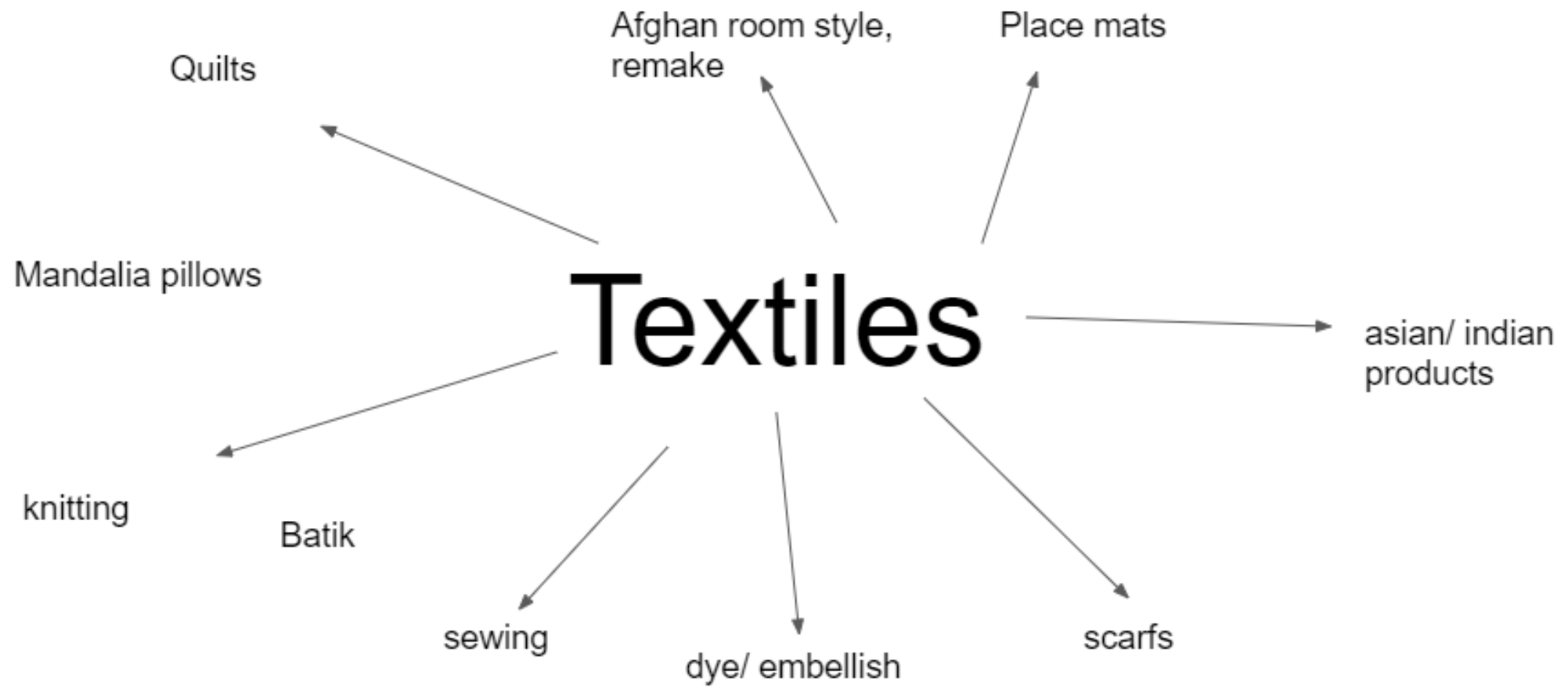


'AFGHANI'

Aziza Popal

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Pages from my sketchbook, Brainstorm of Ideas, from my previous project I particularly liked working with textiles and wished to do the same with this project and began by brainstorming ideas



McCurry, Steve. *In The Shadow Of Mountains*. Phaidon, 2008, pp. 63, 79, 84-5, 113.

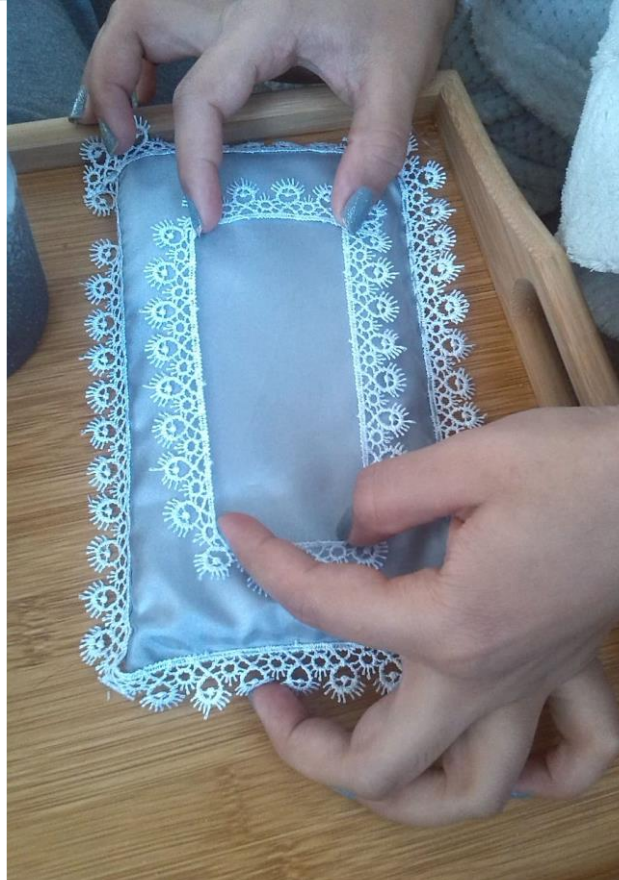


McCurry, Steve. *In The Shadow Of Mountains*. Phaidon, 2008, pp. 63, 79, 84-5, 113.

