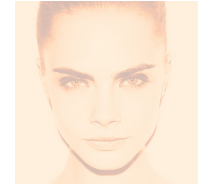
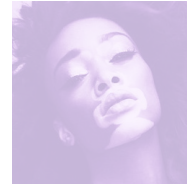
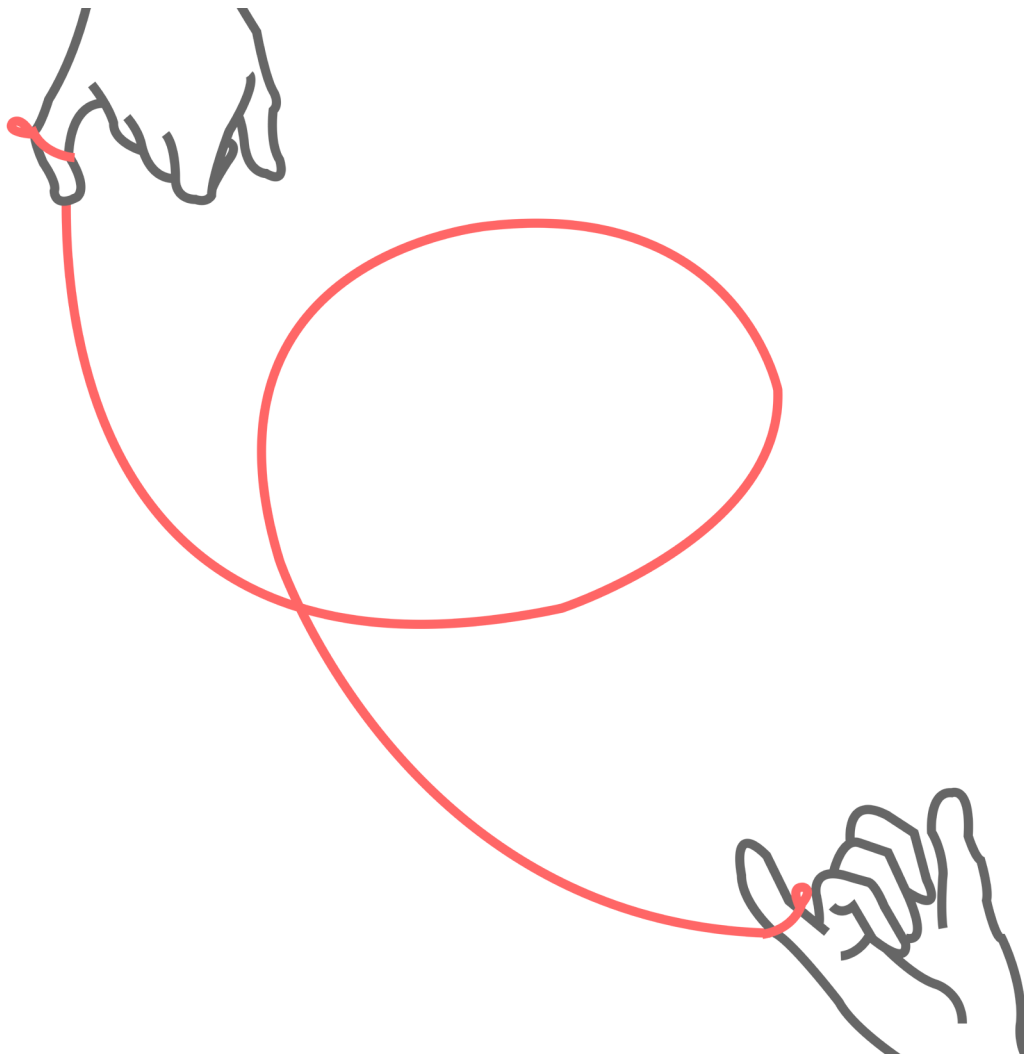


in the end,



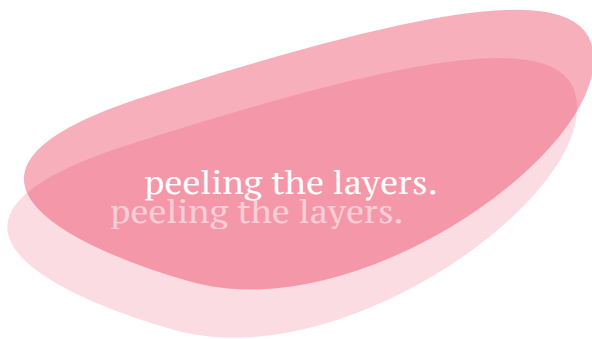
exploring cultural appropriation through fashion and interior space.

As an Asian American who is considered a “minority” in America, I felt confused and lost on the topic of cultural appropriation. Through the process of design research and finding my voice through art, I wanted to find out why “cultural appropriation” is such a big deal in America.



cultural appropriation:

“The adoption of elements of a minority culture by members of the dominant culture. Because of the presence of power imbalances that are a byproduct of colonialism and oppression, cultural appropriation is distinct from equal cultural exchange.”



what is offensive?

why is it offensive?

are we too close minded?

how can we all be more aware?

let's dissect. fill in your thoughts below.

