

RAMBA



ADJOINING TRADITIONAL CRAFTING 2016
ECO-FRIENDLY BANANA FIBER PRODUCTS

Ruwandika

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ECO-FRIENDLY BANANA FIBER PRODUCTS



DEPARTMENT OF
INTEGRATED DESIGN
UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA

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INTRODUCTION - RAMBA 2016

The banana tree is grown in almost every tropical country both commercially and domestically, but for Sri Lankans it is more than just a fruit tree; it is a symbol of culture and tradition. Currently, nearly 50,000 ha of land is under banana cultivation in Sri Lanka and the tree bears great importance in the nation, since each part of the tree is used for different purposes and activities in their culture.

Almost every part of the banana plant plays a significant part of the Sri Lankan's life from the birth to the death. But after the harvest of the fruit, the banana tree dies, and is thus generally considered a waste material. Therefore the introduction of Banana fiber to the local crafts industry has a great potential in the local and foreign markets due to the unique qualities the fiber possesses. Its light weight, flexibility, radiance, natural hue and durability create millions of possibilities in the field of design. Thus, 'RAMBA 2016' is an exquisite attempt to explore the design possibilities of an otherwise wasted material, and introduce a series of designs that would uplift the existing crafts sector of the country.

DEPARTMENT OF INTEGRATED DESIGN

FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE, UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA



DEPARTMENT OF
INTEGRATED DESIGN
UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA

Department of Integrated Design is the pioneer of Sri Lankan design education and has been processing and developing the field of design for over a decade in the Faculty of Architecture, University of Moratuwa, leading the students through an innovative and problem solving practice of design application.

Thus, with the mingling of creativity and functionality the degree course attempts to create designers of an individual identity that can enrich the Sri Lankan context.

Specializing in different streams of design, the course provides a great opportunity for the youth of the country to enter the world of design with creativity and sociocultural consideration. **Media and Communication Design, Fashion and Lifestyle Design and Product Design** are the established fields of studies in the department. The degree program while responding to the demand of great diversification in higher education; also provides an immense contribution to the national development through academic performances.





PACKAGING AND LIFESTYLE

DESIGN COLLECTION

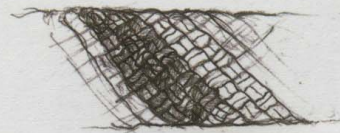
PHOTO CREDITS

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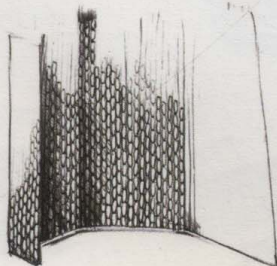
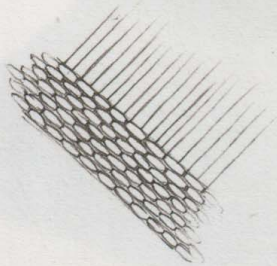


MOLDED MOTIF

Twisted and plaited into a single strip, the belt of fiber is held in place with a wooden buckle around the Tin of Cinnamon. Inspired by the ancient pattern 'Annasi Mala', the package radiates the pride of Heritage and prosperity.

REFINED TRADITION

Inspired by the traditional way of packaging, the pottaniya, the design is a secondary packaging for exported cinnamon. The woven fabric is twisted upwards into a neutral shape, creating a simple but elegant cover for the shiny black tin within.



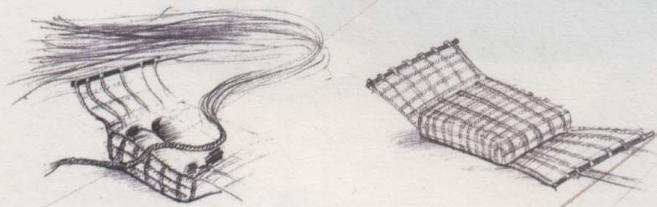


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MINGLED

The simple and elegant clutch purse out of Banana Fiber is an upgrading to the existing handloom culture. The design breaks through the existing limits of casualty, making the product more glamorous and elegant. The mingling of cotton yarns with the raw fiber create the perfect combination to bring out the classy look of an evening celebration. The simple handloom weaving of the fabric is order to optimize the use of the fabric, without cutting off the fabric.

