

Artist Statements

For(e)play, artist statement by Mithu Sen

I am strip-teasing. Disrobing my concrete lover. Using chisel, hammer, fork, knife - my nails - I began taking the skin off. The walls are cracked. Faces and hands are buried. Fading into black, grey, pink, blue and flesh. Scratches with/out substance Piling the pieces. Searching for a pattern. The guts and the dirt. A hidden sense of belonging. Retreating into this shell. Peeling it layer by layer until my lover gazes back at me.

Hazing, artist statement by Kallol Datta

Creating garments needs concepts. Concepts are the DNA for garments. You will not masturbate or bastardise concepts. You will not chart out 'trends' of the clothes you make. Make a wish...an attainable one.

Incubator, artist statement by Arjun Saluja

The idea preserved and grew in my brain for a while about the thought of progression vs regression... and how we all analyze it, perceive it, judge it, and make it a constant nerve in our life... it started a beautiful process of sensitivity... and I let this thought incubate in its own fantasy... allowed each vein to breath and expose its vulnerability... how a thought starts out a... stark, vivid, and very certain of its end... but if you allow it to brew and cultivate, it opens itself up to examination in its own dimension... and through the process it tears into various emotion until it reaches a climax of uncertainty... was the beginning the end or vice versa... is what one wonders... But one thing you know that remains constant is that its... alive

Moving Lines, artist statement by Manisha Parekh

The world of textiles and fabric has always been fascinating for me. This residency gave me a chance to explore further, into the world of Fashion with fellow fashion designers; it became possible to think of it with a larger meaning - as a philosophy - even as a social statement reflecting a time. For me the process of understanding the body to construct a garment was extremely engaging... It became a time to ask a few questions about myself, explore another language, interact with fellow artists and reflect on one's own practice.

'Untitled', artist statement by Anay Mann

Fashion/clothes are used to define, to present, to deceive, to enjoy, to communicate, to reveal and to conceal. Clothes are detachable, hence impermanent, thereby being both a part of us and superfluous to us. Their peculiar proximity to our bodies gives them a special potential for symbolic

elaboration. While trying clothes I have often asked myself, "Is it really me?" - an attempt to interpret the ambiguous boundary between my biological and social self. Writing on the body explores the relationship between body (self-image), identity and the environment, whereby the body becomes the central point of reference. My costume consists of a series of hand--crafted collars and a matching pair of cuffs. The wearer chooses one of the cuffs and collars, perfumes himself and indulges in ritual of being written on. This writing/calligraphy, could be a text, symbol or design in any color reflecting either his or the writer's inner feelings. The material used for this purpose is of a temporary nature so as to not leave a visible mark for the next day when the exercise shall repeat itself. This way he shall be able to experience the new, the other, the fleeting and the variable. He embarks on a continuous process with no permanent form. Ideal beauty and ideal aesthetic are the only momentary elements in this process. The wearer shall be communicating his political ideals and create his own personal identity and not by wearing costumes made by someone else who's asking him to fit into his aesthetics. He need not transform his body into the ideal and desirable silhouette, but reinvent his own aesthetic. The costume is easy to accessorize, and can be worn by any man or woman irrespective of their age or sexual orientation. Beauty consists of two essential elements, one that is permanent and the other which is transient. There is an eternal unchanging component, and there is the component that is tied to context and is determined by the fashion, morality and passion of the moment.