

THE TENDER SIDE OF QUEERNESS

Tailored by Charles Francis Hemsley
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Graduate BA Collection



Photography by Maya Ashton
Muse Casper Bosinius

This collection embarks on a captivating exploration of the intricate nuances that accompany the queer experience. Capturing both its exquisite beauty and poignant struggles. It boldly sets out to challenge and redefine the very essence of contemporary menswear, placing a strong emphasis on sharp tailoring and the timeless allure of denim. By fearlessly questioning and pushing the boundaries of conventional male fashion, it seeks to liberate individuals from the confines of societal expectations and norms.

At the heart of this collection lies a visible celebration of innocence and vulnerability, illuminating the tender essence of queerness. It deftly interprets the symbolic language of queer dress, dismantling the rigid constructs of traditional heterosexual male archetypes to reconstruct a more inclusive and representative vision of the modern man. In doing so, the collection forges a safe haven where individuals can wholeheartedly embrace and express their true selves, unencumbered by the weight of societal pressures.

Fabric and texture serve as profound conduits, effectively conveying the myriad emotions embedded within the queer experience. Delicate fabrics like silk and chiffon entwine with structured materials such as wool and leather, creating a striking contrast that symbolizes the delicate equilibrium between vulnerability and strength that queer individuals gracefully navigate in their lives.

Drawing inspiration from both historical references and contemporary queer culture, the carefully curated colour palette is showcasing an exquisite interplay of soft greys, an array of blacks, and captivating metallics. These meticulously chosen fabrics evoke a sense of sophistication, versatility, and visual intrigue. The gentle shades of grey, deep indigos found in the denim and the understated elegance of white shirts exude refinement. While the myriad shades of black add depth and enigma to the overall aesthetic. The bold metallic tones infuse opulence and audacity, effortlessly capturing attention and commanding the spotlight. Together, these colours harmonize to create a visual language that resonates with the diversity and resilience of the queer community.

As the collection progresses, it delves deeper into the profound exploration of queer identity and sensuality. Meticulously placed seams, sheer fabrics that tease, and sleek designs daringly exposing unexpected parts of the male form. Effectively challenging conventional notions of masculinity whilst also celebrating the traditional menswear. These design elements exuberantly celebrate the resplendent beauty, inherent in the multifaceted male body. Showcasing its captivating diversity and breaking free from societal constraints.

This collection pays a heartfelt homage to the rich tapestry of queer love and activism. It artfully weaves elements from the clandestine affection expressed through secret 18th-century photography by same-sex couples, to the powerful symbols and codes worn by queer individuals in the 70s. Through these evocative references, the collection becomes a visual testament to the progress that has been achieved and serves as an empowering call to continue pushing for a more inclusive society.

Moreover, the influence of the gay rights movement and LGBTQ+ activism is thoughtfully acknowledged throughout the collection. Symbols of activism are seamlessly incorporated as potent reminders of the tremendous strides made and the ongoing struggle for equality and acceptance.

In essence, this collection fearlessly challenges entrenched notions of masculinity in menswear while exalting the captivating beauty and raw vulnerability of queerness. By expertly blending historical allusions, contemporary queer culture, and an unwavering focus on tailoring and denim. It endeavours to create a visual narrative that champions the transformative power of embracing one's authentic identity. It aspires to weave a powerful tale of inclusivity, self-expression, and the resolute strength found in embracing one's true essence.