FRESHLY PLUCKED

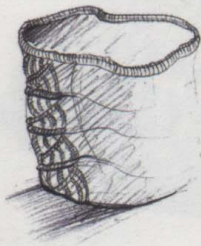
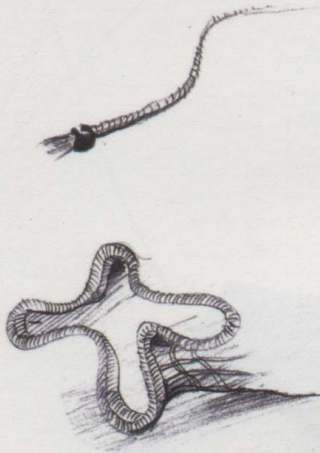


DIVINITY EMBOSOMED

A refreshing and unique package designed for a gift pack of spa accessories. A unique texture is obtained on the package by weaving yarns, and leaving spaces enough to give a glimpse of the contents. The package is designed to give the fullest protection to the spa products inside. The products are embraced by the simple four arms for enclosure, promising a classic and rejuvenating experience to the user.



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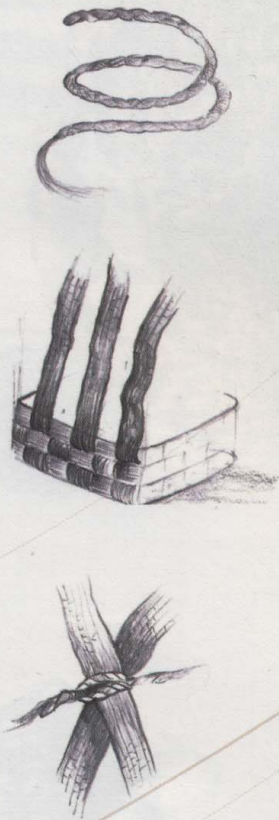
CLIENT - BOGAWANTHALAWA PLC

CRAFTED FOR MEMENTO

A design inspired by the tea basket, the package for Tea is subtly crafted using complex macramé knots. The small gaps are placed to allow air inside and keep the contents fresh.

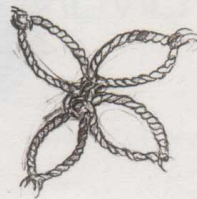
FRESHLY PLUCKED

A packaging for Ceylon Tea, designed like a tea basket to maintain the freshness of its contents. Woven using sheaths and fiber yarns, the design contains an integration of several patterns to accentuate its value. The low weight, low cost package is a novel introduction for mass production.



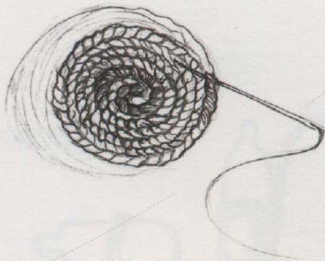


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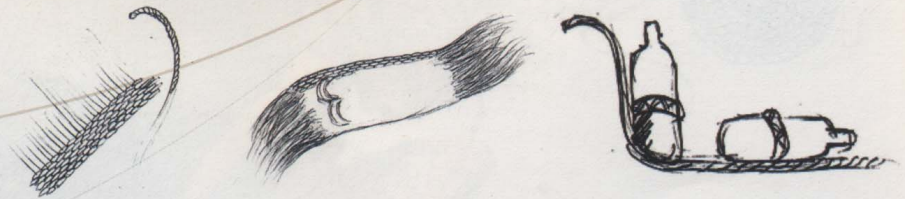
FROM WASTE TO GOLD

Designed innovatively for packing Wedding Cakes, the box takes up an unordinary shape. Like a lotus flower blooming from the mud, the golden boxes for holding wedding cakes is a product out of a waste material. Small in size, yet delicate at touch, these wedding cake boxes will undoubtedly create a great attraction to traditional brides.



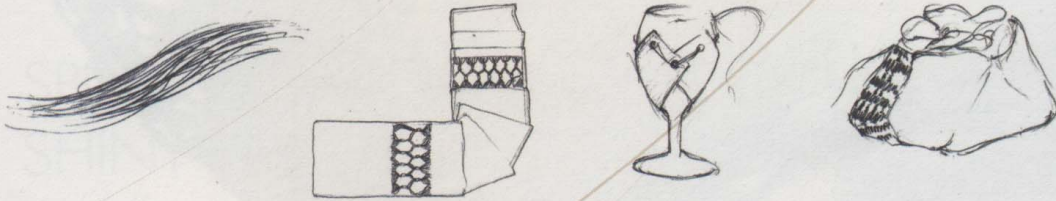


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ESSENCE OF INHERITANCE

A subtly woven packaging, with traditionally inherited patterns and designs, to withhold a collection of Ayurvedic Herbal Cosmetics. The package is an attempt to integrate the traditional inheritances with design innovations, initially inspired by the harmony and compactness of the haying bird's nest. The gift pack is designed in a way that with the gift within, the consumer also inherits a piece of tradition.



