

# *From The Land Where Ships Travel to the Stars*

Zhakan Studio presents a short self-funded fashion film - realised in creative partnership with *NWSPK* and *Compulsory* and presented as part of the BFC Discovery Lab - that offers Zhakan Studio's personal reflection on Kazakh cultural heritage and Kazakhstan's history, including its lesser-known legacy as a key site of Soviet space exploration.

References to brutalist architecture and industrial expansion — drawn from Kazakhstan's 20th-century visual and social landscape — serve as a backdrop to the feeling carried through the film and inform the collection's spatial sensibility, particularly in proportion, repetition, and sculptural restraint.

By bridging two sensibilities — Kazakhstan's eye for colour and elegant ornamentation, and London's exploratory energy — the film brings to the forefront a dialogue between tradition and modernity, the personal and the shared.

Guided by an ethos of minimal waste and resource-led decision-making, the collection engages with a centuries-long Kazakh tradition of gifting and preserving fabric. Sourced from family archives and local markets in Kazakhstan, 2–3 metre cuts of vibrant satins and printed panels are reimagined through Zhakan Studio's London-based practice.

Every seam and silhouette reflects a mindful tension between scarcity and intention. At Zhakan Studio, any material — regardless of monetary value — is treated as gold. Once it enters the studio, it becomes an active participant in shaping stories.

*From the Land Where Ships Travel to the Stars is a heartfelt offering to London's legacy of independent spirit and creative authenticity.*

*London, 23rd Feb 2026*