

The Amount Of Things

Wardrobe studies project

March 2024 - October 2024

5 ECTS - Points

Participating Universities:

Academy of Fine Arts Vienna: 10-15 students (Jasmin Hammer, Otto Krause)

Royal Academy of Fine Arts Antwerp: 12 students (Christina Snik + Jelle Spruyt)

Estonian Academy of Arts Tallinn: 6 students (Ene-Liis Semper) and 4 students (Piret Pupart)

Overview

The aim of this short blended intensive programme (BIP) is to focus on **intensive wardrobe studies**, by documenting and analysing a variety of wardrobes of individuals from different countries based on given stereotypes. The project consists of two phases.

In the first phase, which takes place at their respective home universities, students should find a person and together take an inventory of that person's entire wardrobe using the methodology provided. In the course of their research they ought to meet in minimum one online conference with their fellow colleagues from the participating partner universities to share their experiences, possibly in June 2024.

In the second phase, taking place at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna, the students translate the collected visual as well as emotional data into new performative actions to create a public presentation of their research.

These actions can then contribute to further projects related to scenography, fashion or the arts. The experience will provide tools for generalising individual experiences and, therefore, enable the development of narratives capable of addressing and impacting society at large by addressing relevant topics such as:

Sustainability, Self-Image vs. Public-Image, Self-Expression, Creativity, Material Culture and Care,
Consumerism, Societal Norms, Needs, Taste, Fashion, Practicability, etc

*The programme is a sequel to the project "Die Menge der Dinge einer bestimmten Art" ("The Quantity of Things of a Certain Kind") realised in 2020/21 where teachers and students from the scenography department at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna jointly developed a methodology to inventory their own wardrobes.

Project Schedule and details / March - October 2024

1. Research phase (Estonia, Austria, Belgium) March - September 2024.

- March/April:

Assignment of the task

It is possible that 2 students join in one research/wardrobe inventory.

- April - May:

Choose a profession and find a person

Find min. one person from a variety of fields that is capable to invest the time and effort and is willing to take an inventory of their entire wardrobe together with you. The list of professions, social statuses, ages, etc serves as a guidance. Please arrange for a good balance of professions etc within your class in order to get a variety. The categories can also overlap.

List of professions, social statuses, ages, etc

Retired (Well-off) 75+
Retired (not so well-off) 75+
Cashier / people in sales
Office worker / clerk / secretary
"Uniform" (military, police, security, fireworker, nurse, medical personel, nun, cleaner, etc)
Entrepreneur (capitalist wardrobe)
Student (themselves)
"Eco-person"
"Non-resident"
Single parent
Teenager
"The sporty person"
Sub-culture
Crafts-person (taylor, blacksmith, carpenter, etc.)
Diverse body types
Town vs. countryside
etc

The commitment requires several meetings in the person's home or in another agreed place, for example in a university space, writing down detailed information about their clothes and accessories.

Depending on the amount of clothing and accessory items of the person, you will have to organise the time, making a schedule of several meetings. Be aware of the required time according to the size of the wardrobe.

- April - September:

Wardrobe inventory / Research and conceptualisation; preparation of the presentation

Create an inventory of the person’s entire wardrobe following these formal requirements:

- Organise the pieces into these categories:

- Outer garments (Jackets, coats, blazers etc.)
- T-Shirts, shirts, blouses
- Dresses
- Trousers
- Skirts
- Underwear
- Shoes
- Socks
- Accessories

- Only use the first name of the person in order to ensure some level of privacy.
- Use the digital inventory table provided as a common methodology for comparability. When filling out the table stay within the A5 format for each table + photo (= entries per A4 page).
- Take each piece of clothing & accessory and fill in the inventory table with as much information as possible. For comparability use English.
- Leave missing information blank.
- Make one representative photo of each individual item. Hang it, place it on the floor, etc.
- Make one representative photo of the person’s wardrobe, storage, if they allow you to do so.

In addition to the inventory make an interview audio recording with the person, asking them about their relationship to their wardrobe.