THE DRAPE OF ANCESTRY

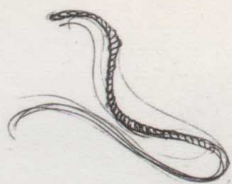
A table dress up kit for Traditional Sri Lankan Weddings. The kit which mainly is a table runner beautified with traditional Dumbara weaving patterns, also consists of goblet decorations and floral decorations to complete the mood of the ceremony. Merging all table decorations to follow a unique theme, the product emits elegance, radiance and heritage, attracting all modern traditional brides towards the theme introduced.



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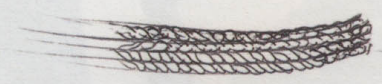


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MIRISSA

SPLENDIDNESS THROUGH SHINY MACRAMÉ

A packaging for food concentrating on the preservation of freshness of its contents, the design uses traditional macramé techniques in order to enhance the air space of the package. The shining quality of the fiber is used to add splendor to the design, and touches of green are used for highlights.





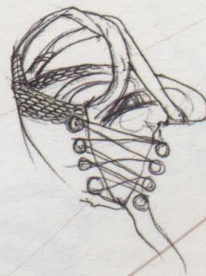
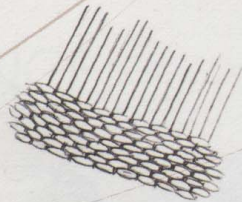
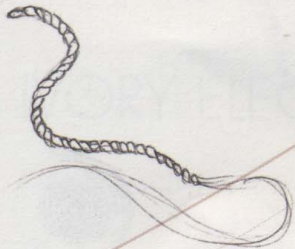
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REALITY

A refillable air freshener container and tissue container, with an elegant design that suits a car's interior design. The spaces in between the woven yarns are designed to balance the fragrance that spreads out of the package. The natural color of the fiber is used to enhance the beauty of the package.

ENCAPSULATING THE ANCIENT ART

A gift package collection for Handloom Saris and Sarongs, targeting the Sinhala and Tamil New Year season. Inspired by the encapsulation of the cotton fiber by the cotton fruit, the neatly woven fabric acts as a casing for the material within. The simple package is woven around the fabric, careful not to disturb the beauty of its contents.



NADUNI HEWAWELEGE

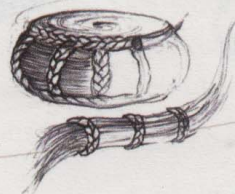
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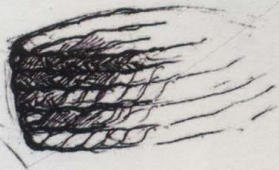
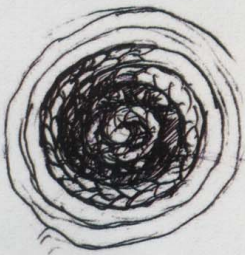
CLIENT - KREATION

ENCAPSULATING THE ANCIENT ART



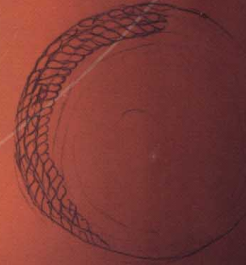
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JWELLERS (PVT) LTD





IVORY ELEGANCE

Clasped within a casket of elegant banana fiber, the jewel inside is given a touch of glamor and elegance. The ivory color adds royalty to the design. The nest of fiber enclosing the jewel-not only protects the jewel but also creates a value addition. By loosening a simple knot, the customer is given a sense of care and protection.



