

# PORTFOLIO / SECOND SKIN BO CHOI

www.boyounghoi.com.ne.kr  
choi.boyounghoi@gmail.com  
153 N.W 80th St. #3  
Seattle WA 98117

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Bo Choi

510) 909-7971 | choi.boyoung@gmail.com | www.boyoungchoi.com.ne.kr

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## Education

- 2009 Master of Fine Arts, School of Art,  
University of Washington, Seattle WA
- 2006 Bachelor of Art, Design  
Bachelor of Art, Art Studio  
University of California, Davis CA

## Selected Fashion and Costume Design Presentations

- 2009 InspirAsain fashion show, International Examiner, Bell Harbor Conference Center, Seattle, WA  
Wearable Art Awards, City Hall Galleria, Port Moody, BC, Canada  
Ich Bin Bleich Fertig, Meany Studio Theatre, UW, Seattle, WA  
Orange Moon Stone, Kaleidoscope, Broadway Performance Hall, Seattle, WA  
Discarded to Divine, St. Vincent De Paul, San Francisco, CA  
Second Skin Fashion Show, Jacob Lawrence Gallery, UW, Seattle, WA
- 2008 Discarded to Divine, St. Vincent De Paul, San Francisco, CA  
Dancing in the Digital Domain, Meany Studio Theatre, UW, Seattle, WA
- 2007 Discarded to Divine, St. Vincent De Paul, San Francisco, CA
- 2006 Unraveled Fashion Show, Fashion Club, San Francisco, CA  
Unraveled Fashion Show with Display Art work, UC Davis, CA

## Selected Exhibitions

- 2009 East | West Emerging Artist Exchange, CoCA, Seattle, WA  
University of Washington Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition, Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA  
Annual Juried Show, Jacob Lawrence Gallery, Rock Hushka, Juror  
University of Washington, Seattle, WA.
- 2008 Grandexhibition, Lewis Center, Washington University, Saint Louis, MO  
Fill in the \_\_\_\_\_, group MFA show, Kulturprojekte, Berlin, Germany  
New Beginning, Sandpoint Gallery, UW, Seattle WA  
MFA Candidate Show, Jacob Lawrence Gallery, UW, Seattle WA  
Flash Forward: Coupling VI, Ouch My Eye Gallery, Seattle WA  
Terminal Development, Ceramic Metal Art Gallery, UW, Seattle WA
- 2007 Small+Flat, Jacob Lawrence Gallery, UW, Seattle, WA  
Flashback, Sandpoint Gallery, UW, Seattle, WA
- 2006 TB9 Against Gravity Basement Gallery, University of California at Davis, CA
- 2005 Do Won, Basement Gallery, UC Davis, CA  
15 Artists, INFUSIN CAFÉ, Sacramento CA  
Clay in Full Mouny, Basement Gallery, University of California CA

## Teaching Experience and Work Experience

- 2009 IVA Senior show coordinator, University of Washington, Seattle, WA  
Research Assistant, University of Washington, Seattle, WA  
Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Structure  
University of Washington, Seattle, WA  
<http://students.washington.edu/bychoi/index.shtml>
- 2008 Teaching Assistant, Issues and Influences, UW, Seattle, WA  
<http://courses.washington.edu/art120/>  
Fiber Technician, University of Washington, Seattle, WA  
Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Structure, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
- 2007 Teaching Mentorship, Introduction to Structure, UW, Seattle, WA
- 2005 Art Teacher, Art Bridge, Woodland, CA  
Teaching Assistant, Sculptural Ceramics University of California at Davis CA  
Teaching Assistant, Nature and Culture, UC Davis CA

## Lectures

- 2009 Interweaving, Washington University, St. Louis, MO
- 2006 Presenting My Line, The Costume Culture Association & Arcs Textrina Joint International Conference, Seoul, Korea, 2006

## Internships

- 2007 Studio Assistant, Gyongy Laky, San Francisco CA
- 2006 Internship, Drama Department, costume shop University of California at Davis CA  
Studio Assistant, Susan Taber Avila, Oakland, CA

## Residency / Awards / Grant

- 2009 GPSS Travel Grant, University of Washington, WA
- 2008 Residency Kulturprojekte, Berlin, Germany
- 2006 Scholarship for Flyway journeys, Wildlife Art Fellowship Trip,  
California waterfowl Association, Sacramento, CA  
Gray Ellen Award, School of Design, UC Davis, CA