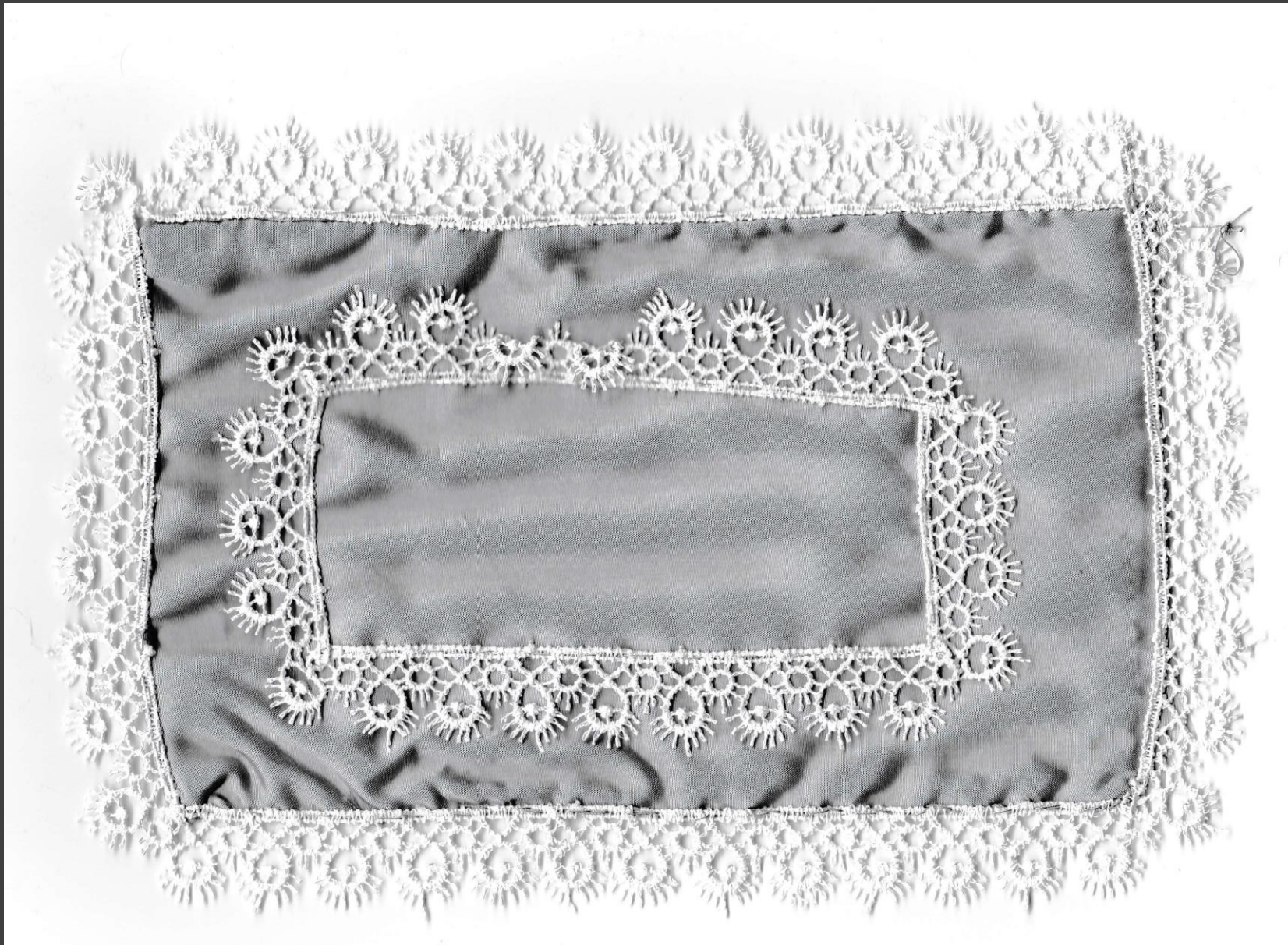
I did some secondary research into Afghan life style and way of living.



This is the 'Bolash' meaning pillow that afghans use in their household and one I will attempt at making.



Pillow Experimentation



Pillow model, made out of lace and synthetic satin



Photograph of my pillow model making process



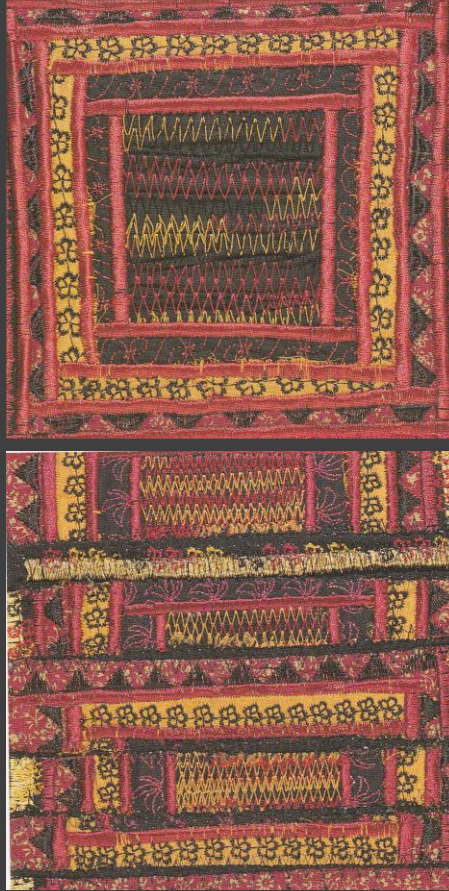
Through further research I found that the kind of pillows I wanted to make was in fact something used by my Iranians and not Afghans so I looked at other types of pillows



Through my dissertation research, I became more interested in my traditional dress and wanted to base my work on it.



Thittichaij, Kim *Experimental Textiles*. Batsford, 2009, p. 108-3.



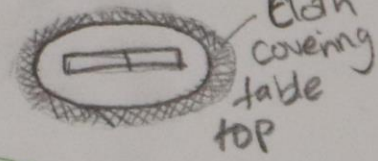
Campbell-Harding, Valerie *Machine Embroidery*. Batsford, 2004, p. 56.