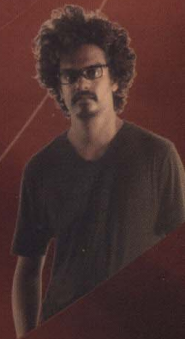
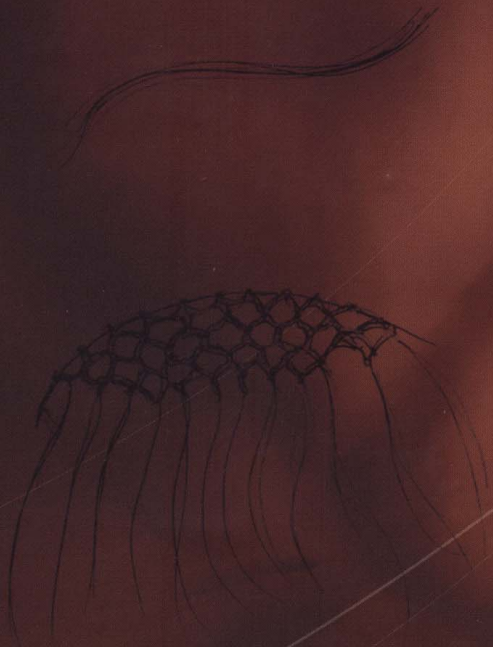
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DAZZLING AERIE

Inspired by the unity and strength of a bird's nest, this range of light fittings nest the sources of light among coils of Banana Fiber Yarns. Taking up simple volumetric forms, these light fittings dazzle the consumer by the warm shadows cast around the room. The atmosphere the design creates not only cheers up the mood, but also spreads a sense of protection by its way of enclosing the light.

BED TIME SILHOUETTES

The simple bed side light fitting is designed with evenly placed knots to cast shadows and silhouettes on the walls around. The soft shadows on the walls are used to emphasize the sleepy mood of the moment.



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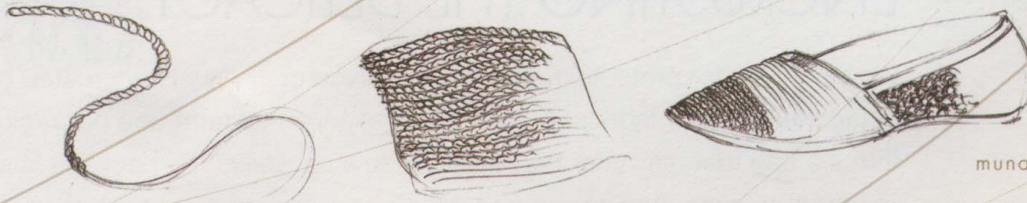
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CLIENT - TEA TANG

A TRACE OF SUPPLENESS

A Series of Gift Packaging for the Export Market of Ceylon Tea, inspired by the synthesis of patterns in a cross section of a Banana Pseudo stem. The form is created emphasizing the supple nature of the fiber, all the while creating an elegant web around the red-brown paper within. The repetition of the closely woven macramé knots on the simple form further contribute to the design of the package, attributing to it a delicate, nature.

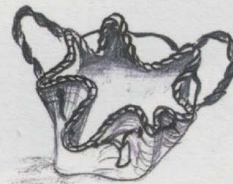
ELEGANCE THROUGH TRADITION

The piece of jewelery embedded in an integration of grace and style captured by a range of covered shoes. The natural color when placed against the skin, creates a look of style and class, uplifting the self-esteem of the user. The combination of traditional techniques of macramé and knitting enhance the value of the product. The sole and parts of synthetic leather used for fine-tuning only emphasize the elegant look of the user.



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ELEGANCE THROUGH
TRADITION



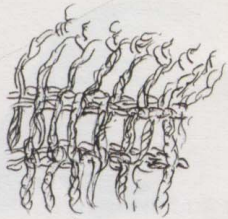
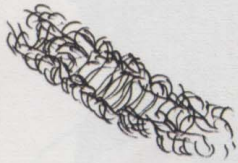
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CLIENT - SOLEE JEWELLERY

ENCRUSTING THE DELICACY

Woven tightly for protection, the delicate piece of jewelry is encrusted by the octagonal piece of fabric. Folded into an exceptional form, the packaging forms a bag that may later be treasured as a souvenir. The package is aimed to attract tourists, adding value to the piece of jewelry from Sri Lanka.

PIYALI

A simple and elegant packaging for herbal oil bottles. Inspired by the structure and formation of flower petals, a collection of crochet petals cover the bottle upwards from the strong banana fiber base. The shiny appearance and rich look enhances the attraction of the users of the hotels it targets.



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CLIENT - KANDOS

TRACE OF TRADITION

A packaging for handmade chocolates, the design follows the ancient practice of wrapping sweet meats with different parts of a Banana tree. A simple mat woven with traditional Tala weaving techniques, the package can be folded into different shapes, accommodating various forms and sizes of chocolates.