## Publications

The Daily, News Letter at University of Washington, MFA Exhibition, 2009.  
The Seattle Times, Video. MFA Exhibition, 2009. feature:  
<http://link.brightcove.com/services/player/bcpid1509319618?bctid=24930173001>  
The Seattle Weekly, MFA Exhibition, 2009.  
<http://www.seattleweekly.com/2009-06-03/arts/if-it-walks-like-art/>  
Joey Veltkamp in his blog, Best Of, MFA Exhibition, 2009.  
<http://joeyveltkamp.blogspot.com/2009/05/uw-mfa-2009.html>  
The Daily, News Letter at University of Washington, Second Skin Fashion show, 2008.  
Bo Choi, Statement of Fashion and Art, Costume Culture Association & Arcs Textrina Joint International Conference. Seoul, Korea, 2000  
\_\_\_?\_\_\_, Article about fellowship California Waterfowl Association, California Waterfowl November / December 2006

## Art Bio

Bo Choi is a fashion designer and artist. Born in South Korea, and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area, she completed her MFA this year in Fiber at School of art in University of Washington, Seattle, WA. Her undergraduate studies were at University of California, Davis, in Fashion Design and Studio Art. Previously, as a fashion designer, she created a fashion line that explores and transgresses the typical ways the body contour interacts with clothing. Choi had solo fashion show to present this body of work at Jacob Lawrence Gallery in University of Washington, Seattle and had collaboration with Catherine Cabeen at MFA Dance concerts in 2009. In 2007, 2008, and 2009, she participated in *Discarded to Divine* (St. Vincent De Paul, San Francisco). She was a finalist at the InspirAsain Fashion Competition hosted by International Examiner presented her wearable art line at the Bell Harbor Conference Center in Seattle associated with that event in 2009. Also, she presented her creation at the Wearable Art Awards in Port Moody, BC, Canada, 2009. She worked with Gyongy Laky and Susan Avila as a Studio Assistant. Choi's MFA exhibition was at The Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington, received GPSS, Graduate and Professional Student Senate, University of Washington, Travel Grant, and had residency at Kulturprojekte, Berlin Germany in 2008. With a primary focus in fiber art and fashion design, she envisions clothes as both rendering explicit their capacity to represent the self, as well as building upon and breaking with past conventions in order to allow an endless refashioning of the self disallowed by the limited vocabulary of much art and fashion today. Currently, she lives and works in Seattle.

## Artist's Statement – Second Skin

Second Skin is my own interpretation of clothing as socially constructed. It starts from a concept that explores and transgresses the typical ways of contouring the body and that investigates and critiques how clothes transform the body. Clothes, in a social context, communicate social status. In a social context, the naked body is aberrant formed. I am interested in the balance between how clothing expresses desire and keeps the human form.

In Eastern cultures, clothes are ritualistic. During the summer of 2008, when I was away from home for almost three months, dressing as a traveler, what I missed the most was the variety and aesthetic of my clothing. By missing my own clothing, I experienced the moment that clothes transform into living things.

The individual connection with clothes comes from personal attachment. The choice people make when purchasing bestows identities and histories on the clothes. As time accumulates they build up unique characteristics. I experience a personality from the clothes. For instance, I asked friends to donate their clothes; even though I changed the form of their clothing, they were still able to find their own.

Separating and cutting the clothes was like a dissection of the human body. Accurately but cruelly, I followed the sewing line and cut them into pieces. The little unit became its own little cell. Reconstruction put all the parts together so they were no longer isolated. The act of joining them into one unit, references the achievement of the extreme narrow side of the persona in everyone's conscious and unconscious mind.

Clothes start from an individual point of view, but with civilization, the social construction of the clothes becomes their role. Uniforms, white dress shirts, and pink slips transform into the social armor to depend on, be attacked in, and to enable survival in society. Extension and exaggeration of clothes reference back to the body and outward to society.

The need to change clothes is caused by society. With society's role, people are unnatural and not free. Society encourages us to have multiple arms, creating victims, segregation, and rigid gender roles.





Second Skin - Power and Powerless  
White Dress Shirts  
34" x 19" x 3"



Second Skin - Privacy  
White Dress and Fur  
120" x 12" x 3"



Second Skin - Self-defense  
White Uniform  
49" x 12.5" x 5"



