

Eksplorasi Arsitektur Museum Amir Timur Sebagai Inspirasi Untuk Desain Fashion Avant-Garde Menggunakan Manipulasi Quilting

Amelia Marsya Akilaray¹, Indarti Indarti^{2*}

^{1,2} Faculty of Vocational Studies, Universitas Negeri Surabaya, Surabaya, Indonesia

ABSTRACT

This article examines the development of avant-garde fashion inspired by the architecture of the Amir Timur Museum through quilting manipulation. The study aims to translate the museum's monumental dome, symmetrical composition, geometric ornamentation, and turquoise-gold visual identity into a sculptural garment with strong conceptual and aesthetic character. The research applied the Double Diamond design method, consisting of Discover, Define, Develop, and Deliver stages. Data were obtained through literature study, visual observation of architectural references, moodboard development, design exploration, garment production, and product evaluation by three fashion design experts using observation sheets. The design process generated an avant-garde outfit that combines a structured bustier, voluminous layered skirt, quilted surface manipulation, sequin accents, jacquard collar, and supporting framework. Quilting was used not merely as decoration but as a construction strategy to create dimensional surfaces, architectural rhythm, and visual relief. Expert validation across six aspects—avant-garde silhouette, concept relevance, creativity and innovation, quilting technique, color and material suitability, and integration of design elements—showed very good results, with mean scores ranging from 4.33 to 5.00. The findings indicate that architectural heritage can be creatively transformed into contemporary fashion through systematic design development and textile manipulation.

Keywords: Avant-garde Fashion, Amir Timur Museum Architecture, Quilting Technique, Double Diamond Method

INTRODUCTION

Fashion can be understood as a form of dress style and the use of accessories that not only function to cover the body but also possess aesthetic value in enhancing appearance (Adjei-Appoh et al., 2022). Over time, fashion has evolved beyond mere aesthetics, becoming a space for innovative exploration through the use of materials, construction techniques, and the development of increasingly diverse design concepts. In addition, fashion provides a medium for individuals to express various ideas, including those that are contrasting or even contradictory (Ann-Mari & Ahlberg, 2015). One of the most prominent approaches in fashion experimentation is avant-garde fashion, a style that challenges conventional norms by presenting innovative, dramatic, and provocative visual forms. In its creation process, avant-garde fashion is not solely oriented toward functionality but serves as a medium for conceptual expression and visual communication.

Correspondence:

Full name : Indarti Indarti

Email : indarti@unesa.ac.id

Address : Universitas Negeri Surabaya, Jalan Lidah Wetan, Surabaya, Indonesia

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This approach also involves cross-disciplinary exploration, incorporating elements from architecture, fine arts, as well as local and historical cultures. Recent design-thinking scholarship also emphasizes that design innovation grows from iterative framing, material exploration, and reflective synthesis rather than from linear problem solving (Micheli et al., 2019; Auernhammer & Roth, 2021).

One architectural source with rich visual and historical value is the Amir Timur Museum in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The museum represents the grandeur of classical Islamic architecture in Central Asia through its decorative elements, symmetrical composition, and monumental dome structure. It also serves as a symbol of cultural and spiritual heritage. The translation of architectural elements into fashion is not carried out literally, but rather through a creative process that transforms design principles from one medium into another. In this context, the dome form, structural composition, and mosaic patterns of the Amir Timur Museum can be reinterpreted into layered, structured garments with strong visual rhythm. This transformation is further enhanced through the application of textile manipulation techniques, such as quilting, which enables the creation of dimensional and structural surfaces that resemble architectural reliefs. This cross-domain translation is consistent with contemporary design theory, which shows that architectural and parametric thinking can inform new configurations of form, structure, and visual rhythm (Oxman, 2017).

In the context of avant-garde fashion inspired by the Amir Timur Museum, quilting techniques are highly relevant as they allow the creation of geometric patterns, dome-like curves, and distinctive decorative ornaments within garment design. Therefore, quilting becomes a strategic approach to translating the visual and structural values of architecture into fashion while maintaining coherence between form and texture. Through this approach, fashion is positioned not only as a functional product but also as a medium for critique, cultural reflection, and the exploration of historical visual values. Thus, fashion can serve as a means to revive architectural heritage in a more contemporary form that remains relevant to current design developments