Charles Francis Hemsley, May 2023

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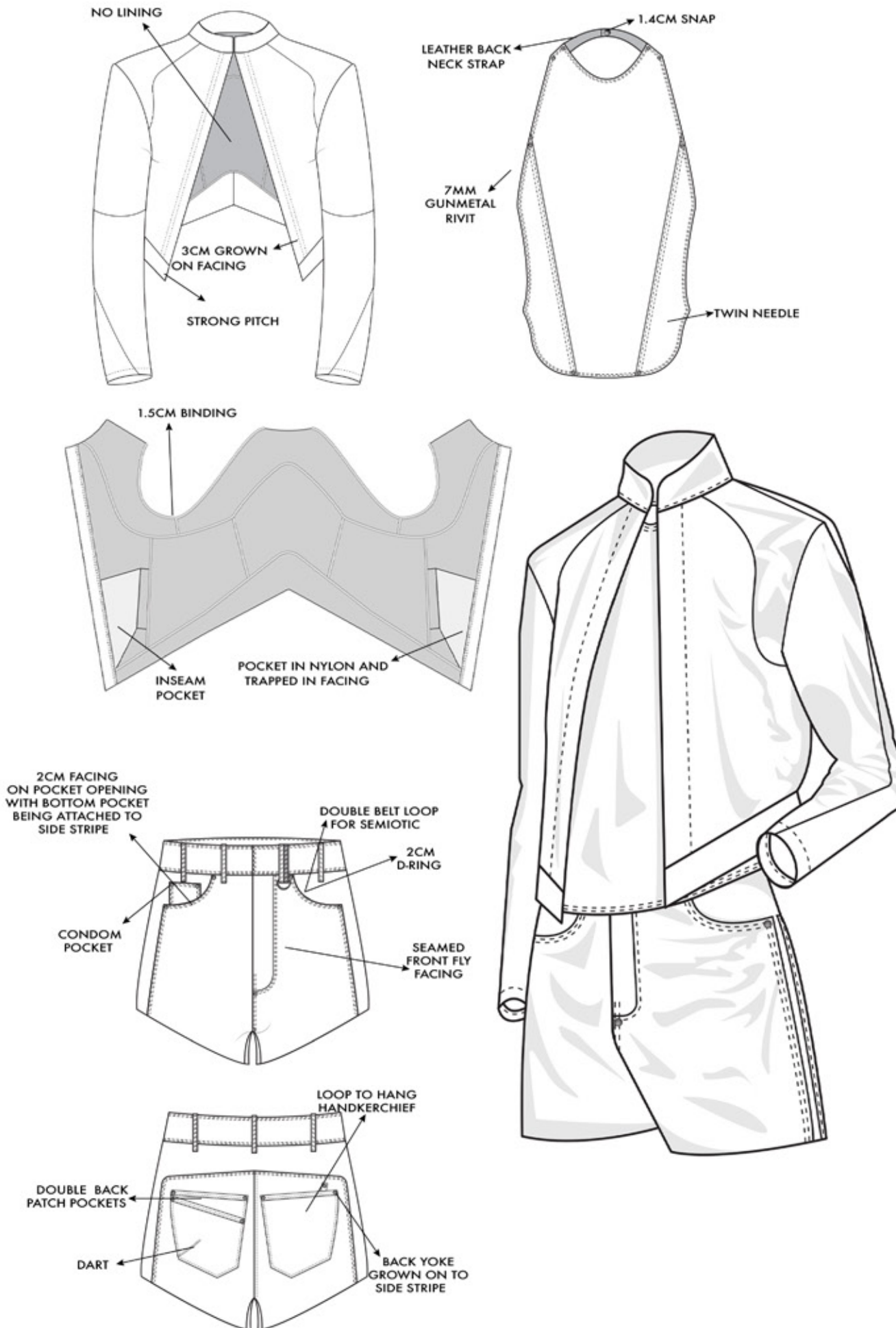
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THE BIKER BOY

THE TENDER SIDE OF QUEERNESS

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THE WESTERN



SUN METAL SNAPS

HALF CONCEALED/
HALD UNCONCEALED
PLACKET

CARABINER WIHT
DOUBLE BELT
LOOP ON
RIGHT WEARING
SIDE

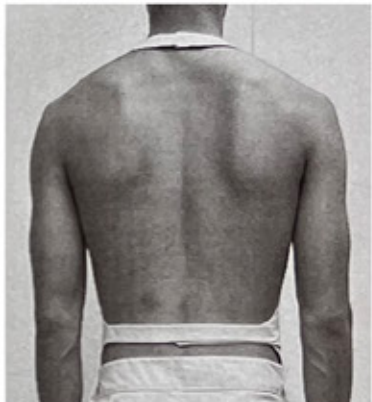
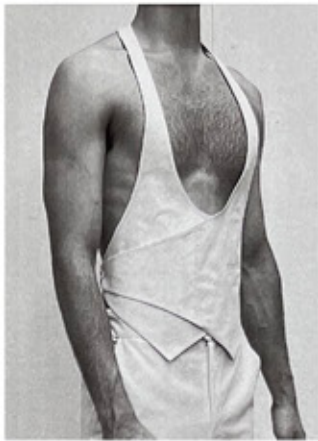
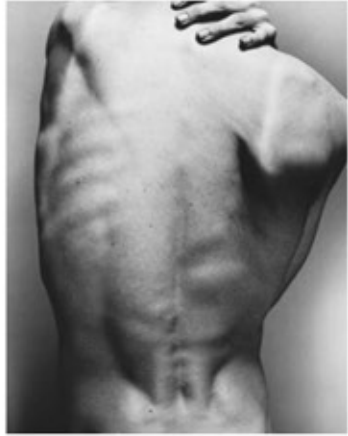