Second Skin Org. - Following  
Used Clothes





Second Skin Org. - Following  
Used Clothes





Second Skin Org. - Union  
Used Clothes



Second Skin Org. - Connection +  
Used Clothes



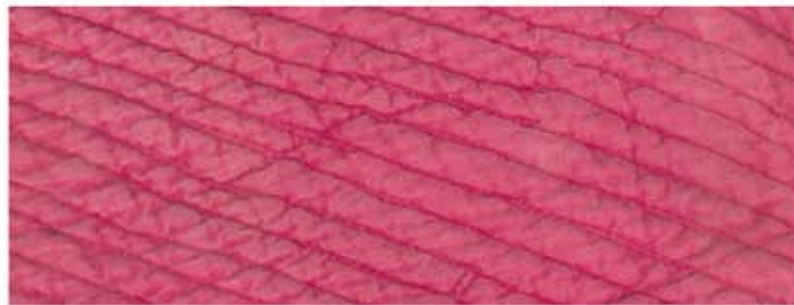
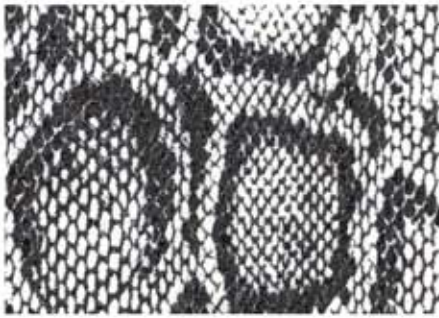
Second Skin Org. - Connection -  
Used Clothes