LITERATURE REVIEW

Avant-garde

The concept of avant-garde originates from the French term meaning “vanguard” or the leading group in a movement. Aesthetically, avant-garde works can be identified through visual compositions that emphasize distinctive artistic characteristics (Azman et al., 2018). This approach plays an important role in pushing the boundaries of creativity and expanding the definition of fashion, making it relevant within the context of art due to its ability to stimulate innovation and enrich aesthetic discourse. According to Lie et al. (2024), avant-garde in the realm of art signifies a clear departure from traditional artistic practices, while positioning creativity as a central element in broader cultural and political transformations. In the context of fashion, avant-garde characteristics are reflected in the use of unconventional materials, designs, and accessories that embody boldness and experimentation. Its development provides opportunities for individuals to continuously push creative limits, enabling fashion designers to produce innovative and experimental works. This perspective reinforces that avant-garde represents both innovation and the courage to transcend traditional boundaries. Adjei-Appoh et al. (2022) further emphasize that avant-garde in fashion design encourages broader exploration and progressive thinking, particularly in the creation of conceptual and experimental silhouettes.

Amir Timur Museum

The Amir Timur Museum was established as a tribute to the historical figure Amir Timur and as part of efforts to preserve cultural heritage following Uzbekistan’s independence in 1991 (Bloom & Blair, 2009). Officially opened on October 18, 1996, in Tashkent to commemorate the 660th anniversary of Amir Timur’s birth, the museum serves as a symbol of national identity revival and cultural heritage. The building features

a circular layout designed by architects Turdiev and Umarov, incorporating distinctive Timurid architectural elements such as a large turquoise dome, white marble columns, and decorative ornaments with geometric patterns and calligraphy. These elements not only possess aesthetic value but also carry symbolic meanings representing grandeur, strength, and ideological values such as justice, courage, and stability. The interior is adorned with motifs characteristic of Timurid art, depicting the heroic narrative of Amir Timur as a leader, thereby reinforcing its historical and cultural significance as a source of visual inspiration in various design fields.

Quilting

Quilting is a textile technique that involves joining three layers of fabric: a top layer, a middle padding layer (such as polyester or batting), and a backing layer (Rizky et al., 2024). This technique combines both functional and aesthetic aspects, as it enhances structural strength and thermal properties while also creating texture, volume, and visual patterns on the fabric surface. In fashion, quilting is used as a surface manipulation technique to produce more structured and modern forms. Since the mid-20th century, quilting has gained popularity through fashion houses such as Dior and Chanel and has evolved into a medium of artistic expression and identity in contemporary design. Recent fashion-practice research similarly demonstrates that garment-making can operate as a systematic design inquiry when material, construction, and structural experimentation are documented as part of the design process (McQuillan et al., 2018).

METHOD

The research method used is the Double Diamond Model, a systematic and effective design approach for addressing design problems (Buckley, 2018; Khadijah, 2022). This model consists of four stages: Discover, Define, Develop, and Deliver (Fusari et al., 2017). The Discover and Define stages focus on identifying and defining the problem, while the Develop and Deliver stages focus on developing and delivering design solutions (Norman, 2013, as cited in Alam et al., 2021). The model is also aligned with recent international design-thinking literature, which describes innovation as a combination of exploration, synthesis, prototyping, and critical evaluation (Micheli et al., 2019; Auernhammer & Roth, 2021).

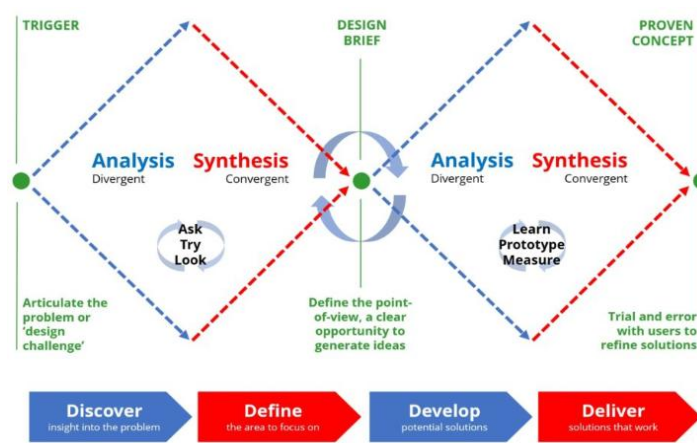


Figure 1. Double Diamond model
(Source: Buckley, 2018)

Discover

The discover stage is the initial phase of the Double Diamond method, aimed at understanding problems and identifying design inspiration through exploration and data collection (Gustafsson, 2019). At this stage, the researcher conducts literature studies, visual observations, and analysis of the architectural characteristics and historical values of the Amir Timur Museum as the basis for avant-garde fashion design.