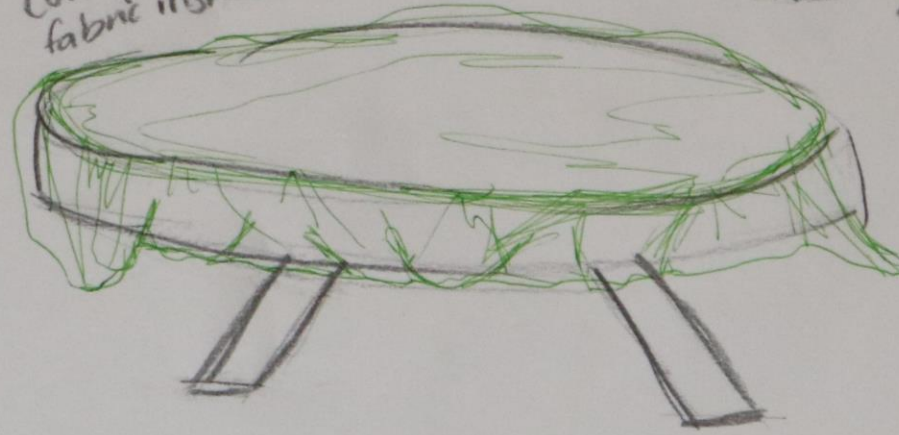
Leaveren Sara Stith. *Gothic Work, Stitch and Res*, 2012. Seaford Press, 2012, pp. 76-77.

I found some books with interesting stitch work which I could use for my own pillow designs and stitch work.

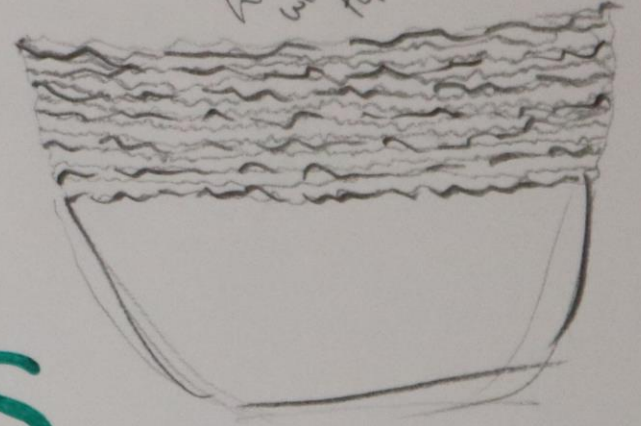
Table top covered with embroidered fabric instead of crocheted throw.



Eldi covering table top

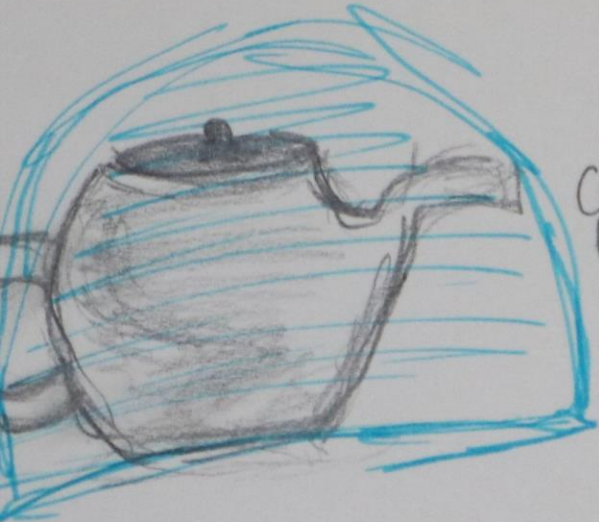


Wooden bowl with knitted top



Chairs covered with embroidered fabric as cover inspired by 'Afghani' dress

DESIGN IDEAS



Cover for tea pots to keep it warm.

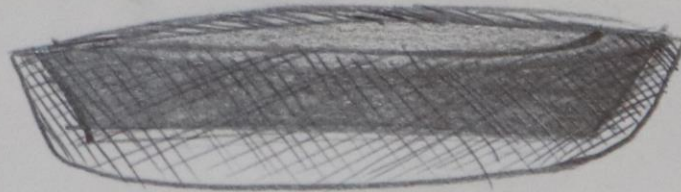
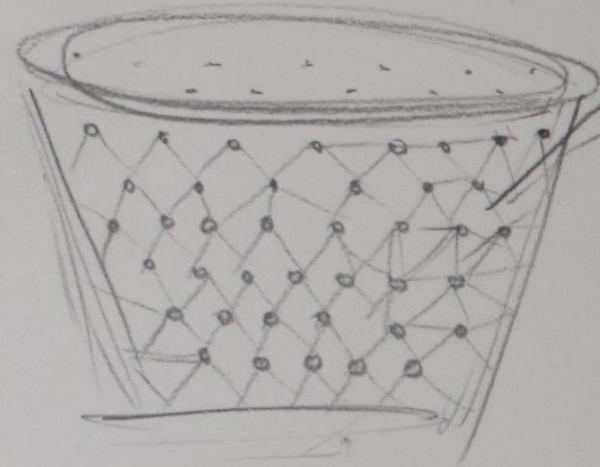


Plate covered with embroidered fabric, ideal for covering/holding hot contents.



Ceramic bowl with holes filled with wool to cover it.

FAB FRICS

To help with my idea development I went to London Shepherds Bush Market, where I mainly focused on fabric shops to inspire me with my project as I was clear I wanted to make a textile based designs.



My project is inspired by my traditional dress called Afghani. This is a picture of me wearing the dress. I have made ma dance performance for this piece which can be viewed on either of the links below this page.

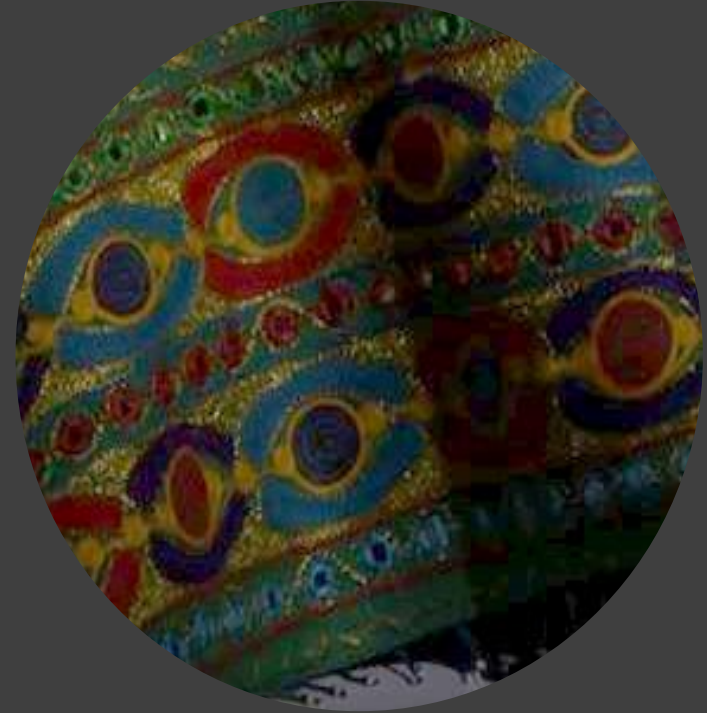


<https://vimeo.com/334629597>

`<iframe src="https://player.vimeo.com/video/334629597" width="640" height="564" frameborder="0" allow="autoplay; fullscreen" allowfullscreen></iframe>`



Through my dissertation research I learnt that the roundels around the edge of the dress skirt, sleeves and scarf and meant to bring the women good health, prsoperty and fertility. Hence why I will be making my ceramics round to reinforce this idea.