Second Skin Org. - Movement  
Used Clothes





# Second Skin

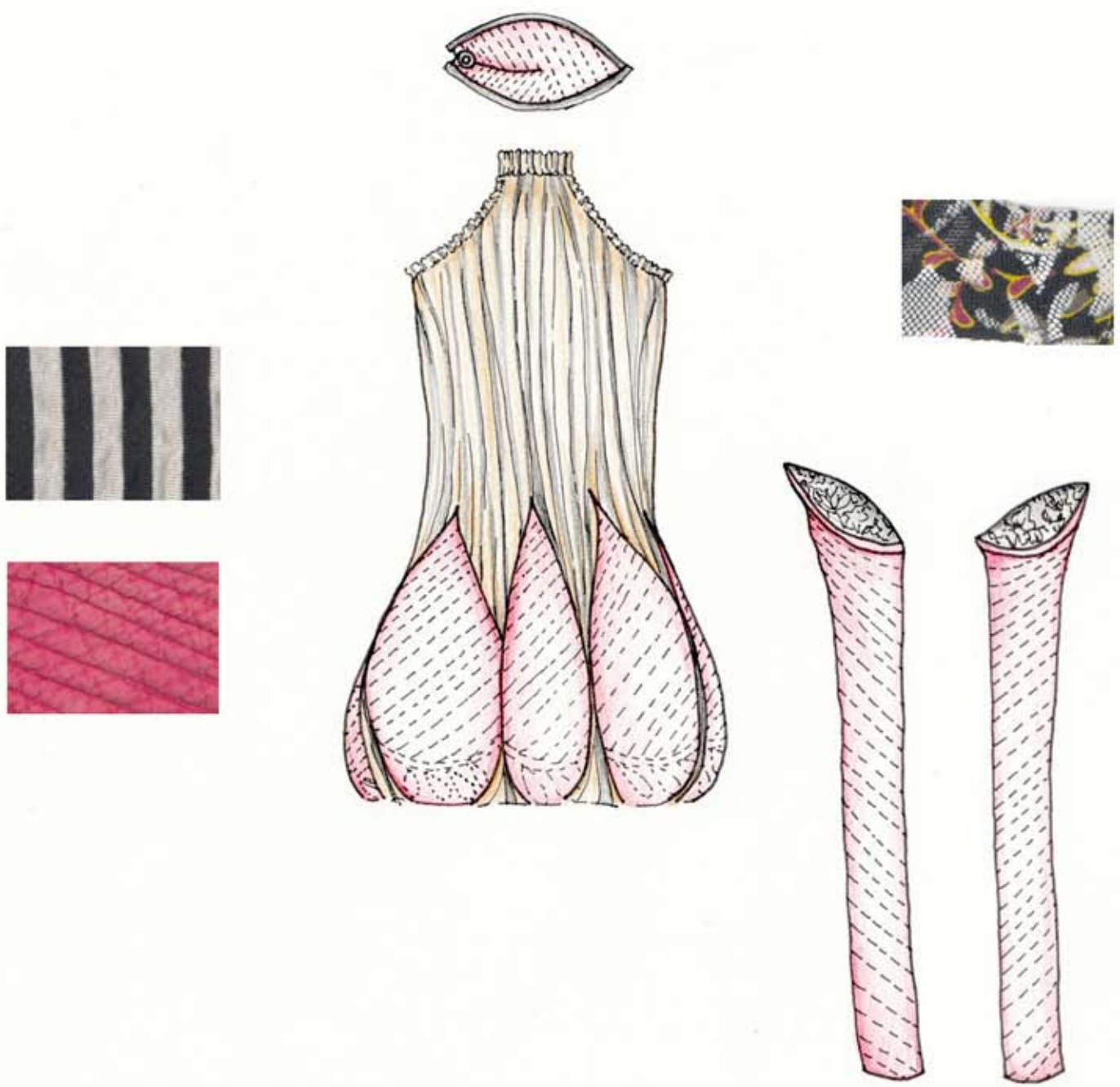


# Second Skin



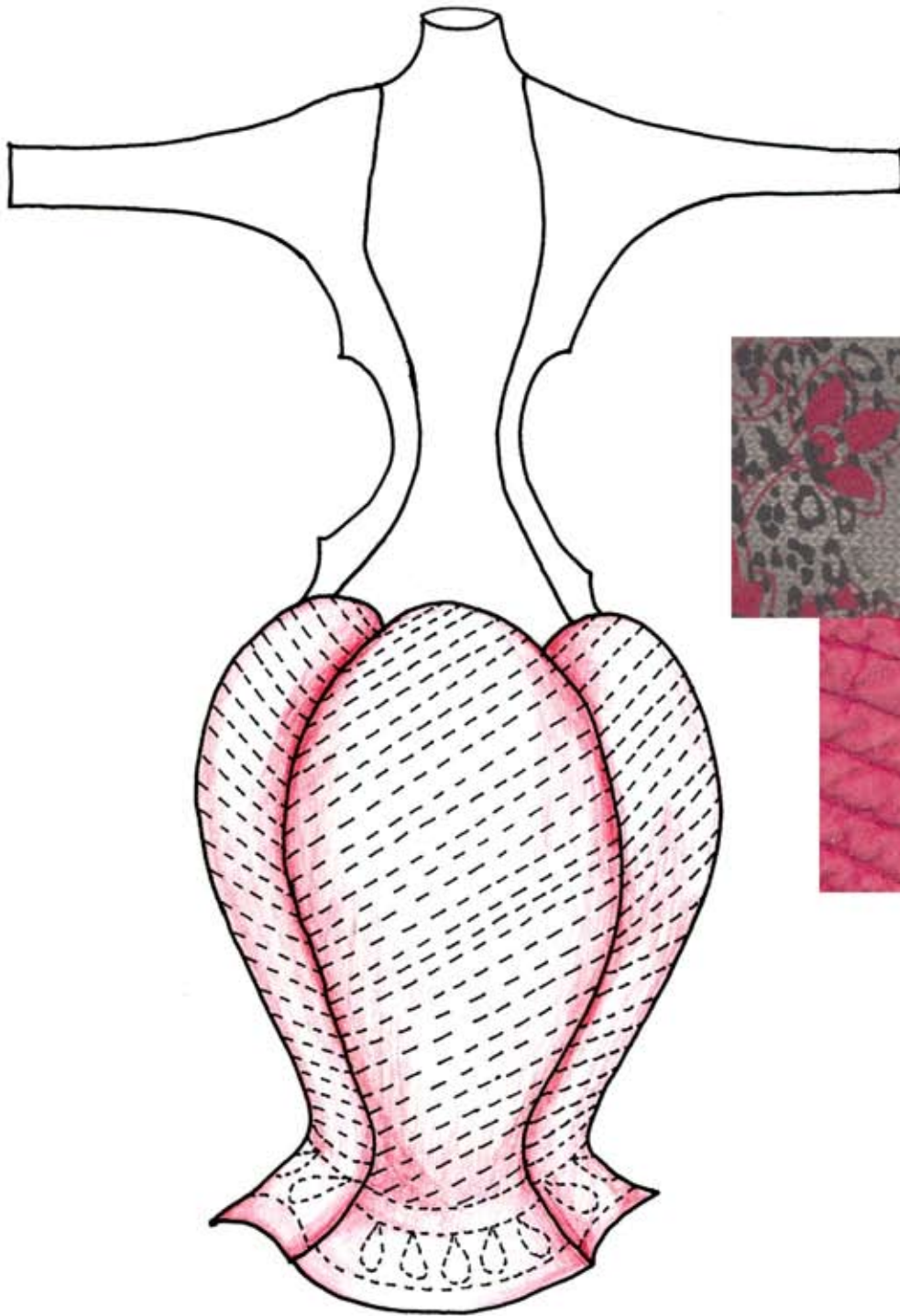
Fashion Show  
at International Examiner Fashion Competition 2009  
'InspirAsian' at Bell Harbor Conference Center





