

ReDo, ReValue, ReNew

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Abstract

Generally known as toiles- made of calico, a low-cost and easy-to-use material. Toile has become synonymous with the design process for any design student throughout any undergraduate or postgraduate program. 'Successful design is not about achieving perfection rather it is about minimization and accommodation of imperfections (Petroski, 1985).' This led to an opportunity for finding value propositions in lesser-known or rather hidden in the process. The textile waste is generated through prototypes. Design schools should also be responsible for developing an attitude towards designing and making that is sustainable, rather than making sustainability a fleeting conversation. This paper documents the work done with a group of year three students. These students were enquired firstly through focused group discussion to understand their value propositions towards toiles they have been creating throughout their practice. Later through an action-based research methodology, the toiles were considered as a beginning point to create something unique and different. A series of workshops were conducted wherein students were immersed in creating a series of outcomes by deconstructing, reconstructing, and adding value to the existing toiles to give them a new identity.

Utilizing our role as design academicians, to educate young design students towards minimizing and using the waste created during the garment-making process. Which can bear infinite possibilities to re-create value to embed change and shift the attitude towards circular design and economy. The results signify a series of activities and actions aimed to widen and deepen the perspectives and practices and eventually the students who later would go on in the industry and practice it as an innate skill.

Keywords: toiles, fashion, revalue, sustainability, higher education, waste management.

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