These were taken by the entrance of the market, extremely busy so I had to photograph from the outside. This shop is famous for its shawls and fabrics with pattern works on them as you can see





Further inside the market I came across more rich coloured fabrics and an interesting way of presenting them. luckily I managed to take a picture when it was fairly empty so you can get a feel of the full space.

Here I have photographed and attempted to show what one can see in just one look. The shops are non-stop and full of vibrant colours crying for your attention. I noticed even the lighting made a difference to the fabrics; I might consider this in my own pictures and presentation. There is abundance of colour on both the fabrics and other kitchen wear. I might also consider using kitchen wear .






These pictures demonstrate the lane full of shops which consist of alike textile based items which consist of both similar colour and patterns



Even these flowers are well linked with the rest of the market as they can be used as inspiration for design through the use of colour, layout and prints used in the clothes making process. They add value and beauty.



Here I have focused specifically on the theme of colour, similarly to my traditional afghani dress, they consist of vibrant and bright colours which make you feel joyful just by looking at them, regardless of who you are; the owner wearing it or someone looking at it. Looking at the following has made me remanence how my afghani dress has been designed and assist me in understanding the basic of the dress that I could mimic in my own project with textile and ceramics.

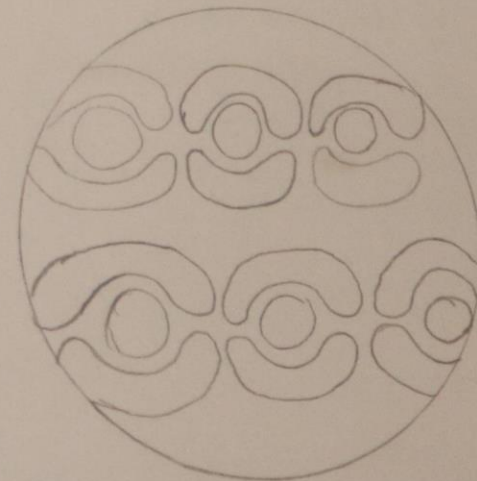
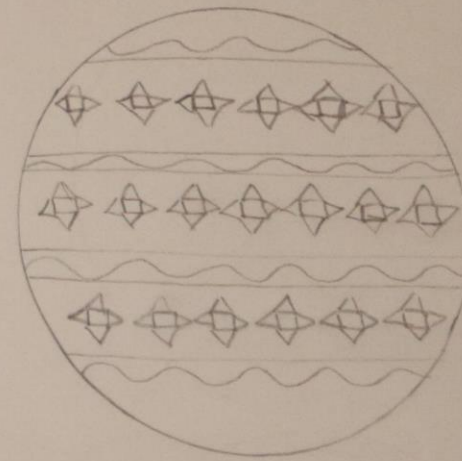
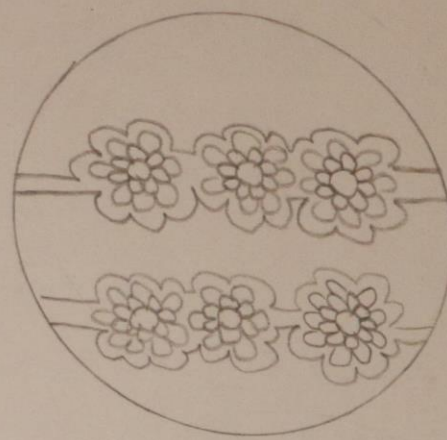
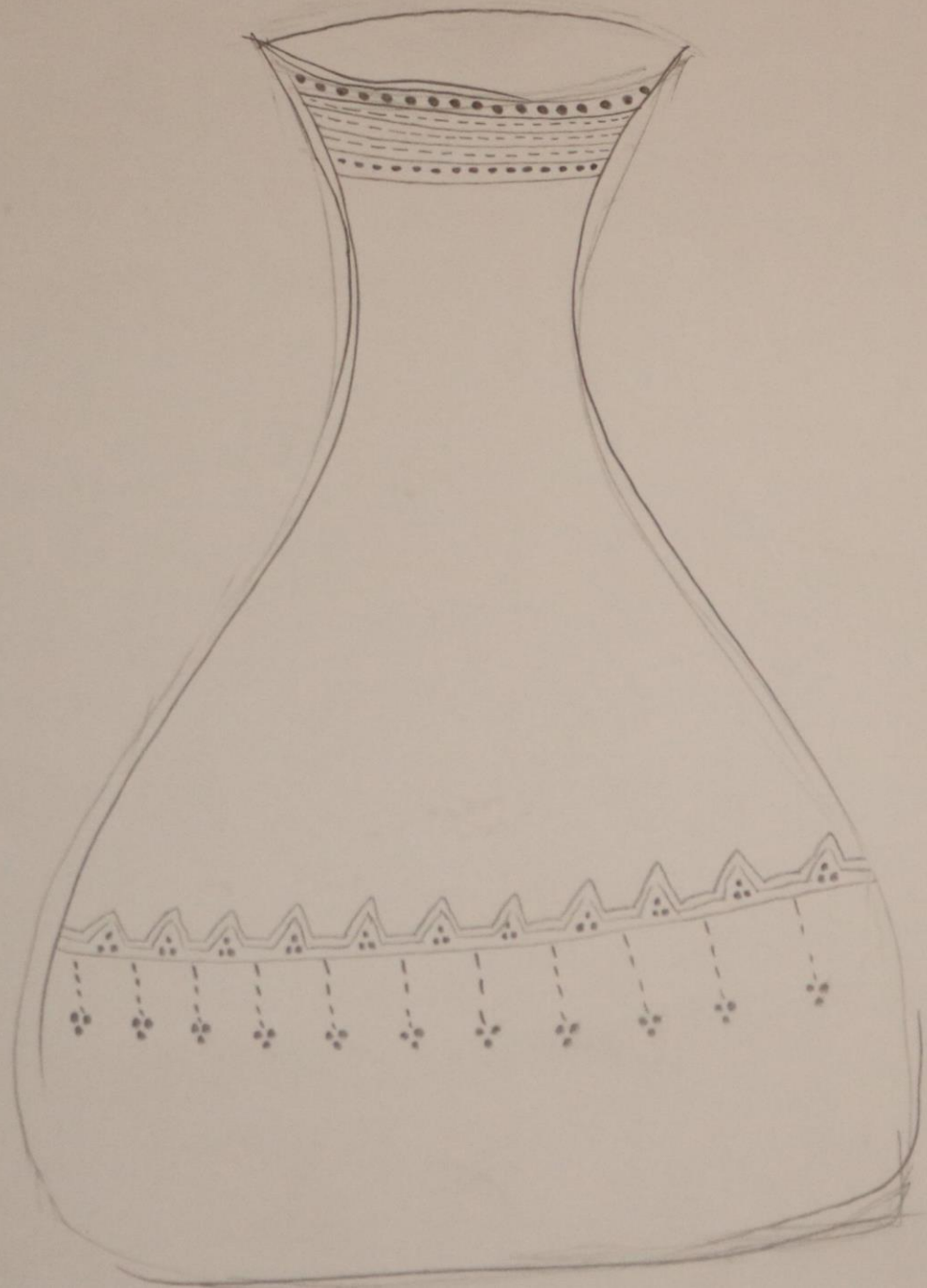