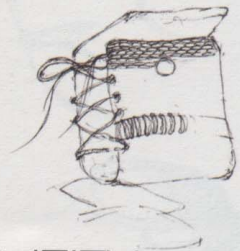
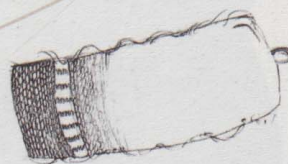
VALUED TASTE

Inspired by the beauty of a bird's nest, the package is designed to contain handmade chocolates. Mainly targeting the Easter festivals, many forms of Banana fiber, sheath and yarns are integrated to embrace the Easter eggs. The natural and handcrafted packaging is used as a way of emphasizing the value of the handmade chocolates.





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TEAS



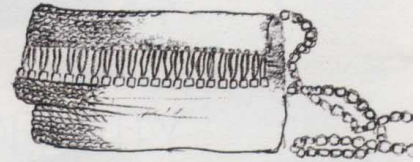
SIMPLY SENTIMENTAL IDENTITY

A gift packaging for Ceylon Tea, designed using traditional Sri Lankan
Designed in four packs to hold four different flavors of tea, this package may
come in 03, 04 or 06 units as demand requires. The simply woven pack is
an expression of our historic identity, emphasized by the simple but historic
Dumbara patterns which add value to its contents.

THE IDENTICAL SENTIMENT

A gift packaging for Ceylon Tea, designed using traditional Sri Lankan weaving patterns. Banana fiber is used as an alternative for the deterioration of the local craftsmanship in Dumbara Villages, while adding value and local identity to the existing pack of Ceylon Tea.





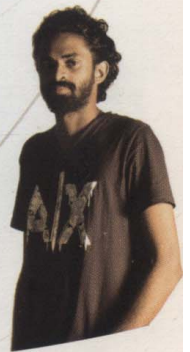
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HANDY CLUTCH

Crafted elegantly to enhance the value, this clutch purse is for the protection of ladies' personal items at occasions. Subtly knitted, the design ensures flexibility of the purse for expansion and also for hiding items. The use of a yarn makes the product more durable, and also crafty. The simple patterns are emphasized using beads, enhancing the crafts value.

DROWNING IN WAVES.

The rhythm of the waves of the raw Banana Fiber recall the forms created by sea waves. Wrapped in this wavy form, the spectacles held are well protected within. A group of thin and smooth fibers weaved together form an ocean of protection for the contents.



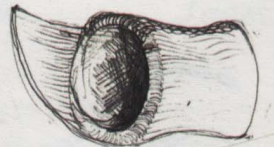
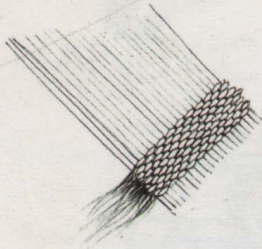
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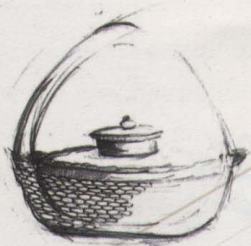
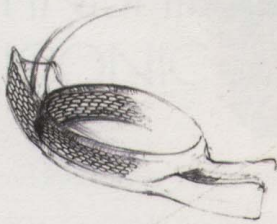
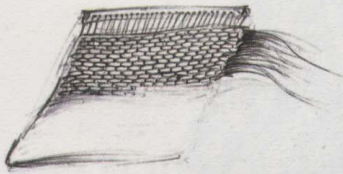


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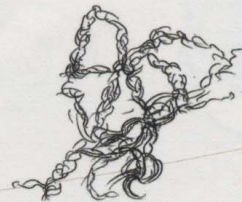
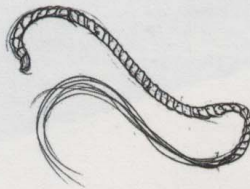
SENSE OF TOUCH

The piece of Jewellery is embedded in an enclosure of subtle and elegant banana fiber packaging, a variety of woven fabric and recycled paper are integrated to enhance the sense of touch. The texture and form are designed in a way that the attention of the customer is captured even before seeing its contents, the form of the package is emphasized by the simple wooden beads used.





