

ArcInTex Conference

April 18th, 2024





Schedule

Image: Virginia Melnyk

9:00 AM **Opening Session** | Room D209

Delia Dumitrescu
The Swedish School of Textiles, University of Borås

9:10 AM **Presentations A** | Room D209

9:10 AM **Pain Creature: Designing for somaesthetics of bodily discomforts**

Arife Dila Demir
Estonian Academy of the Arts

9:45 AM **Hybrid forms of dressing: Rethinking the relationship between textile and fashion systems through whole-garment weaving**

Kelly Konings
The Swedish School of Textiles, University of Borås

10:20 AM **Coffee break**

10:35 AM **How textiles open up data as a material on the body**

Troy Nachtigall
Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences

11:10 AM **Rethinking the body in body-based design practices**

Faseeh Saleem
The Swedish School of Textiles, University of Borås

11:45 AM **Virtual textiles, physical reactions**

Alex Soiseth
Rhode Island School of Design

12:20 PM Lunch

1:30 PM **Presentations B** | Room D209

1:30 PM **Expandable knitted screen scissor structures**

*Virginia Melnyk
Virginia Tech University*

2:05 PM **A carnival & nursing home: When bodies co-create designed living environments**

*Maja Gunn
Konstfack University of the Arts*

2:40 PM **Coffee break**

3:05 PM **Workshop** | Room T378a

3:05 PM **Parliament of Sustainable Fashion**

*Mollie Edge
University Bozon Bolano*

4:30 PM **Closing Session**

*Delia Dumitrescu
The Swedish School of Textiles, University of Borås*

Conference Chair: Erin Lewis, Senior Lecture in Textile Interaction Design, The Swedish School of Textiles

Advanced Zoom Registration required: [LINK](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting



Image: Virginia Melnyk





Contributions

Image: Virginia Melnyk

Pain creature: Designing for somaesthetics of bodily discomforts

Arife Dila Demir
Estonian Academy of the Arts

Living and being in the world is an embodied experience in which we unfold kinesthetically. In other words, we explore our environment and ourselves through our moving and sensing bodies, our somas. Through our sensory bodies we respond to external and internal sensations, all of which contribute to our meaning-making process by providing insights into our existence and our environments. We may sense pleasant and/or discomforting internal and external stimuli, amongst which the discomforting ones almost always demand immediate attention. Some unfortunate individuals experience persistent internal discomforting sensations that take over the body influencing how they perceive themselves. I call these persistent discomforting phenomena ‘bodily discomfort’ that disrupts the everyday flow of the bodies and include conditions such as migraine, fibromyalgia, irritable bowel syndrome, depression, chronic pain, etc. It is difficult, if not impossible, to remove persistent discomforts from the bodies that they invade. Additionally, these phenomena are not merely physical but ingrained in our somas, in our sensory existences. For this reason, the alleviation of these phenomena should not solely focus on the temporal relief of physical symptoms. Rather it should focus on the enhancement of the lived experience of such phenomena.. By learning how to transform with our diseased bodies we can find new ways of living and being with bodily discomforts, developing somaesthetic awareness. Building kinesthetic dialogues with our diseased selves may lead us to learn how to transform with/for/through our discomforts as we make sense through our moving and sensing bodies. Accordingly, focusing on chronic pain, Pain Creature explores the capabilities and possibilities of interactive wearable textiles to promote somaesthetic awareness of bodily discomfort. It uses pain as a catalyst to change and transform the ways of being and living with pain. To do this, it breaks our habitual ways of engaging with discomfort to be attuned to our discomforting bodies and to develop new bodily perceptions. This transformational process goes back to the correspondence that happens when the body and pain interact with one another creating a mutual reflective conversation.

Hybrid forms of dressing: Rethinking the relationship between textile and fashion systems through whole-garment weaving

Kelly Konings
The Swedish School of Textiles, University of Borås

Rethinking the relationship between textile and fashion systems through whole-garment weaving. 2D jacquard woven textiles that hold the possibility to be worn as 3D garments. Draped and folded onto the body, these whole-garment woven textiles urge the viewer to rethink the interdependent relationship between a textile and a garment. Proposing a new and holistic way of designing and producing textiles and garments locally.

