



FASHION DESIGN:
APPAREL, ACCESSORIES

Finite, Autumn/Winter '19

SILVAE



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TIME PERPLEXES PHYSICISTS, PHILOSOPHERS, AND EXISTENTIALISTS ALIKE. Yet Deborah Roberts, the designer behind Seattle-based fashion brand SILVAE, sees time as a muse, especially in her creation of Finite, the label's autumn/winter '19 collection, which was inspired by the life of her 101-year-old grandfather. Through contemporary details merged with traditional silhouettes—think sheer blouses paired with prairie-style dresses—the line honors both fashion's history and its present. Finite “is a reflection of the past century, the changes my grandfather has witnessed, and our relationship with time and this planet,” writes Roberts in her submission. It's also “a reminder to be wise with our limited resources and hold our loved ones close.”

The collection's ruched organza blouses, wine-washed corduroy trousers, and midlength plaid dresses balance tradition with modernity, while textured chunky knits and woolens sourced from Italy and Japan serve as weighty contrasts to a silver laminated-cotton jacket. Triangular collarbone cutouts and circular peek-a-boos along the sides of a sheer plaid frock contemporize modest pieces, while maintaining the sophistication that's marked SILVAE's collections since its launch in 2014.

Designed and constructed in Seattle, Finite is also an ode to sustainability. Roberts repurposed scrap fabric from her collection in collaboration with the Seattle rug company What Because to make one-of-a-kind mats. Recently, she started hosting sewing and alteration classes to teach others how to make and preserve their own garments, saying, “I hope to expand these initiatives in the coming years to reconnect people with their clothing and equip them with skills to extend its lifetime.” ✱

PROJECT DETAILS

LOCATION
Seattle, Washington

DATE OF COMPLETION
February 2019