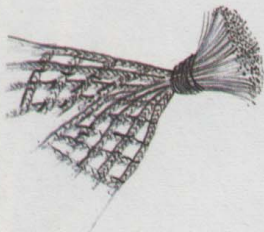
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NATURAL VALUE ADDED FINISHING FOR AN ICONIC FRAGRANCE

An innovative package designed as a secondary gift pack for spices and spice based herbal products. Inspired by the form of a Banana flower, the package takes up a unique form of four crochet petals rising from a square base to embrace the contents. The strength and flexibility of the fiber are highlighted by the crochet patterns selected, adding value to the iconic culture of Sri Lankan Spices.





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GREENLY STRENGTH

A simple basket designed to hold fruits, focusing mainly on the strength of the package. Held together by the four ends, the packaging is a novel introduction to the customers. small traces of color highlight the beauty of the package.



EMBRACING THE GLAMOR

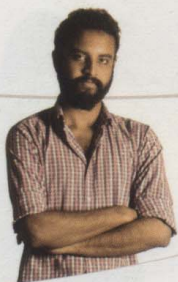
The elegant Banana Fiber wrap designed for the gifting of flowers is a novel introduction to the field. The closely knit fibers provide special care to the flowers by its flexibility and elasticity, also ensuring that the freshness of the flowers are maintained. The natural shading of the fibers used, perfectly emphasize the crimson flowers embraced within its simple design. The emission of fragrance through the careful spacing of the design is impeccable in enhancing the Romance of the moment.



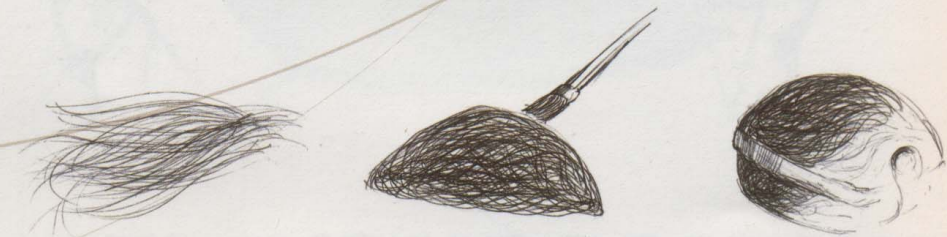
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CLIENT - LASSANA FLORA

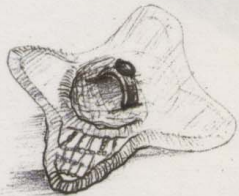
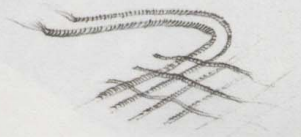


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CLIENT - JAGOTA INDUSTRIES



FIBROUS TRADITION

A handful of raw fibers arranged randomly to form a matrix, bound together by a food grade adhesive, the design provides a well-sealed packaging for jaggery. The use of the raw fiber makes the design industrially effective due to the low cost and effort involved. Inspired by the unique texture and properties involved in felting, the touch and feel of the design have been emphasized by its own texture and feel.



BALMY BLOSSOM

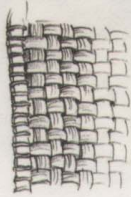
An Aromatic Jewel Wrap inspired by the beauty of a lotus flower, the packaging contains an integration of crochet, knitting and molding techniques. The design is for a unique way of packing jewelry, where the consumer is given a novel experience of the product by the sense of vision, touch and smell combined.



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CLIENT - PREMADASA AND
JEWELLERY



ECO EFFI-CUSION

Layers of Banana Fiber Sheath are joined in creating a cushioning effect for the ceramics within. The purpose served by corrugated boards and bubble wraps are replaced by the raw sheath layered and weaved as in the structure of a mat. The eco-friendly safety package approves of the 3R method, providing an effective and low-cost substitute to the safety packaging industries. The design is beautified using blanket stitches and piping to hold the layers together.



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CLIENT - MIDAYA CERAMICS



SAFE THROUGH A MATRIX

The simple but elegant cover designed for the modern day obsession, the Apple iPhone, is a novel and vital introduction to the market. Designed in a way that does not disturb the existing culture associated with iPhones, the cover provides its safety through a matrix formed by simple crochet techniques. The flexibility of the fiber and the spacing within the knots are used to reduce the effect of heating. The fine and subtle detailing are done in a way that while safety is ensured of the object, the classiness is also upheld.