How textiles open up data as a material on the body

Troy Nachtigall
Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences

Textiles have reached incredible refinements, as fibers, yarns, structures, coating, and garments. Textiles represent a material that is transformed multiple times before becoming the cloth that interacts and becomes a body by the wearer. Textiles are one of humanities earliest experiences of data as the structure is complex but often created computationally with repetitive loops. Textile practitioners use data to transform the structure of textiles. Data is a fundamental part of what a textile is on both phenomenological and post-phenomenological levels. Is data a material or is it made with a material?

Rethinking the body in body-based design practices

Faseeh Saleem
The Swedish School of Textiles, University of Borås

Rethinking the body in relation to fashion-design methods is undertaken to explore alternative conceptions of the body through various sketching methods. These included sketching using materials, installations, observations, body-material interactions, and documentation of various perspectives and contexts within the surroundings. The sketching methods led to the emergence of alternative conceptions and ways of perceiving the body. The concepts that emerged from the sketching explorations are further explored in order to suggest alternative tools and methods that could facilitate or improve design processes.

Virtual textiles, physical reactions

*Alex Soiseth
Rhode Island School of Design*

Screen-based experiences are increasingly common, primarily activating the visual sense while overlooking the richness of multi-sensory engagement. Garments rendered in digital interfaces often lose much of their potential to affect the sensorially complex and layered expressions we experience with textiles in person. We work within this paradigm toward more exploratory material experiences in virtual space, heightening the physical sensory effects of digital materials. Focusing on techniques in textile design and visual computation that prioritize faithful capture and re-creation, or embrace glitch in the process of digitizing the physical, we present three case studies in which highly tactile fabrics and garments are represented as virtual artifacts, immersive landscapes, and parameterized materials able to be sensed through a digital screen.

Expandable knitted screen scissor structures

*Virginia Melnyk
Virginia Tech University*

Knit material is inherently elastic, which is a useful feature when designing for transformative geometries. This research project integrates the use of expandable scissor structures with knit membranes to create collapsible panels with dynamic capabilities. The fundamental concept revolves around the elastic properties of knitted materials to facilitate controlled expansion and contraction within the design. The study further explores utilizing the relaxed resting state of the knit membranes to achieve a soft tensegrity open position, introducing a novel dimension to potential architectural and design possibilities. The research involved testing various yarn materials, orientations of knit, and patterns to ascertain their behavior in different configurations. By strategically manipulating the elasticity of knitted membranes by mixing nylon and elastic-covered nylon throughout striated patterns to achieve precise elastic ratios. The project sought to optimize the transformability of the forms as well as create patterns that emphasize this transformation in shape. This approach not only contributes to the adaptability of architectural elements but also enhances the overall functionality of the scissor structures. The project also explored various forms of scissor structures. To look at the generic grid structures with layered depth. As well as other expandable geometries such as circles, arcs, and lines. These forms are the start of further exploration into possible architectural applications for more responsive, deployable, and transformable architectural applications. In conclusion,

this research project not only pushes the boundaries of traditional scissor structure forms but also establishes a framework for the integration of knit membranes as dynamic and responsive architectural elements. The combination of elasticity, pattern, and tensegrity principles, presents a promising avenue for the development of adaptable and intelligent structures in the fields of architecture and design.

A carnival & nursing home: When bodies co-create designed living environments

Maja Gunn
Konstfack University of the Arts

By describing two different research projects, Maja Gunn discusses how body, clothes and textiles can explore and become architecture. The first project explores the ability of bodies to be understood as architecture and living environment through the performative act of a carnival. The second project explores co-creation processes in the designed living environment of a nursing home. Gunn discusses the challenges and similarities found in the two projects, and how they can help us understand and challenge the roles of textiles and architecture.

Parliament of Sustainable Fashion

Mollie Edge
University Bozon Bolano

Parliament of Sustainable Fashion workshops are dedicated to fostering inclusive and democratic discussions on sustainable fashion practices. Our workshops centre around clothing use practices and explore sustainability beyond traditional capitalist approaches. Using clothing as a powerful medium for communication, each workshop and assembly is unique, with diverse topics and outcomes emerging, highlighting the nuanced and multifaceted aspects of sustainable practices in action.

