



My --- Portfolio

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Introduction

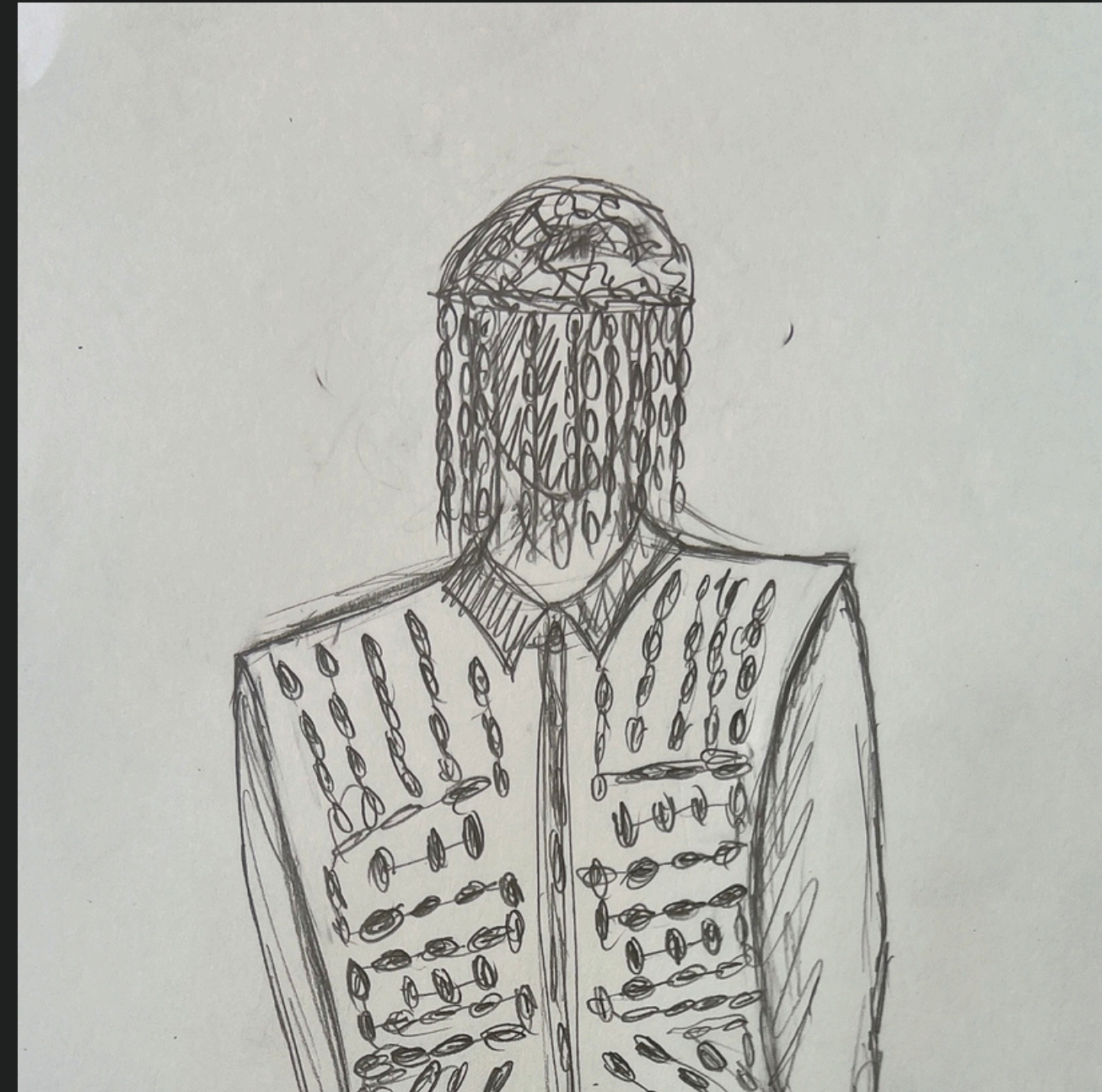
Inspired by the Blackest City in Brazil (Salvador, Bahia) and its culture. With its roots deeply embedded in the Africa diaspora, the city showcases a dynamic blend of traditions, music and religious practices. With the symbolic presence of baianas and cowrie shells, aim to blend traditional elements with modern fashion.

