

ARTIST STATEMENT:

Weedrobes is a series of ephemeral sculptures linking our dysfunctional relationship to both our bodies and the environment. It points the concept of environmental art into the realm of the body as politic and the hegemony of the fashion industry. These eco-wearables are made from live plant materials such as leaves, flowers and branches and their organic structure indicates a symbiotic relationship between the body and the land. They question our attitudes toward territorial dominance, societal status and sexual identity.

My interest in fashion stems from my background as a theatre designer, where one has to dress a character according to their psychological profile. This reading of the garment as armor and status symbol defining our sense of place and belonging is relevant to our understanding of fashion today.

In creating a line of clothing made out of leaves, *Weedrobes* critiques fashion from a historical context, challenging the notion of wearable and adornment. It also aims to confront the dominance of our present day fashion culture, which is an industry still based on the idealization of the body and disposable consumer goods. This green collection of clothing affirms the power of the individual as a creator as opposed to a follower. It puts the needle and thread or more precisely, the leaf and thorn, back into our hands.