Here I have focused on patterns as they are as important as colour. My dress has a few patterns which are then repeated all over the dress. This has allowed me to understand the abundance of designs available and see the simplicity of each design as it still adds value to the piece.

Afghanistan
May Have
Buried its
Children,
But Should Not
Be Burying its
CULTURE

Aruz, Joan, and Elisabetta Valtz Fino. Afghanistan.p.8

I found this statement on the BBC Report, May 1994 and found it useful as it goes to show how strongly Afghans feel towards their culture and I could not have put it better myself.



Having observed the dress I came up with the idea of why not add the patterns and sequins from the dress onto the vessels themselves therefore, I began to pick out patters and started to draw them on the vessel.



Here I was experimenting with the shapes and forms of vessels I would like to make to cover with knitwear and added colour to test out how it might look in reality.

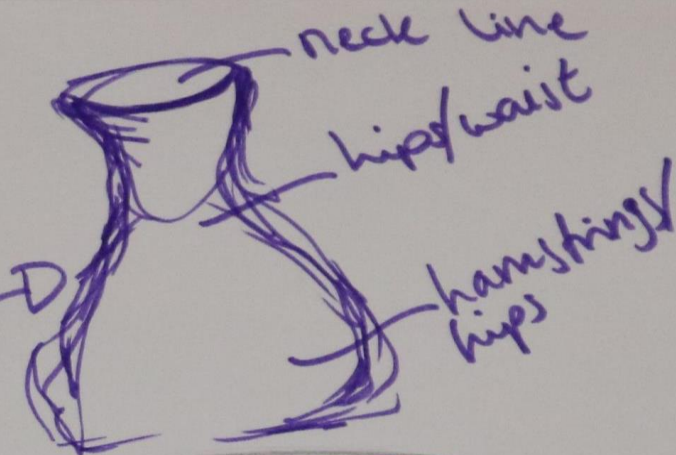
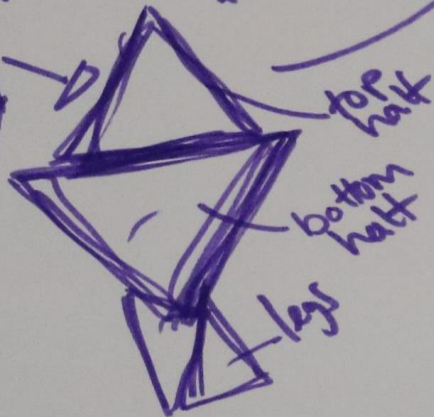


Here I chose one of my vessels and made copies of it on one page and then filled the inside with colours inspired by the 'Afghani' dress to test if the vessels would look suitable with the inside alone glazed but, I chose not to go through this as it would take the attention away from the knitted pieces on top and there will be too much going on.

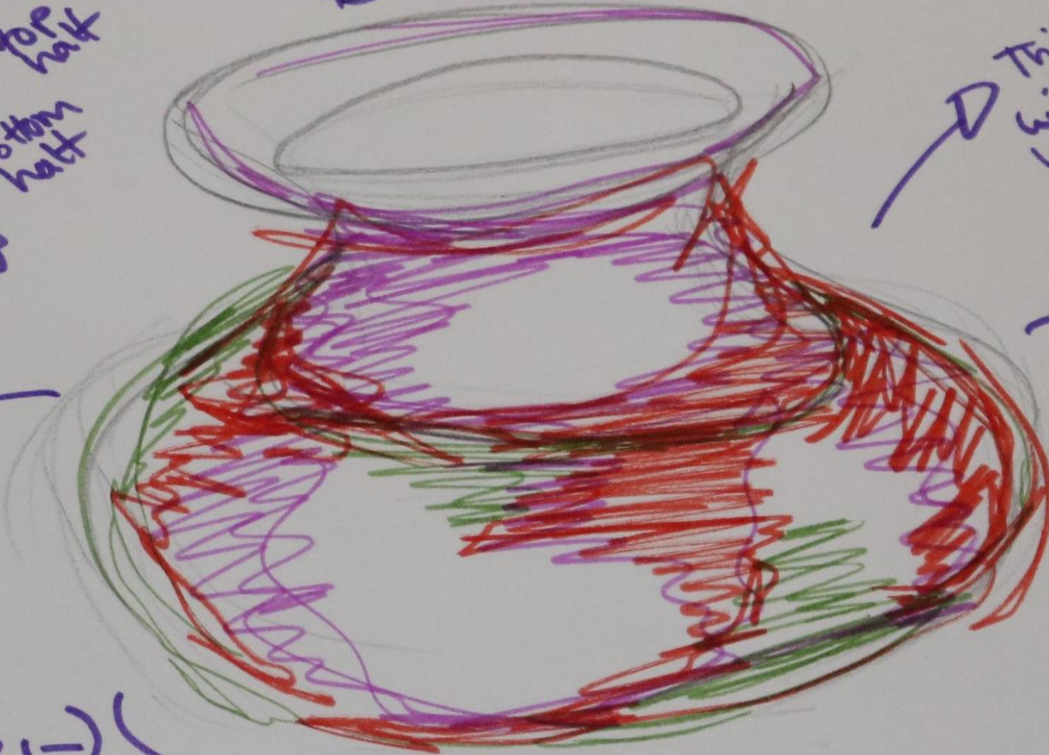
De-coding the designs



Transferred into the below form.



