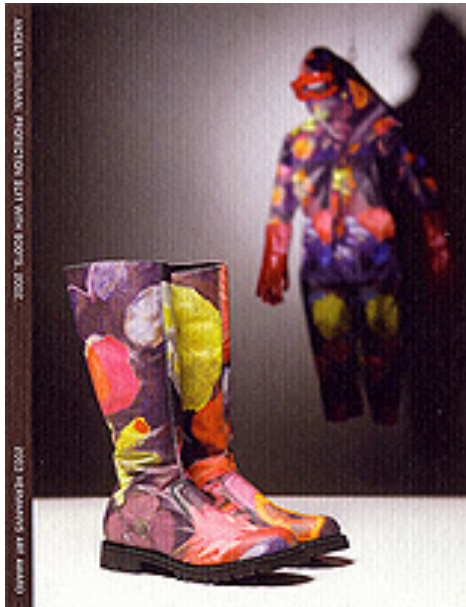


ENGLISH Annie (Aus)

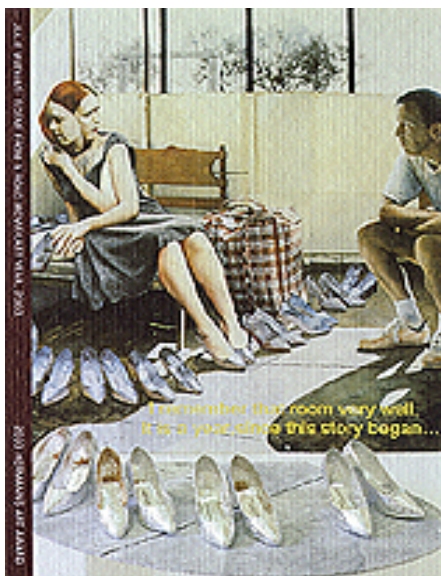
'On her dress she wears a body' - paper

The above line is from the French poet Blaise Cendrars in 1913, about the radical 'Simultaneous dress' by Futurist artist, Sonia Delaunay. Now, at the beginning of the twenty first century, there is a new convergence of art forms reminiscent of that period in Paris before the First World War, where Picasso designed for the Ballet Russes, Sonia Delaunay designed for theatre and Paul Poiret commissioned fabric designs from Erte and Dufy.



ANGELA BRENNAN (2002)
PROTECTION SUIT WITH BOOTS

Blaise Cendrars' image of the dress on which a body must be imagined, is relevant to my reading of the work of some recent contemporary Australian art engaging with issues of identity through the blurring of boundaries between art, design and fashion. The paper will discuss several artists with particular reference to recent work by Angela Brennan and Julie Watkins (both selected artists for the '2003 Hermanns Art Award' exhibition in Melbourne and touring nationally); and Vera Moller and Louise Weaver (both finalists in the 'Cicely and Colin Rigg Contemporary Design Award 2003' at the National Gallery of Victoria).



JULIE WATKINS (2003)
SCENE FROM A ROAD MOVIE/LAST YEAR

Discussion of work by these artists and others will be followed by consideration of the aesthetics of fashion as it emerged in the international art press in the 1980s. Since the first fashion articles in art journals of the early 1980s, fashion since the 1990s has occupied a schizophrenic position within several cultural debates, in forums as diverse as the popular press, fashion journals and critical writings in exhibition catalogues of design retrospectives by museums like the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

The paper will focus on the theme from the title, 'On her dress she wears a body' and how the motif of the imagined and disengaged body in the history of Australian art may provide some relevant and uniquely Australian antecedents for the importance of fashion to contemporary art and design in the Australian context.



VERA MOLLER (2003)
COOCKOOLAND

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