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THE SODOMITE



BACKLESS WAISTCOAT

SATIN COLLAR

PEAK LAPEL

5 CONCEALED BUTTONS

JET POCKET WITH FLAP AND CONDOM POCKET

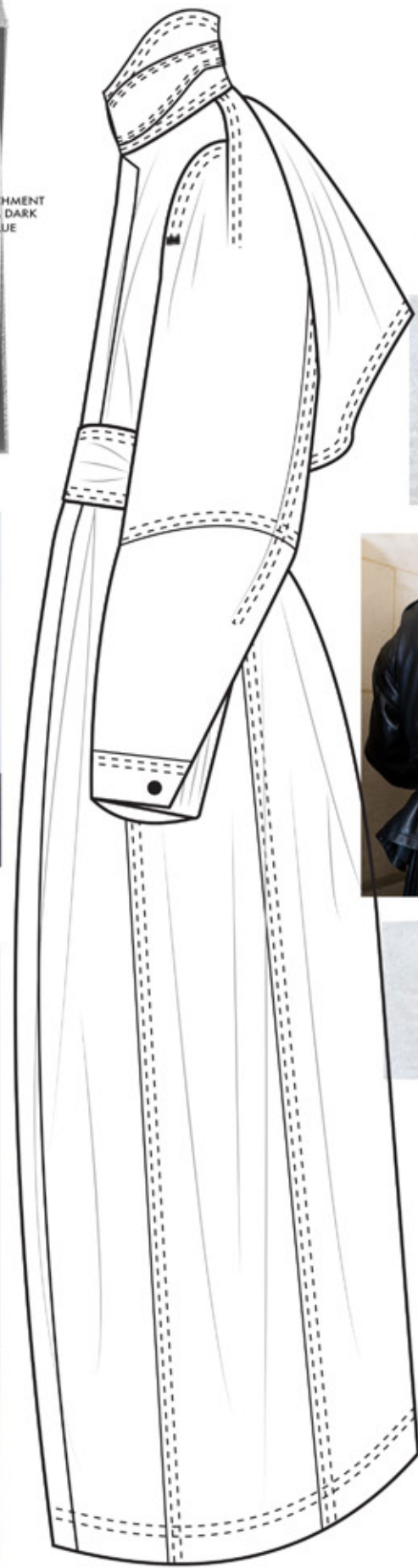
COATED COTTON BIKER TROUSER



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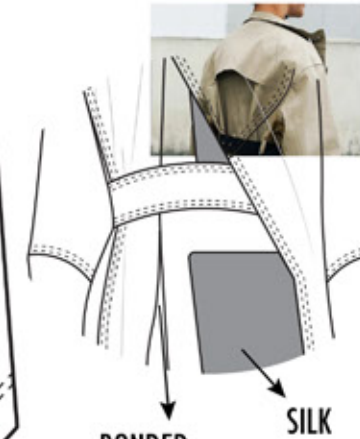


THE RAINCOAT



15 CM DART

1 CM MACHINE BAR TACK

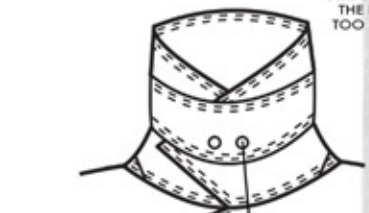


BONDED COTTON

SILK



ATTACHMENT NEEDS TO LOOK LIKE THE LINING HAS BEEN FLIPPED



1 CM EYELET



SOURCE PIECE IS TOO SHORT BUT NICE FIT

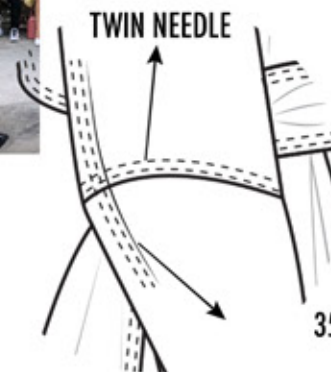


MEASUREMENTS:

