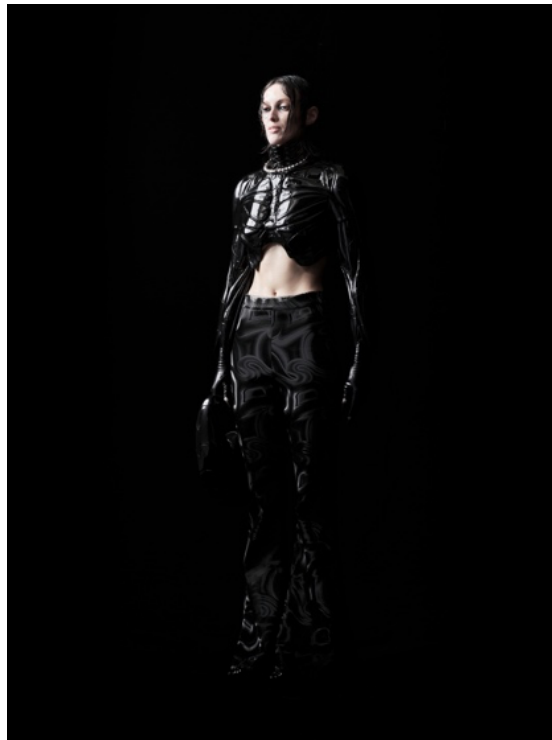


HENGDI WANG 2025 Spring/Summer Haute Couture Fashion and Accessories Collection

“Cybernetics Blooming Inside of Me”

On October 13, 2024, Chinese independent designer Hengdi Wang unveiled the SS25 haute couture fashion and accessories collection "Cybernetics Blooming Inside of Me" at the LABELHOOD Show during Shanghai Fashion Week. In this collection, the designer narrates the process of beings alienated by technology gradually metamorphosing and returning to nature, aiming to reflect on the philosophical proposition of the relationship between humanity and nature. The design inspiration stems from H.R. Giger's designs for the 1979 film *Alien* and the 1995 film *Species*, which deeply embody the concept of bio-mechanical art. H.R. Giger has had a profound artistic influence on Hengdi Wang since his youth, and as he pursued formal fashion studies, he continued to integrate Giger's artistic philosophy into his works. In the collection Hengdi Wang reinterprets iconic elements, such as the Facehugger, space pilot armor, alien exoskeletal ribcages, protruding spines, and maternal eggs, paying tribute to the legendary artist H.R. Giger on the tenth anniversary of his passing.



In his design, Hengdi Wang employs 3D printing and other digital fabrication techniques that he learned in the MA Innovative Fashion Production program at the London College of Fashion. He perceives this collection as a “theory of mechanical evolution.”





On the runway, models exposed technological “organs,” illustrating the symbiosis and opposition between humanity, nature, and technology. As the collection progresses, the design gradually shifts inward: metallic “skin” replaces external skeletal structures, and alienated “feathered garments” that blur the boundaries between humanity and nature. Ultimately, the bones become concealed within the garments, symbolizing the journey of humanity returning from technology to nature. The intricate details of each garment’s prints resemble animal skin, capturing the wildness and texture of life in the natural world. An operatic melody enveloped the models, whose faces were coated with a moist sheen, as if they were newly emerged life forms, slowly wandering in chaos, continually seeking the light of dawn. The stark contrast between

the mechanical, cold accessories and the elegant haute couture fashion created a dramatic interplay, seemingly merging into one another, transporting the audience into an ethereal realm where the past and future intertwine.



In this rapidly changing world, the designer prompts us to contemplate if, in our pursuit of technology and civilization, we have lost our reverence and respect for nature, and whether beneath the seemingly “evolved” exterior lies a forgetfulness of our true essence. Through the show, the designer makes us think: “As technology gradually infiltrates our bodies and lives, is it changing us, or are we reshaping ourselves through it?”



DESIGNER INFO

Hengdi Wang, based in London and Shanghai, obtained a Master's degree with a distinction score from the London College of Fashion in 2024. Previously worked as a full-time fashion and accessory designer for Susan Fang. Personal and brand works have collaborated with top tier media outlets such as VOGUE, ELLE, Harper's BAZAAR Fashion Barsa, Schon magazine, the Ballroom magazine, NOWNESS Aisa, and Wonderland, as well as brands such as MUGLER and FERRAGAMO.

In 2024, Hengdi Wang was nominated by MONIKER Foundation LE BOOK Emerging Talent Awards.