

TEXTILE + DESIGN LAB

Case Study Number: 05/2021

Project Title: Koau Eni, Tulou

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Project Period: March - October 2020

Project Description:

Koau Eni, Tulou is a digital print collection that is inspired and motivated by the designer's family heritage in agriculture, manufacturing and service industries. This collection is both a reflection and a response to being a descendant of the designer's ancestors.

Koau Eni, Tulou was manifested through a series of watercolour paintings that were used to digitally create fabric prints. These prints were then wielded into a streetwear collection made up of classic workwear garments.

This practice celebrates and communicates the historical path that the designer's ancestors travelled and how it inspired a textile design aesthetic for colour, clothing and creativity.

Background:

BA in Design - Textile Design Major

The Ian Scrivener Award for Excellence in Print - 2020

Process:

The design process performed to achieve the project outcome consisted of six steps:

1. Create abstract and mood board
2. Research
3. Draw/paint
4. Prototype

5. Test
6. Redesign/improve

Project Outcomes:

A digitally printed streetwear collection that celebrates the significance of storytelling by way of contemporary textiles in relation to watercolour painting, digital print, machine needle felting and garment making. The techniques used focus on amalgamating traditional and urban design methods to communicate how people existed and navigated amongst one another at points in time. This practice touches on iconography, explores colour harmonies and the benefits that communities in the future will receive from these textural stories when they, like us, begin to look back.

Value of the Textile and Design Lab

The entire print and felt development process was carried out at the AUT Textile and Design Lab. The turnaround time executed by the lab helped this project develop, improve and reach heights the designer did not think was possible during a pandemic.

Publications:

AUT Art and Design Graduate Exhibition 2020

<https://artanddesign.aut.ac.nz/projects/koau-eni,-tulou>

Images:





Images courtesy of Aloisa Ngata