

HIV UNWRAPPED

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE PARTICIPANTS IN THIS PROJECT COME FROM MANY DIFFERENT ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT LANDS ACROSS AUSTRALIA. WE WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT MUCH OF THE WORK DONE TO COMPLETE THE WORK HAS BEEN ON THE LANDS OF THE WURUNDJERI PEOPLE OF THE KULIN NATIONS.

The HIV Unwrapped project extended an invitation to HIV researchers and scientists from across Victoria to consider what would they wear which amplifies themselves and their work in HIV.

Working with a lab coat as the premise, the 13 scientists in this project worked with fashion design students from the RMIT School of Fashion and Textiles over the course of six weeks to represent a part of the diversity of sciences that make up the HIV sciences.

RMIT University School of Fashion and Textiles is uniquely positioned, with our disciplines contributing to RMIT's reputation as an international university of technology, design, and enterprise. HIV Unwrapped x Fashion Design Partnered Project continues our commitment to trans-disciplinary partnerships and practices, revealing meaningful relationships and synergies between science and fashion.

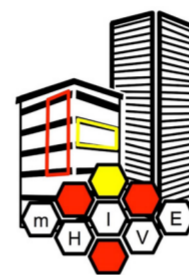
In the Fashion Design Partnered Project course, second-year students in the Bachelor of Fashion (Design) program engage in projects that align with various design and systems approaches. These projects emphasise collaboration and responsive design through briefs with real-world outcomes. Guided by lecturers who are creative practitioners, makers, and researchers, the diverse student responses reflect our research interests in advocating for sustainable and regenerative thinking and practice, working towards 'A Just Society' by including diverse bodies and experiences, and 'Responsible Practice' in engaging with Indigenous knowledges.

Designed by the next generation of emerging fashion design leaders, the students have speculated on the future of fashion through the intersection of scientific discovery and fashion design. This project has been a transformative experience for our students, expanding the possibilities for future fashion practice.

This project exemplifies innovation in science communication and knowledge translation, and we are indebted to the project sponsors, partners and the scientists and students alike for making this project possible.

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We acknowledge the original creators of CLOAK: Queer Science, Fashion & Photography, who play a role in providing project advice and linkages between previous, current and future iterations of the CLOAK protocol. The CLOAK Collective: Cherine Fahd, Todd Robinson (University of Technology Sydney) & Alice Motion, Victoria Rawlings, Lee Wallace (University of Sydney)