



*Detail of Halo Dress, Magnetic Motion Iris van Herpen 2014 with Philip Beesley and collaborators
(photo courtesy Atelier IVH)*

WATERLOO ARCHITECTURE ON THE RUNWAY AT PARIS FASHION WEEK

New designs presented at Paris's Pompidou Centre by a group of Waterloo architects and engineers this week has been greeted by global press. Waterloo's Hylozoic Architecture research lab led by Philip Beesley (Architecture) with Dana Kulic (ECE), Rob Gorbet (KI) and Matt Borland (SYDE) has extended its longstanding collaboration with radical fashion designer Iris Van Herpen with contributions to ten dresses from her new ***Magnetic Motion*** collection, presented at Centre Pompidou for Paris Fashion Week on September 30. Supported by advanced computational modeling and industrial design, the group's innovative designs combine precisely detailed polymer, crystal and leather components into interlinking three-dimensional fabric structures with striking qualities of flexibility, sparkle and transparency.

Beesley and collaborators' new engineered fabrics bridge between couture and ready-to-wear. One piece suggests hovering, aura-like waffle-shells using delicate thermoformed acrylics connected by silicone links. Another uses a hybrid pleat inspired by the early-twentieth-century designer Mariano Fortuny, expanded into a corrugated meshwork that combines leather, transparent polymer links and crystalline inclusions.

The collaboration has been growing in momentum with Iris van Herpen's launch of ready-to-wear lines of clothing that translates the radical experiment of her haute couture explorations into comfortable, highly finished form-fitting clothing. Critics acclaimed the new work, '*The most powerful fashion mix of nature and technology that I have ever seen*' - Suzy Menkes, Vogue; '*Piece de Resistance*' - Joanne Furniss, Style.com.

Waterloo Architecture students and recent grads who contributed this year to the *Magnetic Motion* fabrics include Valerie Arthur , Laura di Fiore, Stephane Gaulin-Brown , Marta Kubacki, Andrea Ling, Julia Nakanishi , Jordan Prosser , Alice Song, Andjela Tatarovic and Alex Willms.

Details of the collaboration can be seen at www.philipbeesley.com and www.irisvanherpen.com



Magnetic Motion: Suede Fortuny pleat with crystal inclusions (PBAI)



Magnetic Motion, Halo Dress variation: A member of the atelier makes final adjustments before the model's runway entry (PBAI)



Fashion journalists examine Halo Dress backstage at the Pompidou (PBAI)



A Van Herpen atelier assistant adjusts acrylic chevron insertions within suede corrugated meshwork (PBAI)



Beesley and Van Herpen examine prototype detail of the meshwork (PBAI)



Thermally formed acrylic elements are stretched into hyperbolic cone forms, and linked together with silicone darts in this hybrid meshwork (PBAI)