Conveying the spontaneity of drawing through the knitted textile production process
McInnes, Ian; Schenk, Pamela

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Conveying the spontaneity of drawing through the knit production process
Ian Mc Innes and Pam Schenk
School of Textiles and Design, Heriot Watt University, UK
i.m mcinnes@hw.ac.uk
p.m.Schenk@hw.ac.uk

Abstract
The first phase of a research project to investigated the creative potential of iterative links between
drawing, design and production for knit, concentrated on exploring the ways that computer integrated
manufacture from the designer maker to high specification industry production, can evoke the
spontaneity of drawing in knit samples. A second phase, building on that exploration, investigated the
range of expressive opportunities facilitated by the interaction between traditional drawing methods
and digital technology by establishing a kind of iterative discourse between drawing to initiate ideas
and the actual making of knitted fabric. Using a First World War theme to initiate a narrative between
the conceptual and material, even visceral manifestation of warfare, a series of experimental pieces
have been created and are here presented.

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Ian Holmes

Ian Holmes is a Senior Lecturer in Design at the Heriot-Watt University School of Textiles & Design and has worked successfully as a knitwear and knitted textile designer in Milan, London and Scotland. His current research interests are in knitted fabric innovation with the aid of digital visualisation and fabric manufacturing processes.

He has designed a portfolio of successful degree and postgraduate courses across Fashion and Textile design disciplines and is sought by prestigious academic institutions as academic advisor and as external examiner in the UK, India, Dubai, Finland, Iceland and Mauritius.

Appointed to the Scottish Academy of Fashion project team, he is responsible for developing product innovation through knowledge transfer and exchange projects, matching research expertise within the consortium with leading textile companies.

Current development projects are focused on working with the Scottish Cashmere Knitwear Industry in the establishment of a Knit Research Centre and building a portfolio of collaborative knit research projects for existing and new emerging markets.

Abstract