This Pot is glazed with colours inspired by the 'Afghan' dress; red, pink and green.



The glazes were layered starting with red iron oxide, flesh pink and then lime green.

The shape of the vessel was inspired by the female body shape, it has the curves to make the form feminine and easily relatable to women.

Similar to all the other objects the knitted piece colour and shape is inspired by the 'Afghani' dress. Colour from the dress and the round shape to reinforce the idea of the round face of the bundels.



This piece specifically focuses on the bundel present on the Afghani dress hence why it is a round/curved shaped pot.

Simple/plain ceramic round pot covered with knitted fabric on top.

Treating the vessel like the woman's body where all her body is covered other than her feet; the bottom base of the ceramic represents the woman's feet.

The ceramic piece is plain to show/reflect on the thought all women are the same thus, should be treated the same/equally.

Knitted piece covering
the tin to resemble the
covering and hijab of women
in Afghanistan,
also conveys they
are protected/
concealed.

These pieces can go in the
around the hole (in the
corner) creating a safe and
protected barrier to help
protect the hole holder.



Knitting yarn
color is inspired
by the colors present
in the Afghan dress.

The circle ring is
the tin can
represent the
roundels in the Afghan
dress by the shoulder.

Roundels represent good
health and prosperity

Can play around with covering other kitchen based products with knitware such as a sieve, spoons/spatulas.

Experiment with covering a tinted/coloured container and observe the result, any other outcome.

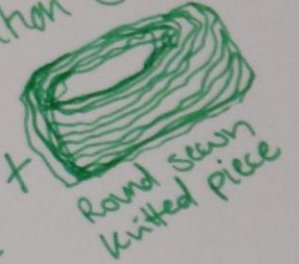
The container being transparent is ideal as it plays around the idea of women being readable or an open book.



Experimenting with another shape other than just round/circular objects.



Combination of:

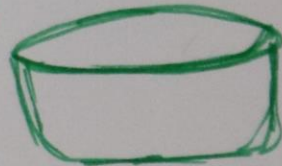
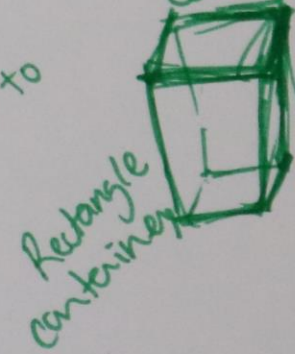


+

WHY FOOD CONTAINER?

The food container represents the domestic side/representation of women. Women are known to be based in the kitchen cooking & cleaning. Hence why I am using a food container as it is one of the easiest objects to

Use different types and/or shapes of containers.



Round containers, reeking ball, n. topic of



Denim experimentation

This is the first attempt of covering cardboard boxes with denim jeans

Denim experimentation two



This time I have placed the cardboard in between the denim top see what effect it will give. It is not as sturdy and definitely needs a base.





Denim experimentation three

Here I have experimented making a cardboard box in a shape of rectangle and covering it in denim which was not as successful as the pressure from the denim jean caused the cardboard to lose its form and shape



Denim experimentation four

I went back to the square shapes as they work best and now I am experimenting with the length of the boxes and denim; how much to fold?



In order to ensure the boxes have a clean sharp finish I will consider using ready made boxes as they will be more durable and sturdy and less likely to lose form through the pressure of the denim material pulling against it.



Denim experimentation five

Having found the shape and lengths I wanted to work with I am now exploring how I can further manipulate the denim and make the objects more eye catching and engaging rather than an object covered in denim, the visibility of the cardboard box adds to the value of the design

Robert Grimshaw

I particularly liked his style of working where he would cover objects in knitwear and I wanted to have an attempt at doing the same with my ceramics pieces





Ceramics and knitwear experimentation

I have attempted to develop my designs by covering the ceramics vessels in as many ways as possible.