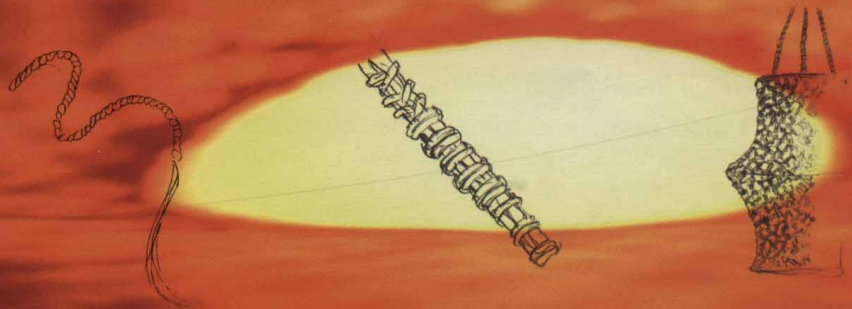
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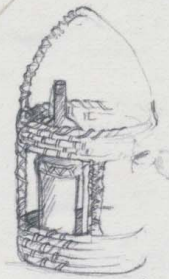
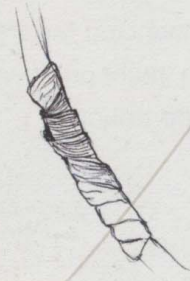
WARM DINING- THE RELISH OF LIGHTING

The light fitting is designed to lighten up the first impression of the consumer. The warmth radiated keeps the user comfortable and cheerful, enhancing the welcoming effect of the building. The crochet and macramé techniques used, cast shadows on the background emphasizing the mood of freedom and relaxation.



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DELICATO CAPATURA

A packaging design targeting the Italian wine culture, this package for Wine bottles is a novel introduction to the market. Light in weight, yet hardy in function, the package acknowledges the flexibility of the fiber in creating the design. Instead of simply protecting the two bottles, this design also adds value to the product widening the target audience.

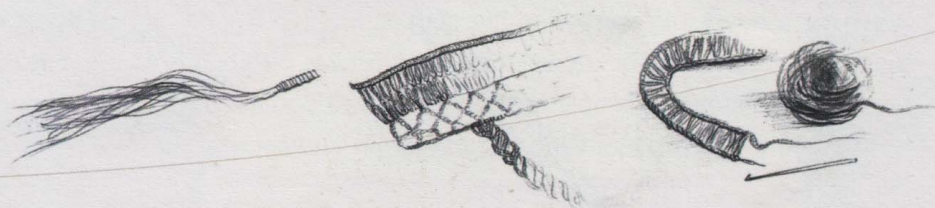
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WORTH TO RECALL

A unique packaging for Kitul Treacle Bottles, designed to uphold the Sri Lankan food traditions. The natural color of the fiber is used for the packaging, creating a contrast with the maroon brown liquid within. The macramé knots leave constant gaps enhancing the transparency of the product, with the intention of ensuring the customer's trust on the product.



