Ensemble

Place of origin: London (designed)
Date: 2011 (designed)
Artist/Maker: Meadham Kirchhoff (designer)
Kirkwood, Nicholas, born 1980 (designer)
Credit Line: Purchased with the assistance of the Elspeth Evans bequest
Museum number: T.96:1 to 8-2014
Gallery location: In Storage

Public access description
The Anglo-French duo Edward Meadham and Benjamin Kirchhoff met at Central Saint Martins, where Meadham studied womenswear and Kirchhoff menswear. The pair formed the London based Meadham Kirchhoff label in 2002 and went on to win the ‘Emerging Talent – Ready-to-Wear’ award at the British Fashion Awards in 2010. Known for presenting eclectic and intricately finished collections against theatrically staged and often surreal settings, the designers cite influences as varied as Courtney Love, Chanel, The Riot Grrrls and traditional portraiture.

Look 18 S/S 2012
Meadham Kirchhoff intended this ensemble and the collection it was part of to question received notions of what is sexy. Childish elements such as the short fretwork cotton and silk mini dress with layers of girlish broderie anglaise, pretty ballerina embroidery and a Peter Pan collar are juxtaposed uncomfortably with the more provocative sequinned knickers and brassiere which can be glimpsed through the gaps in the dress.

Descriptive line
Ensemble consisting of a fretwork dress worn over sequinned brassiere and knickers with two pairs of thigh-high silk stockings and one pair of platform sandals, Meadham Kirchhoff, look 18 S/S, 2012

Dimensions
Width: 60 cm waist, Width: 81 cm bust

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URL
http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O1300724/ensemble-meadham-kirchhoff/