Inventory table

No.	Ordinal number consisting of the name initial + category abbreviation*
Type	Type of garment (long trousers, T-Shirt, bell skirt, etc)
Color	Color(s) of the item, labes, prints, embroideries etc
Mat	Material, composition
Mfr	Manufacturer, place of manufacture, brand
Det	Details of construction, pattern details
Cond	Condition
Age	Production date, period, decade
Acq	Type of acquisition (bought, found, given) + date of acquisition
Purp	Purpose of use
Frequ	Frequency of use
Wash	Washing and care instructions
Feat	Special features, particularities, wearing characteristics
Pers	Personal reference / memories

*Category abbreviations

- ...ouga = outer garments (Jackets, coats, blazers etc.)
- ...tsh = T-Shirts, shirts, blouses
- ...dre = dresses
- ...trou = trousers
- ...skirt = skirts
- ...und = underwear
- ...shoe = shoes
- ...soc = socks
- ...acc = Accessories

Examples from the Book "Die Menger der Dinge einer bestimmten Art"

No	Jhobe17
Type	long sleeve sweater
Color	blue, violet
Mat	70% Merino wool 20 % Silk 10 % Cashmere
Mfr	Setalana / Made in Switzerland / Biella Yarn / Südwollegroup
Det	Round neck, normal fit, long sleeves, cuffs on sleeves and hips, size 40
Cond	used
Age	1960ies / 1970ies
Acq	www.willhaben.at / second hand / 2018
Purp	everyday look, warm and comfortable
Frequ	1x / week
Wash	wool programme / hand wash
Feat	Wide fit, rather shorter cut, warming, comfortable to wear
Pers	i like the blue color and the material



No	okhos15.
Type	long training trousers
Color	Black / Orange / White
Mat	100% Polyester
Mfr	Adidas
Det	Elasticated waistband with drawstring fastening, placket with black metal press studs and sewn-on black Adidas stripes on the sides, 2 welt pockets, front left: black embroidered „Adidas“ logo
Cond	good, very slight signs of wear on the seat and side seams
Age	
Acq	Humana Second Hand Shop / Winter 2018
Purp	daily trousers for spring and autumn
Frequ	regularly
Wash	Coloured wash 40-50 degrees
Feat	comfortable, button plackets on the sides can be opened when it gets too warm
Pers	



Video-Talk with colleagues from the partner universities

Exchange your thoughts and research in minimum one online video-talk with colleagues from one or both partner universities (researching the same or a similar social group, profession etc).

Preparation for the presentation in Vienna

Create a narrative based on 5-7 clothing items from the person's wardrobe. You can choose any type together with the person. Skirts, trousers, blouses, sweaters, coats, boots, scarfs, hats, accessories, etc.

Ask the person, if you can borrow these items to bring them for the second phase to Vienna, or make sure to get similar replacements, or create patterns in order to recreate or reinterpret these items on your own, or a combination of all.

Make a concept for a presentation / catwalk / performance based on that narrative, using the set of 5-7 items, embody the character through movement and poses of your own body in those items based on the data related and incorporate one musical piece inspired by the person's taste and/or wardrobe. The length should be approximately 2-5 minutes.

Complete your research and the inventory by the beginning of October 2024.

2. Performance / presentation / feedback in Vienna

-October:

Preparation 13.10.-18.10.2024

Share your collected data with all the students and teachers.

Workshops: The preparation phase will be accompanied with workshops on body, movements, presentation

Access to Photo studio, Repair-Workshop, Fitting in movements: Creating character through couple by co creation of performer-designer by Chris Snik, etc

Sewing machines, Overlock machines, ironing tables, irons, accessories etc. will be provided by the scenography class, teachers and students.

Rehearsals 13.10.-18.10.2024

During the week-long rehearsals, the final selection of the sets and their stylistics is made and the order of appearance fixed for the catwalk: 10-15 full sets from each country, appearing on stage one by one, 30-45 in total. Each presentation should consist of the 5-7 items from the researched wardrobe (original or remade/copied), a narrative based on the research, a bodily performance (walk and pose) and one musical piece inspired by the research.

Light design and sound will be provided according to the possibilities of the scenography department in Vienna and the venue's infrastructure.

Audience placement.

Presentation 19.10.2024

Venue: Prospekthof at the Academy of Fine Arts, Lehargasse, Vienna.

Date: 19.10.2024; Time tba

Duration of each presentation: approximately 2-5 minutes.

The presentation will be open to the public and will be recorded for documentation.

Feedback 20.10.2024

In the morning of 20.10.2024 there will be a feedback round in order to sum up the presentation and possibly discuss the next steps for the continuation of the project in Antwerp and/or Tallinn.