About Me

Fashion Design Student / 24 /
Brazilian-Japanese
As a designer with a unique cultural background, my work is deeply inspired by the fusion of Japanese minimalism and Brazilian vibrancy.

About Portfolio

With this work I wanted to explore more my Brazilian roots and its history.





The Baianas

The Baianas are the descendants of African women who during 400 years of enslavement, were unpaid domestic workers for Brazilian families. They cooked the food, nurtured the children, served as healers, as concubines, worked in fields, and rebelled. Many earned their freedom by saving personal money earned vending food products on street corners and at open-air markets. Their fascinating history reflects their strength, intelligence, perseverance, resistance, and resourcefulness. In their role as spiritual mothers they are open and willing to provide people with wise counsel for life problems.

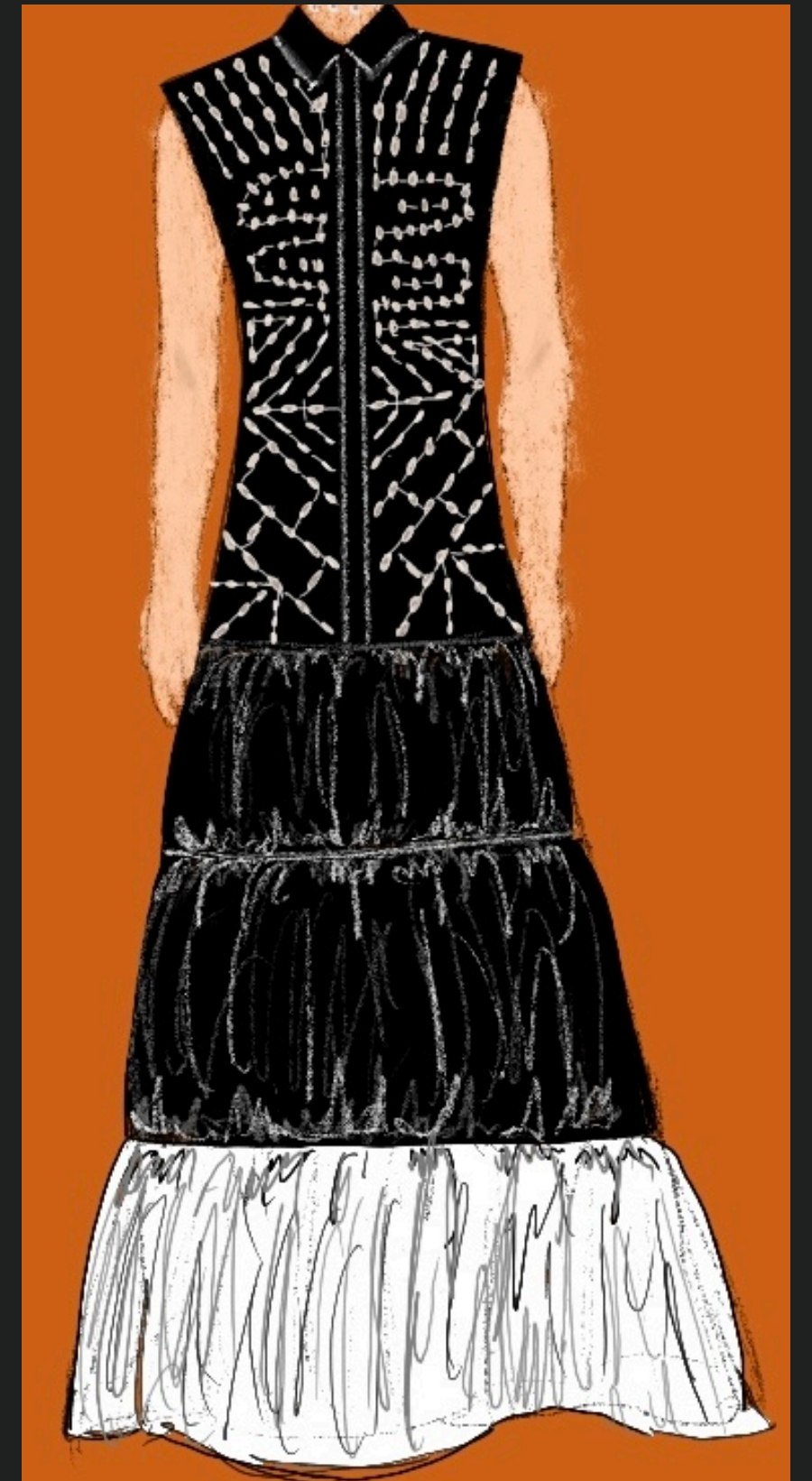
Every Baiana adorns herself with multicolored beads, her rings, pulseiras or bracelets, and her sacred necklaces. This tradition of jewelery - a conspicuous display of rings and wrist bangles goes back more than a century to enslaved African women who could afford to decorate themselves with gold jewelry they purchased from monies earned through their self-owned businesses.



