

“The Refuge Wear series responded to the social and political climate throughout the early 1990s. As a result of the war in Iraq, we witnessed millions of refugees fleeing the combat zones. As a consequence of the war, a global social and economic crisis unfolded in Europe. The recession in Paris led to high unemployment and increasing homelessness was visible for the first time on the streets of the city. There was so much human distress and the responses from artists, designers and architects had to be immediate, flexible, modular, and mobile, with an emphasis on temporary solutions.

We create objects that are a trace of our passage on this earth and to bear witness to the social and environmental injustices we encounter.

We see our artistic practice as a process which generates residues of artistic production. These residues can take numerous forms such as sculpture, painting, drawing, video, or photography. Together they form a repository of objects. The objects are then reactivated and deployed in exhibitions or public events, to engage the general public in discussion. Audiences act differently and can feel an emotional connection when they encounter these objects in public settings because they are not usually part of their daily lives.

Our work can be a catalyst, raising awareness to social issues such as homelessness and give a voice and visibility and to marginalized communities.”