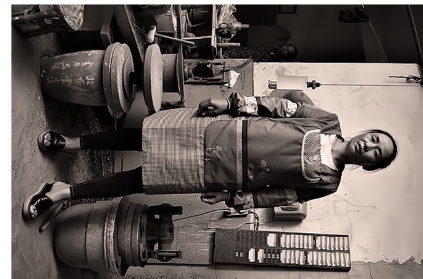


Oct 27th 2022 | BEIJING

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However, After 1980s, as China has developed, women's social status has instead become increasing



Throughout the history of the Chinese Communist Party, only eight women have made it into the Politburo — and not a single woman has ever reached the Politburo Standing Committee, the party's top decision-making body



資料來源: 公開資料

BBC

How is it that in a nation that so loudly celebrates women, the feminist movement has not flourished, but instead been steadily suppressed?

THE PARADOX OF WOMEN'S LIBERATION IN CHINA

WOMEN HOLD UP HALF THE SKY' WAS LESS A FEMINIST IDEAL AND MORE A POLITICAL CALL FOR WOMEN TO SERVE THE NEEDS OF THE STATE.

ALTHOUGH WOMEN CAN HOLD UP HALF THE SKY,
WE MUST FIRST RECOGNIZE THAT ONCE THE WORD 'CAN' IS STRIPPED FROM THE CONTEXT,
WHAT WE ARE LEFT WITH IS MERELY A LIE EVERYONE WANTS TO HEAR



**WOMEN DON'T NEED TO HOLD UP THE SKY FOR OTHERS;
THEY ONLY NEED TO HOLD UP THEIR OWN.**

