

Spring's Promise

Erika Frances Iiams, University of Idaho, USA

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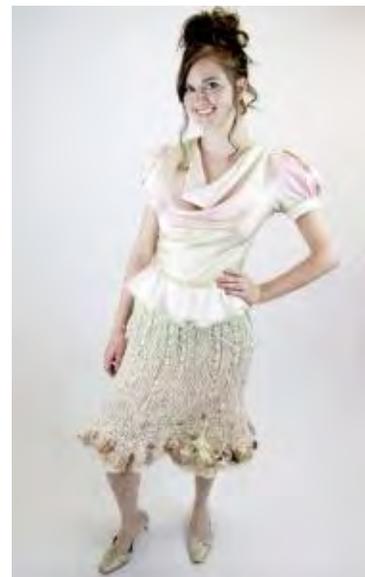
This innovative design represents the desire for spring after a long winter. Often springtime in the Northwest and in other areas can be quite cold; it might even snow! The design problem addressed was to create a garment that represented the feel of spring but still offered warmth and comfort for the wearer.

The skirt was hand knit with a combination of mohair and worsted wool interspersed with alpaca yarn. The mohair yarn was carefully salvaged from a sweater knitted years ago and no longer worn. The mohair was then added to worsted wool into a ply yarn. Stitches were added and dropped and changed to create shape and texture. The skirt was overdyeed before hand-dyed silk ribbons were woven through the dropped stitches. Silk ribbons and felted roses add additional interest to the hemline along with embroidered flowers.

The waistband of the skirt was created using antique lace found at a thrift store. The lace was dyed to reflect the colors in the skirt.

The skirt itself was lined with a vintage slip which was gathered into the hem exposing the lace along the bottom edge. The exposed

side zipper was recovered from an existing garment.



The pattern for the cowl neck blouse was created by a bias drape. The silk for the blouse was dyed before cutting and then overdyeed after construction to coordinate with the silk ribbon flowers adorning the skirt. The peplum was trimmed with antique tating found in the designer's great grandmother's sewing box. It was also dyed to match the lace on the skirt.

Together the skirt and blouse reflect the promise of spring, the return of sunshine and flowers, even on a cold and blustering day.