Ceramics and knitwear
experimentation two





Ceramics and knitwear experimentation three

Here I experimented with covering the pieces just from the top or the bottom

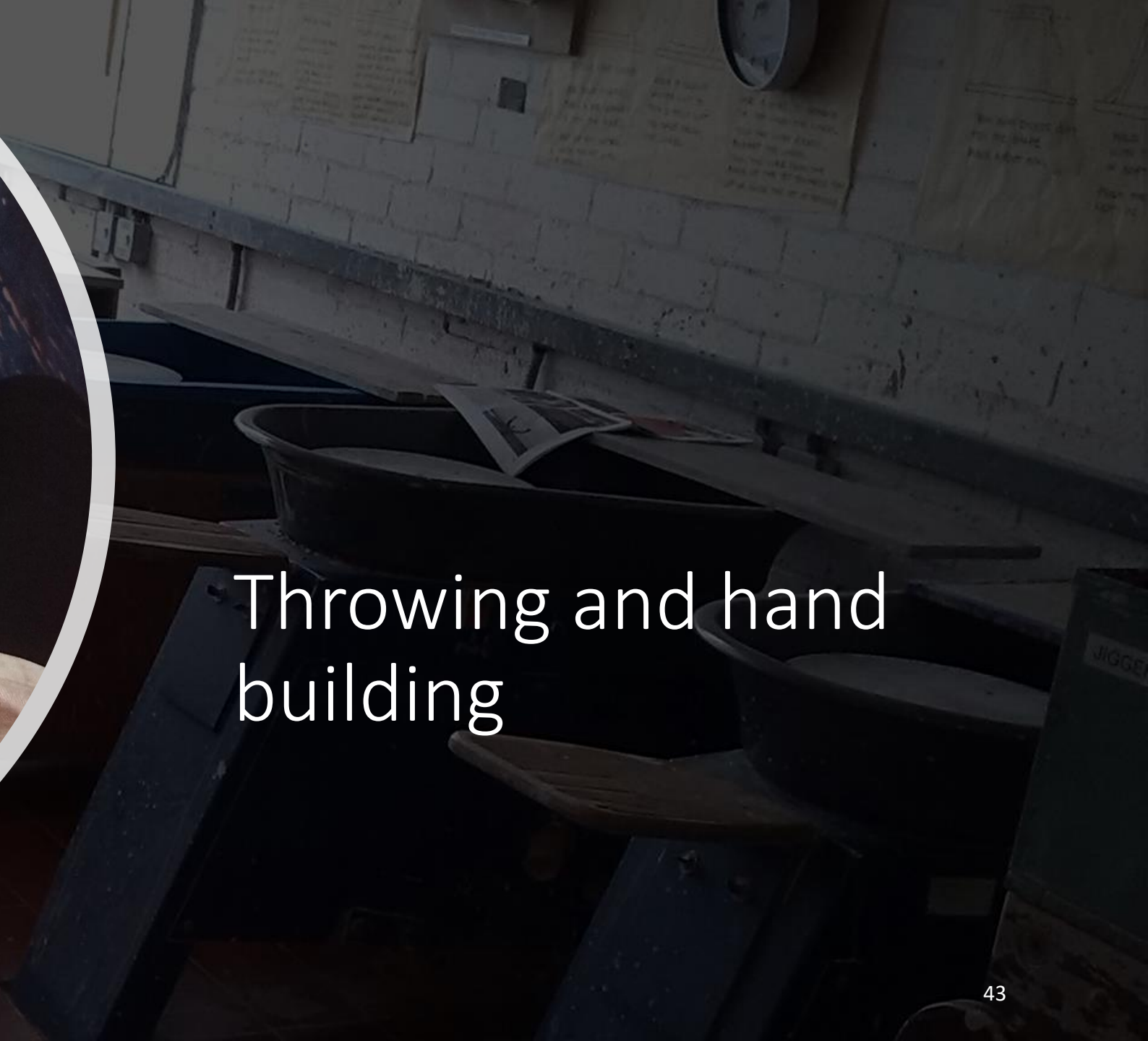


Ceramics and knitwear experimentation four

I am exploring how little I can cover from the top without the knitting piece coming off



Throwing and hand building

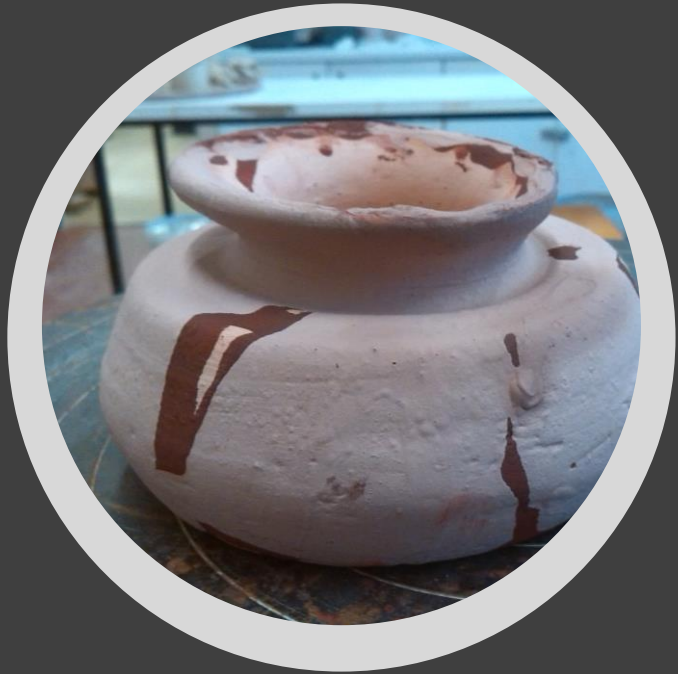




I will be throwing my ceramics pieces as it allows me to create at a faster level in little time