The adoption of elements of a **minority** culture by members of the **dominant** culture. Because of the presence of **power imbalances** that are a byproduct of **colonialism** and **oppression**, cultural appropriation is distinct from equal cultural exchange.

minority

dominant

power imbalances

colonialism oppression

when it becomes offensive

“The problem arises when somebody takes something from another less dominant culture in a way that members of that culture find undesirable and offensive. The point is that the more marginalised group doesn’t get a say, while their heritage is deployed by someone in a position of greater privilege – for fun or fashion, perhaps, and out of a place of ignorance rather than knowledge of that culture.

Wearing espadrilles to work is therefore different from wearing a sombrero to a Halloween party or sending a series of white models down the catwalk wearing their hair in cornrows.”

– *The Week*

how can we be more aware and come together?

GLOBALIZATION



“the process by which businesses or other organizations develop international influence or start operating on an international scale.”

TRANSNATIONALIST My mom is Japanese and my dad is European. Culturally I feel more Japanese but I identify as someone of both mixed race and nationalities.

NATIONALIST I'm French and I am very proud of being French!

TRANSNATIONALIST I'm a New Yorker and that means so many things. My parents are immigrants from India but I also identify with my American roots.

NATIONALIST China is where I was born and raised, where my ancestors and family are from too. My blood does not change even though I am studying in America.

let's globalize.

TRANSNATIONALIST Australia is diverse and full of immigrants. I identify as Chinese-Australian.

identifying as a **transnationalist**:

“A social phenomenon and scholarly research agenda grown out of the heightened interconnectivity between people and the receding economic and social significance of boundaries among nation states.”

identifying as a **nationalist**:

“A political, social, and economic ideology and movement characterized by the promotion of the interests of a particular nation, especially with the aim of gaining and maintaining the nation's sovereignty (self-governance) over its homeland.”

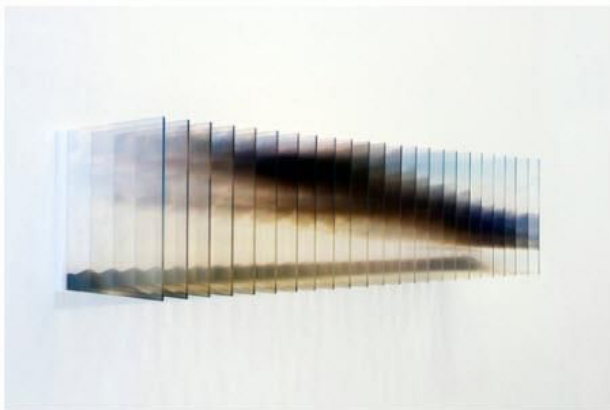
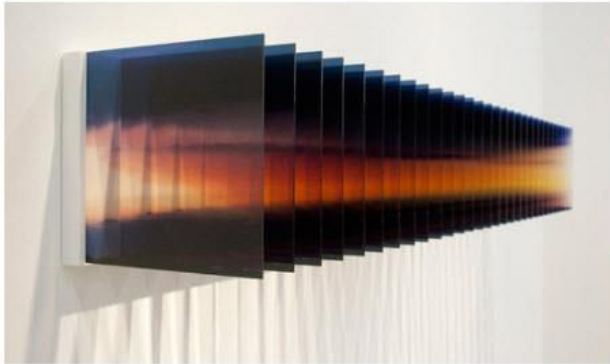
conclusion:

Pushing the boundaries of cultural appropriation to cultivate a more inclusive society.

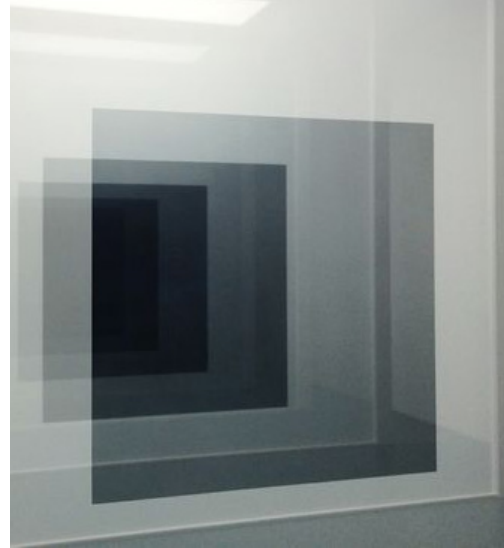
inclusivity—globalization, is what generates innovation, economy, and communication.

we can all be more open-minded, compassionate, and self-aware.

inspiration



in the end,



technique: Using transparent material layered together to capture the idea of key terms of cultural appropriation: connection, transparency, gradation, coming together.



we are all human.