TRENCH-
 FULL NECK- 52CM
 CUFF- 40.5CM
 CHEST- 42INCH/106.7CM
 SLEEVE FROM CB TO CUFF- 95CM
 LENGTH OF CB- 144CM
 LENGTH OF CF- 140CM
 HEM- 125CM

BIB
 CF- 60CM
 FULL NECK- 40CM
 BACK NECK- 24CM

TROUSER-
 WASIT- 32INCH/ 81.3CM
 FLY- 17CM
 OUTSIDE LEG SEAM- 120CM
 INSIDE LEG SEAM - 96CM
 BACK RISE- 38CM



TWIN NEEDLE

35CM DART

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THE GUNSEL



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DRAP NECK LINE

OPENING IN BACK NECK LINE

SHEER CHIFFON FABRIC

DEADSTOCK SHEEPSKIN BAG

TIE THROUGH CHANNEL IN CUFF TO KEEP CUFF CLOSED

SIDE SEAM REMOVED AND DISTRIBUTED IN TO FRONT AND BACK SEAMS

THE PILLOW BITER



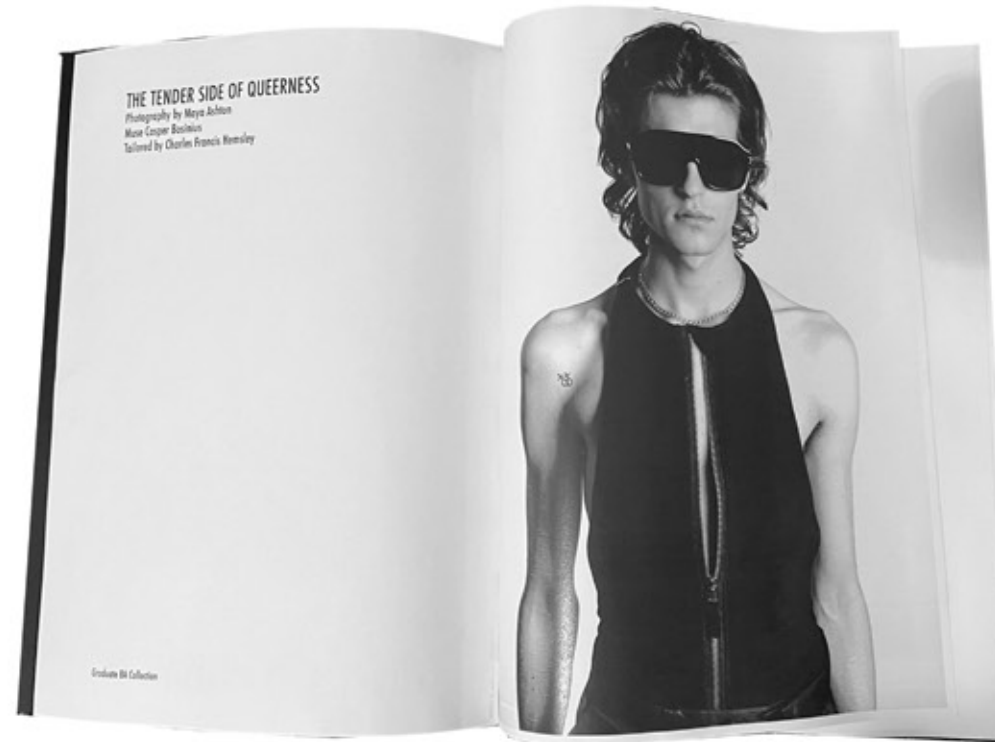
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BOOK MOCK UP

Incorporated within the promotional package is a comprehensive 64-page lookbook, complemented by artistically curated editorial photographs. Additionally, the package comprises a branded condom, a black handkerchief, and an A1 poster, all enclosed within a carefully designed box. The fundamental objective of this initiative is to raise awareness about safe sexual practices within the queer community, while simultaneously aiming to dismantle the pervasive stigmatization surrounding queer sexuality and HIV transmission. It is worth noting that this package adopts a nuanced approach by infusing elements of humor to effectively address these sensitive topics.



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