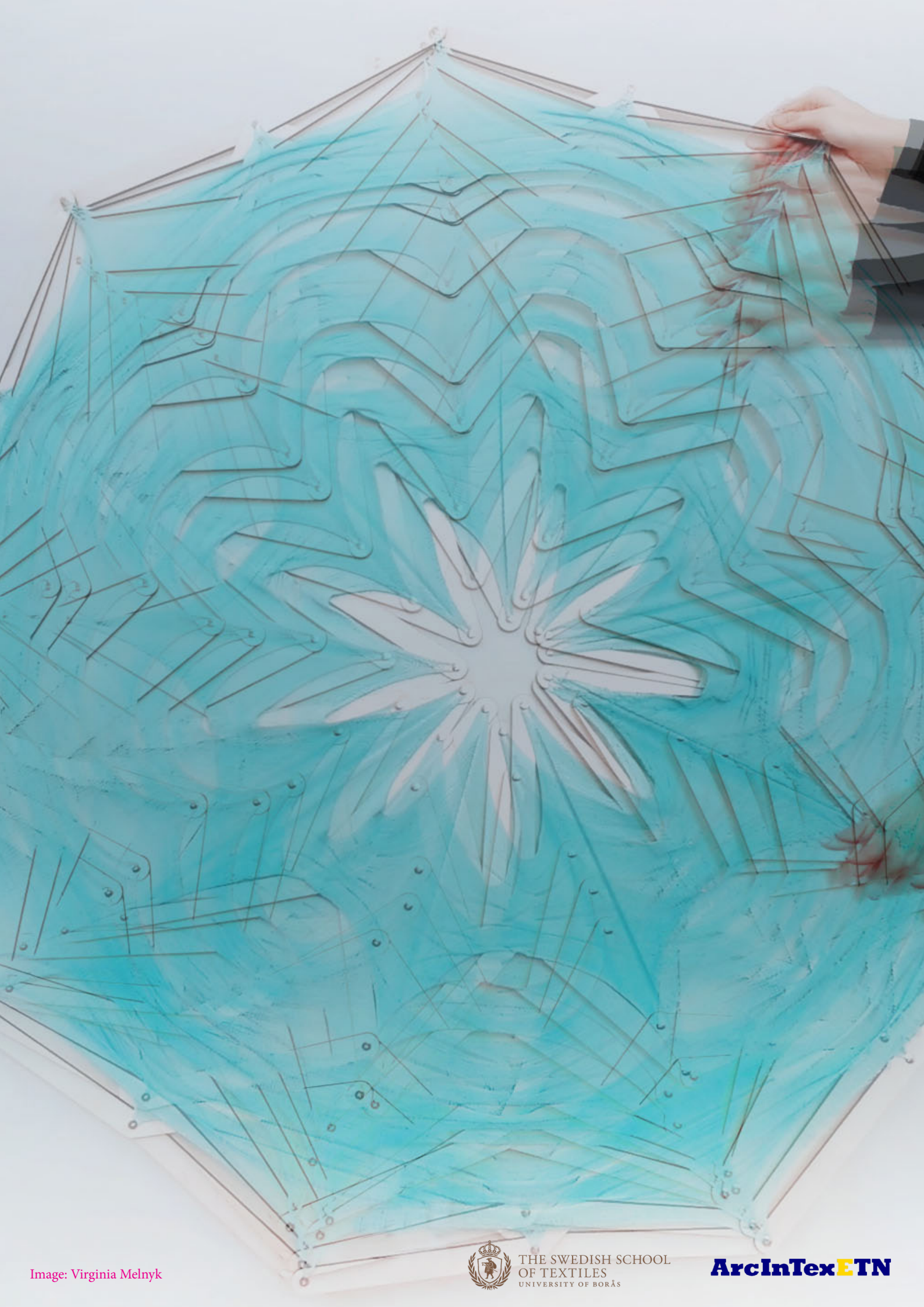


Image: Virginia Melnyk