Define

The define stage is the second phase of the Double Diamond method, aimed at refining and focusing the exploration results into a more directed design concept (Gustafsson, 2019). At this stage, collected data are analyzed to identify key concepts for avant-garde fashion design. A moodboard is developed as a visual foundation, emphasizing the museum's grandeur, monumentality, and geometric ornamentation, which influence the selection of materials such as mikado liquid, sequin, and jacquard fabrics.



Figure 2. Moodboard
(Source : Author's Personal Document)

Develop

The develop stage is the phase of design concept development based on the define stage, focusing on exploration, testing, and refinement of ideas (Gustafsson, 2019). At this stage, visual characteristics of the Amir Timur Museum, such as the dome, geometric ornaments, and the combination of turquoise and gold colors, are translated into more concrete fashion design forms.



Figure 3. Design development
(Source : Author's Personal Document)

Deliver

The deliver stage is the final phase of the Double Diamond method, focusing on the realization and refinement of the selected design (Gustafsson, 2019). At this stage, the garment is fully produced based on the final design, including pattern making, material selection, and finishing. An evaluation is also conducted to ensure that the design aligns with the concept and architectural inspiration of the Amir Timur Museum.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The results of this study indicate that the design process of avant-garde fashion inspired by the architecture of the Amir Timur Museum can be realized through the application of quilting techniques and systematic garment construction. From five design developments, one design was selected, featuring an avant-garde garment with a strong emphasis on a silhouette inspired by the museum, particularly its dome form and symmetrical structure. The silhouette is designed with a voluminous, layered skirt construction that represents the grandeur and solidity of the building, while the lower part creates volume to produce a dramatic and experimental effect. The use of mikado liquid fabric provides a firm structure and maintains the garment's shape. Sequin fabric is applied selectively to create a shimmering effect that reflects the luxury of the museum's interior. Curved and radial line details further enhance the avant-garde character while emphasizing the visual connection between the fashion design and the architectural aesthetics of the Amir Timur Museum as the primary source of inspiration.



Figure 4. Selected Desain
(Source : Author's Personal Document)

The exploration process involves translating architectural elements such as domes, geometric ornaments, and symmetrical structures into textile manipulation using quilting techniques. A full-circle skirt is divided into panels and filled with padding to create a three-dimensional effect that forms the garment's structure and volume. The use of materials such as mikado liquid helps maintain the shape and supports the avant-garde silhouette.

The garment construction, including the bustier, skirt, decorative elements, framework, and collar, demonstrates integration between concept and technique. The use of boning, voluminous skirt construction, and additional elements such as sequin spheres and metal framework creates a dramatic and sculptural form. These results confirm that the combination of quilting, structural construction, and architectural inspiration can produce avant-garde fashion with strong aesthetic and conceptual value.

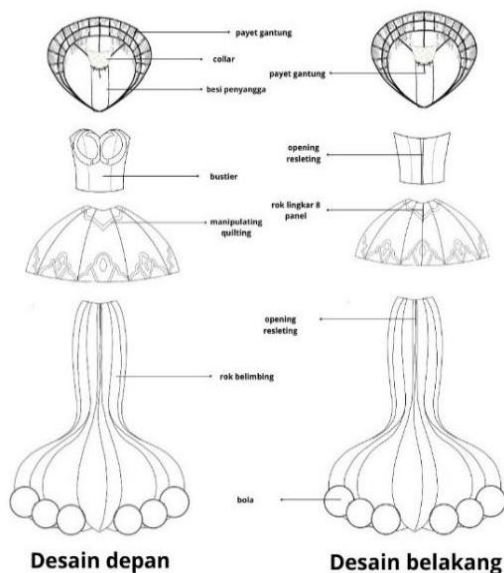


Figure 5. Design Production 1
(Source : Author's Personal Document)

