

## Winged

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‘Winged’ is part of my thesis collection, ‘Insected’, which I began in January of 2014. The collection explores the relationship between humanity and nature. I particularly focus on insects and their methods of disguise and protection.

Humans often use clothing as a way of blending in with society or covering up aspects of themselves. However, I would like to show women they have the capability to be strong while still standing out. This inspiration comes from insects’ defensive mechanisms, which are often functional while still beautiful.

‘Winged’ was influenced by a butterfly’s ability to camouflage itself with intricate patterns to look like other insects or blend in with their surroundings. They also have the ability to fly away from their enemies, escaping danger.

This dress is constructed in two layers, connected by the lining. The outside layer features two wing-like side panels pieced together to create a beautiful patterned effect. The underskirt is also pieced to represent the body of the butterfly.

The dress self fabric is a blue 100% boiled wool, while the accent fabrics consist of a teal 100% wool bouclé with a metallic thread, a printed 100% Italian cotton, and an orange 100% silk taffeta. The lining is 100% silk. This piece was completed in February 2014 and was fitted to a size 8 professional dress form.