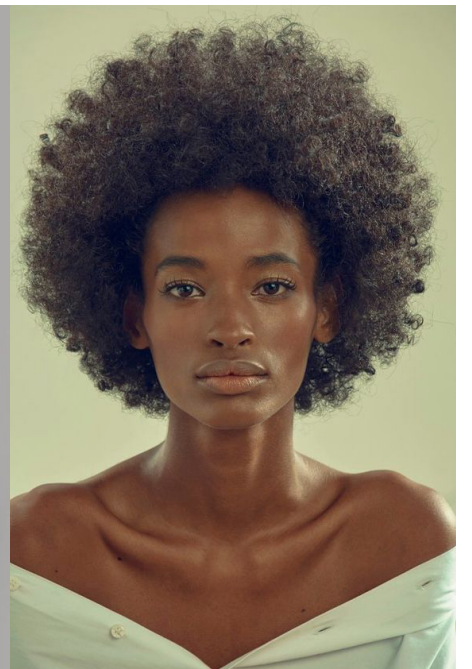
material: Mirrors are a great way to add to the human interaction aspect of the instillation. This particular piece does a great job of interpreting the passing of people. Seeing the human reflection can make the instillation feel personal.

finding common ground.



what makes us all human?

soft & feathery & light.





sharing similar motifs.



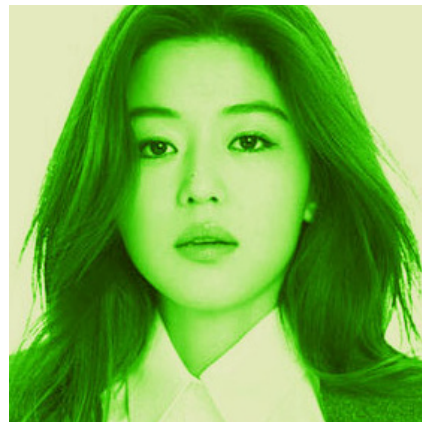
with respect, mindfulness, and awareness, the coming-together of different cultures can happen gradually and seamlessly.

kindness, acceptance, and knowledge can push the boundaries of cultural appropriation to cultivate a more inclusive society.

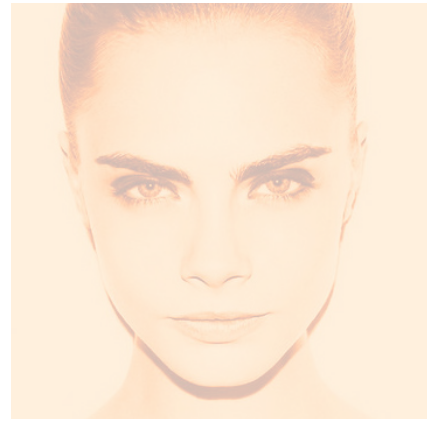
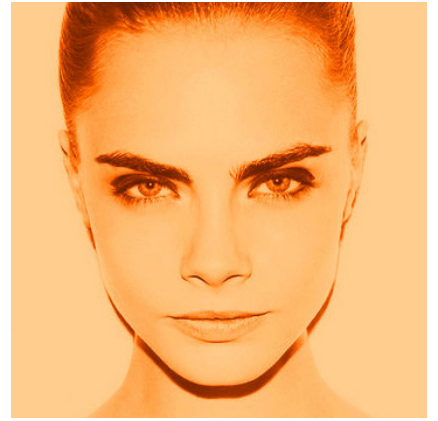
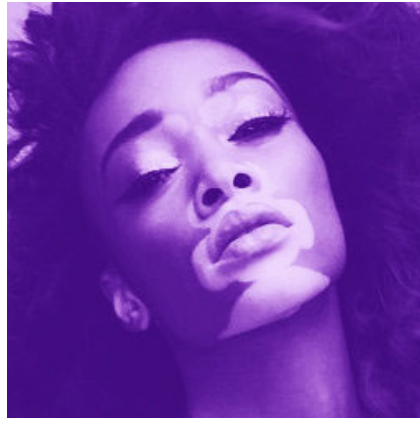




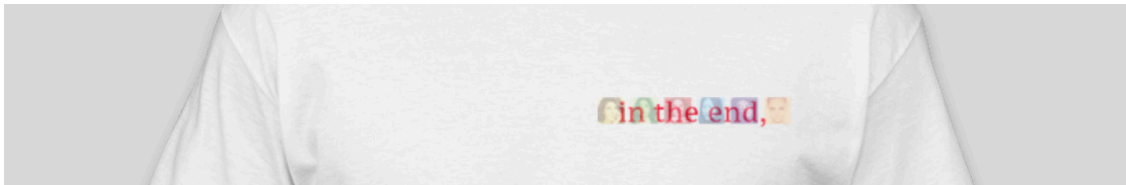
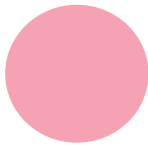
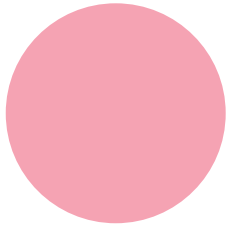
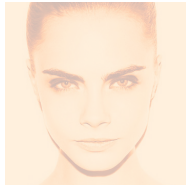
in the end,

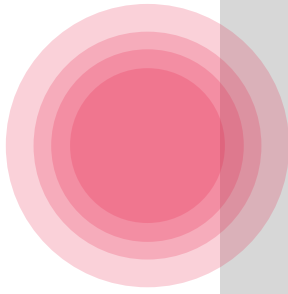


we are all human.



in the end,





we are all human.



we are all human.