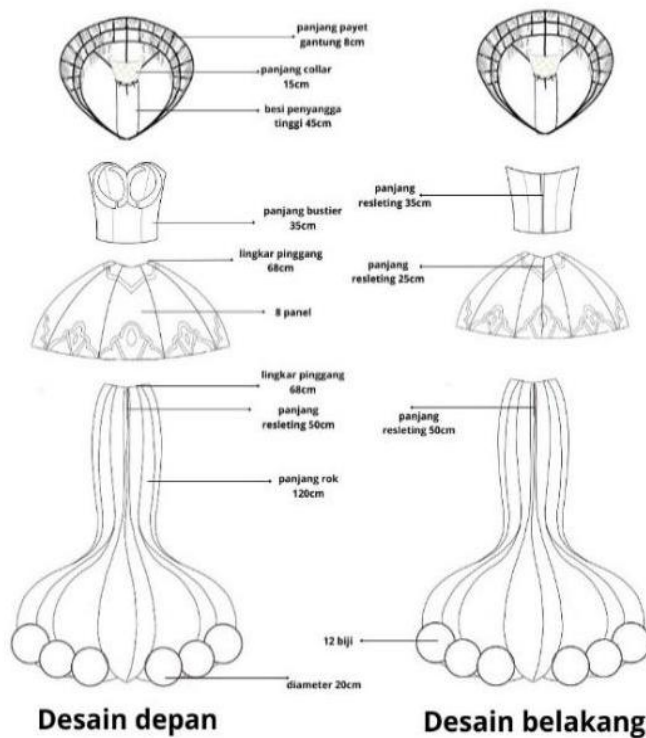


Figure 6. Design Production 2
(Source : Author's Personal Document)

Production Process

The production process began with the application of quilting techniques on a full-circle skirt divided into several panels. Each panel was designed with quilting motifs, then the main fabric (mikado liquid) was combined with a supporting layer to create space for padding, resulting in a three-dimensional effect. The motifs were transferred using carbon paper, stitched according to the pattern, filled with padding, and reassembled into a complete skirt. This stage was finalized with the addition of lining, zipper, and waistband.

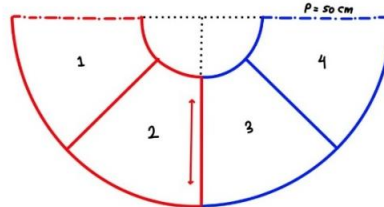


Figure 7. Circle Skirt Pattern

(Source : Author's Personal Document)



Figure 8. tracing process

(Source : Author's Personal Document)

Furthermore, the garment construction included the development of a bustier, belimbing skirt, decorative elements, structural framework, and collar. The bustier was constructed using panel techniques with boning to shape the body silhouette, while the belimbing skirt incorporated additional layers such as crinoline to enhance volume. Decorative spherical elements made from sequin fabric were constructed in panels and attached to the skirt as visual accents. A metal framework was created and covered with fabric to reinforce the structural form, and the collar was made from jacquard fabric with added boning to ensure rigidity. Overall, this process resulted in an avant-garde garment characterized by strong structure, volume, and alignment with the intended design concept.

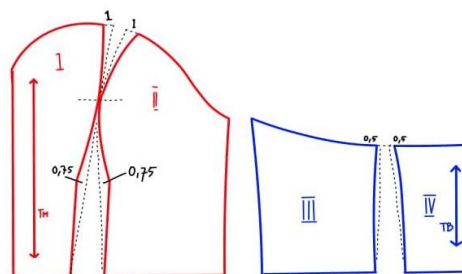


Figure 6. Bustier Pattern

(Source : Author's Personal Document)

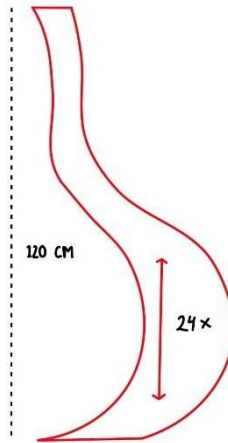


Figure 6. Starfruit Skirt Pattern
(Source : Author's Personal Document)

Result

The final outcome of this avant-garde fashion design represents the visual characteristics of the Amir Timur Museum's architecture through the exploration of silhouette, structure, color, and the application of quilting techniques. The design conveys a monumental, solid, and layered impression as a reflection of the museum's architectural grandeur, while emphasizing the experimental approach that defines avant-garde fashion.