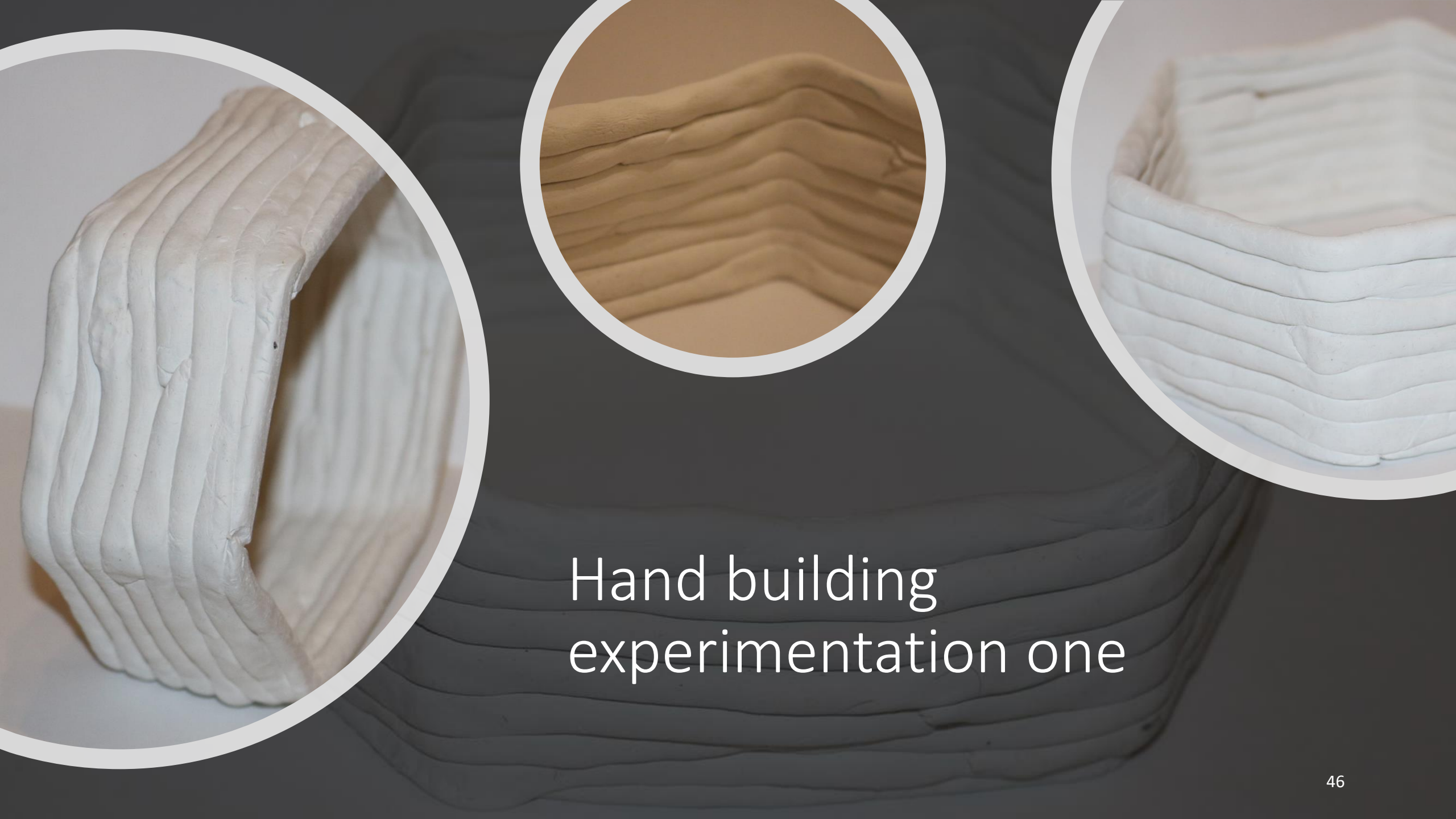
Throwing experimentation one



Glazing

I glazed the piece by layering it with red iron oxide, flesh pink and lime green, other than the lime green the other two colours are not visible and I learnt that this may not be a good idea to explore as it may consume a lot of time figuring out which colours compliment each other.





Hand building
experimentation one



Hand building experimentation two





Hand building
experimentation three



Throwing experimentation two

I have decided to stick to simple forms as the knitwear on top will add character to the piece later and hand building takes longer so throwing pieces is the best option





Throwing
experimentation
three





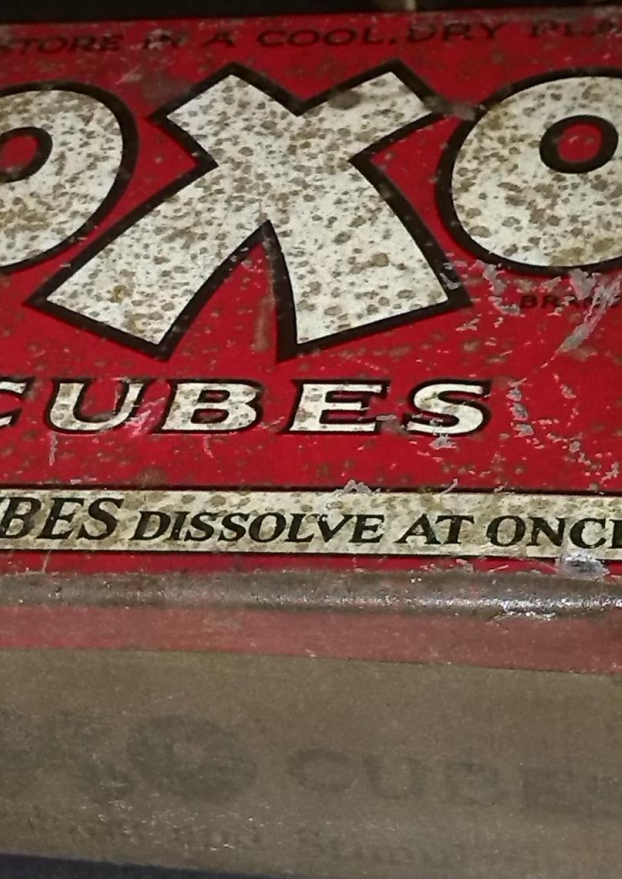
‘Afghani’ Photoshoot two

Here I have played around with jewellery and body language and the idea of women in Afghan society; covered and hidden

Knitting yarn

I went to hobby craft to explore the variety of knitting yarn available inspired by the colours of my 'Afghani' dress.





Tin can experimentations

Here I will experiment with covering domestic tins in knitwear.



Tin can experimentation two

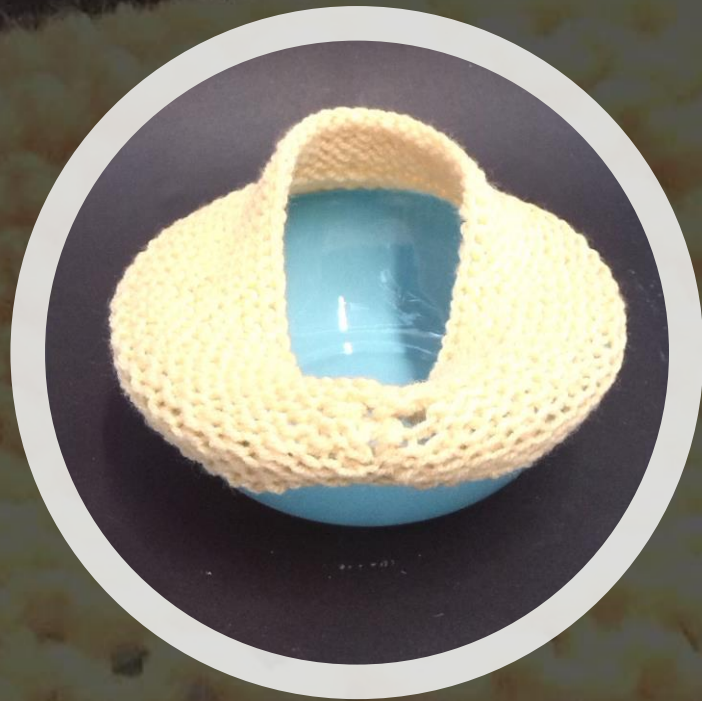
Here I am adding character to the pieces by wrapping the knitwear around the tin can like a collar.



Tin can experimentation
three



Tin can experimentation
four



Tupperware

I have used coloured plastic containers which is mostly used by women in the household and covered it in knitwear in the shape of a collar

Design in context

Here I have placed my objects into real spaces
to get an idea of what it would look like in its
atmosphere