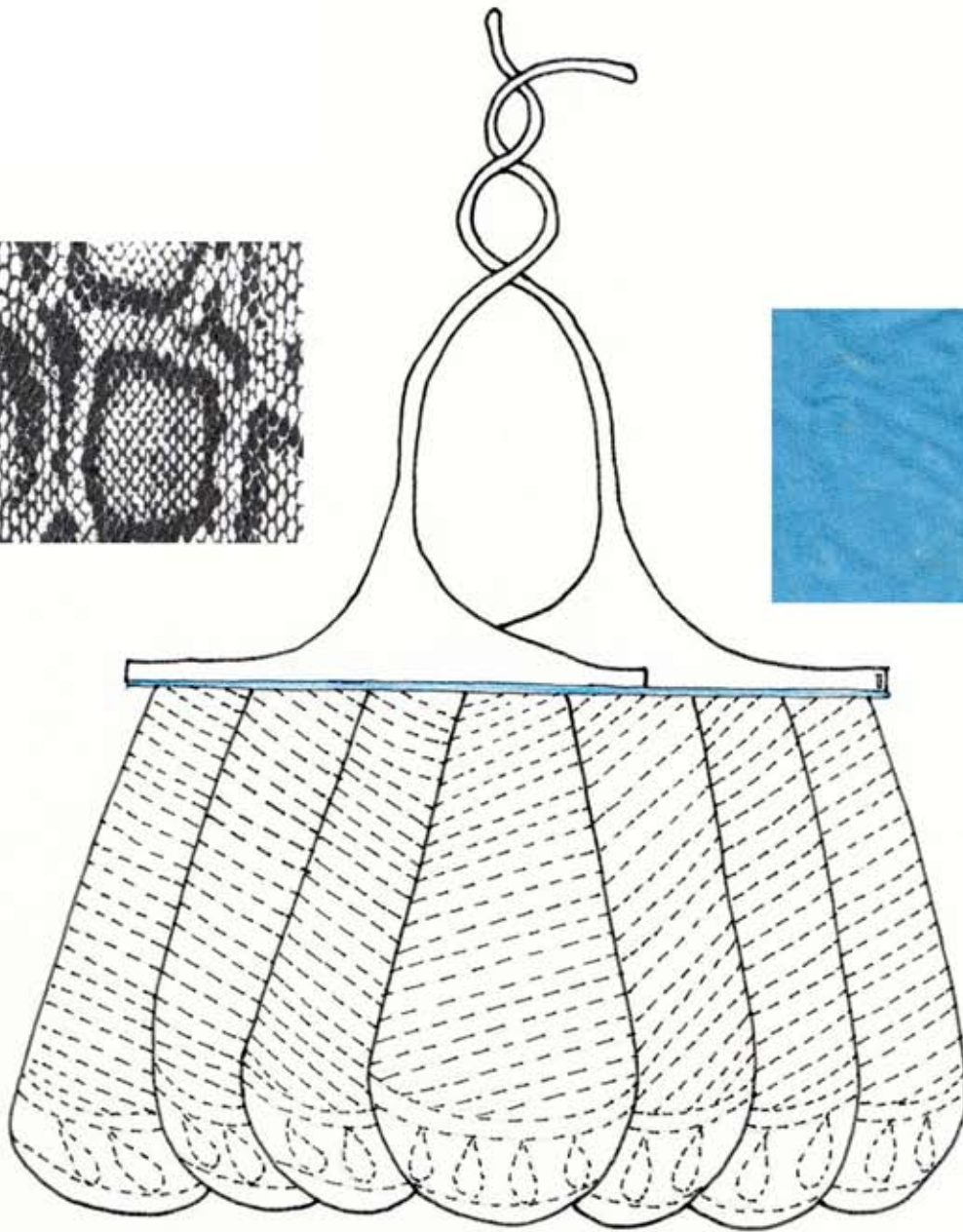
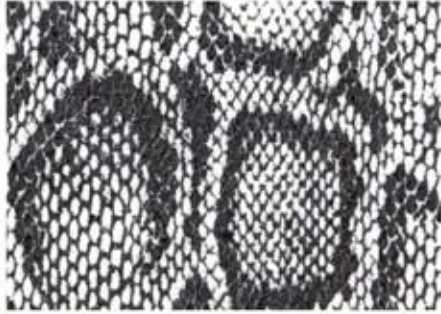
# Second Skin





**Second Skin**





# Second Skin



Second Skin Fashion Show  
At Jacob Lawrence Gallery  
In University of Washington  
2008

Fashion Show at International Examiner Fashion Competition 2009  
'InspirAsian' at Bell Harbor Conference Center