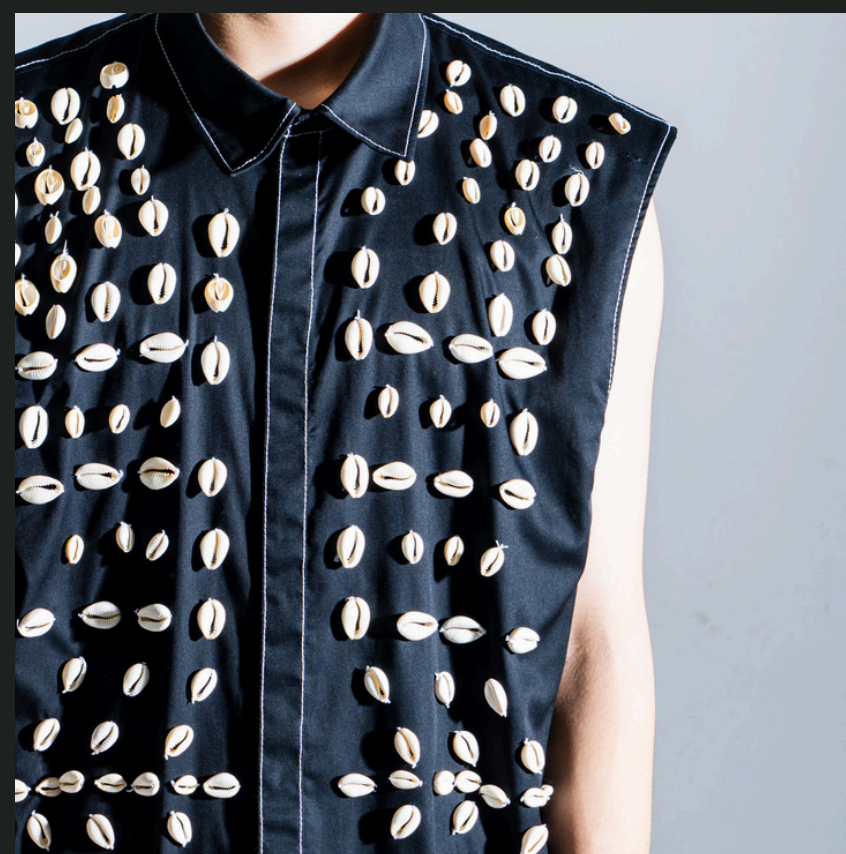
Cowrie Shell

The Cowrie shell in its immaculate beauty is more than a fashion statement. In traditional African culture, the small humped, ovate shells hold significant spiritual and even monetary value.

It was a universal form of currency whose relevance weaved into the cultural fibre of Ancient African societies. The durable and light-weight characteristics of the shells made them an ideal trading currency long before the world adopted pounds, dollars, or any other form of paper/coin currency. Shell money aside, cowrie shells were also seen as a symbol of fertility and prosperity. It is suggested that cowries, as part of divination sets, were active in divination because of their white colour and their origin in the (maritime) ancestral realm that anchored divination in notions of ancestry, fertility and healing."



The Emperor





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