Figure 6. Finished Fashion Results
(Source : Author's Personal Document)



Figure 6. Runaway Look
(Source : Author's Personal Document)

Discussion

In this study, the validation was conducted by three lecturers from the D4 Fashion Design program at Universitas Negeri Surabaya. Based on the evaluation results across six main aspects of the avant-garde fashion design inspired by the architecture of the Amir Timur Museum, it can be concluded that the overall design quality falls into the “very good” category. The mean scores range from 4.33 to 5.00, indicating that the design not only meets aesthetic and technical criteria but also demonstrates conceptual maturity and strong visual impact.

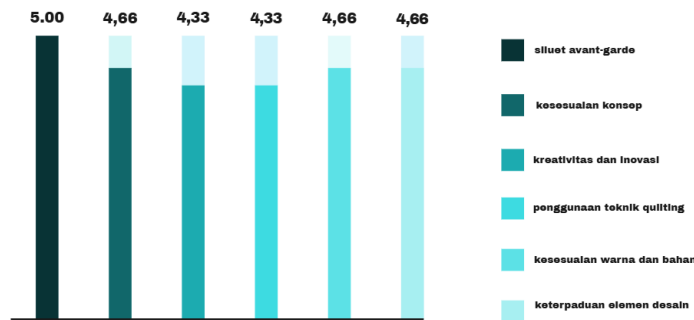


Figure 6. Design Production 2
(Source : Author's Personal Document)

However, several aspects can still be developed in future studies. The evaluation involved only three experts, so broader assessment involving fashion practitioners, art critics, or potential users may provide more comprehensive feedback. In addition, future research may compare quilting with other textile manipulation techniques, such as smocking, pleating, or trapunto, to examine which technique most effectively represents architectural forms in avant-garde fashion. Further exploration of comfort, mobility, and wearability is also important because avant-garde garments often prioritize visual impact over functional performance.

The expert validation results further indicate that the final garment has strong conceptual and aesthetic coherence. The mean scores ranging from 4.33 to 5.00 suggest that the design successfully integrates avant-garde silhouette, architectural inspiration, quilting technique, color selection, material suitability, and overall visual unity. These results imply that the garment is not only visually dramatic but also conceptually connected to the intended source of inspiration.

The use of the Double Diamond method also contributes to the clarity of the design process. The stages of Discover, Define, Develop, and Deliver enable the transformation of historical and architectural references into a more systematic design outcome. The process begins with exploration of visual references, continues through concept selection and design development, and ends with product realization and expert evaluation. This confirms that design thinking is relevant in creative fashion research because it allows designers to move iteratively between problem exploration, concept formulation, prototyping, and evaluation (Micheli et al., 2019; Auernhammer & Roth, 2021).

The application of quilting strengthens this transformation because it produces surface dimension, tactile relief, and structural volume. In this study, quilting does not function only as decoration; it becomes a construction strategy that supports the silhouette and reinforces the architectural character of the garment. This finding is in line with the view that textile manipulation can expand the expressive capacity of fashion by integrating material experimentation, surface treatment, and body-oriented construction (Rizky et al., 2024).

The findings show that the Amir Timur Museum can function not only as a visual reference but also as a conceptual framework for constructing avant-garde fashion. The museum's dome, symmetrical composition, and ornamental geometry are translated into garment elements through volume, radial lines, and layered construction. This translation demonstrates that architectural inspiration in fashion design is most effective when the designer does not merely copy visual forms but transforms spatial, symbolic, and structural qualities into wearable composition.

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings, the exploration of the Amir Timur Museum's architecture in avant-garde fashion can be realized through a systematic design process that includes visual research, moodboard formulation, design development, material selection, quilting manipulation, pattern construction, sewing, finishing, and expert evaluation. The Double Diamond method enables the transformation of architectural inspiration into wearable design by organizing the process from idea discovery to final product realization. The dome structure, geometric ornamentation, symmetrical composition, and turquoise-gold identity of the museum were translated into a voluminous silhouette, layered skirt construction, quilted surface relief, and decorative structural elements.

The final garment demonstrates strong conceptual, aesthetic, and technical integration. Quilting functions not only as a surface ornament but also as a strategy for constructing volume, rhythm, texture, and architectural dimension in the garment. Expert assessment across six evaluation aspects showed that the design falls into the very good category, with mean scores ranging from 4.33 to 5.00. These results confirm that the Amir Timur Museum can serve as a meaningful source of inspiration for avant-garde fashion and that quilting manipulation can effectively bridge architectural form and fashion construction. Future studies may broaden validation by involving more experts, fashion practitioners, or users, and may further test alternative materials and quilting structures to strengthen durability, comfort, and visual performance.

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