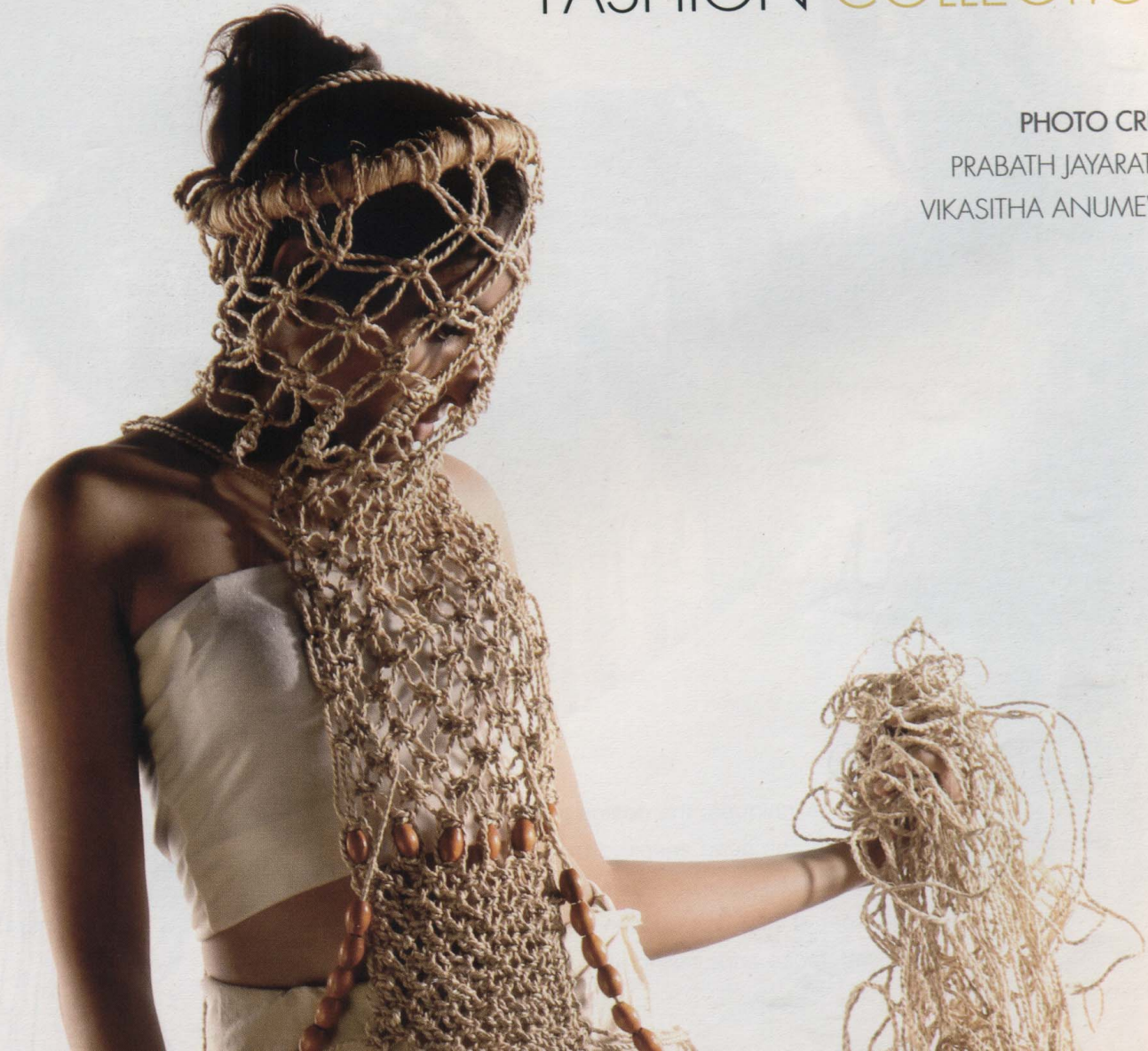
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AVANT GARDE

FASHION COLLECTION

PHOTO CREDITS
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TWISTED SHIELD

An integration of all forms of craft techniques, the design pays special attention to the protection of the head. Inspired by the twisted form of banana flower, the head gear provides a rigid cover-up of raw fiber. The raw fiber is later draped with Maramé knots around the upper body with loose ends falling along the female body contours.

ELEGANCE OF CONTRASTING RANDOMNESS

The folded and knotted Yarns are used as an exaggeration of the messy banana fiber, and placed to contrast with the strands of loose fiber that drip along the masculine body. The gaps created by the knots along the upper torso, provide air space for breathing, all the while shielding the head and the face.





AIR SPACE BUFFERING

The Design uses Massive spaces for air among the waves of Banana fiber, exaggerating the cavities in a Banana Stem. The Buffering quality of these spaces are used to express a feel of Protection and contentment by placing them on a female body.

INFLATE EMBODIMENT

The design is a celebration of masculinity, exaggerating the muscles and other unique forms of the male body. Inspired by the Banana Stem and sheath patterns, the forms are developed using the traditional BEERALU KOTTAYA. The inflated forms on the upper body are used to express the abilities and skilled packaged inside, also providing a balloon of protection.



FIBROUS FATE

Inspired by the potentials of Banana Fiber, the design takes you through a whole process. The mess of fiber covering up the upper head is twisted into thickening yarns, and then knotted into a layer of macramé. The design concludes with an integration of other material like coconut shells, expressing the better chances of survival and protection by unity.



FEATHERING VANITY

The elegant coating of macramé knots run downwards from the head, allowing bigger gaps for breathing when it meets the face. The design runs down the upper body, exploring the female body and its curves and forms. The mixing of wooden beads and the loose ends that weigh down, emphasize the pride and vanity of a woman. The atmosphere created reminds the audience of the protection a gentle feather provides.





GENTLE STRATIFICATION

A delicate layer of macramé knots shield the head and face area, draping downwards along the gentle curves of the female body. The design explores the form further, ending in a bunch of loose ends, gentle yet promisingly protective.

SHIELD OF PRIDE

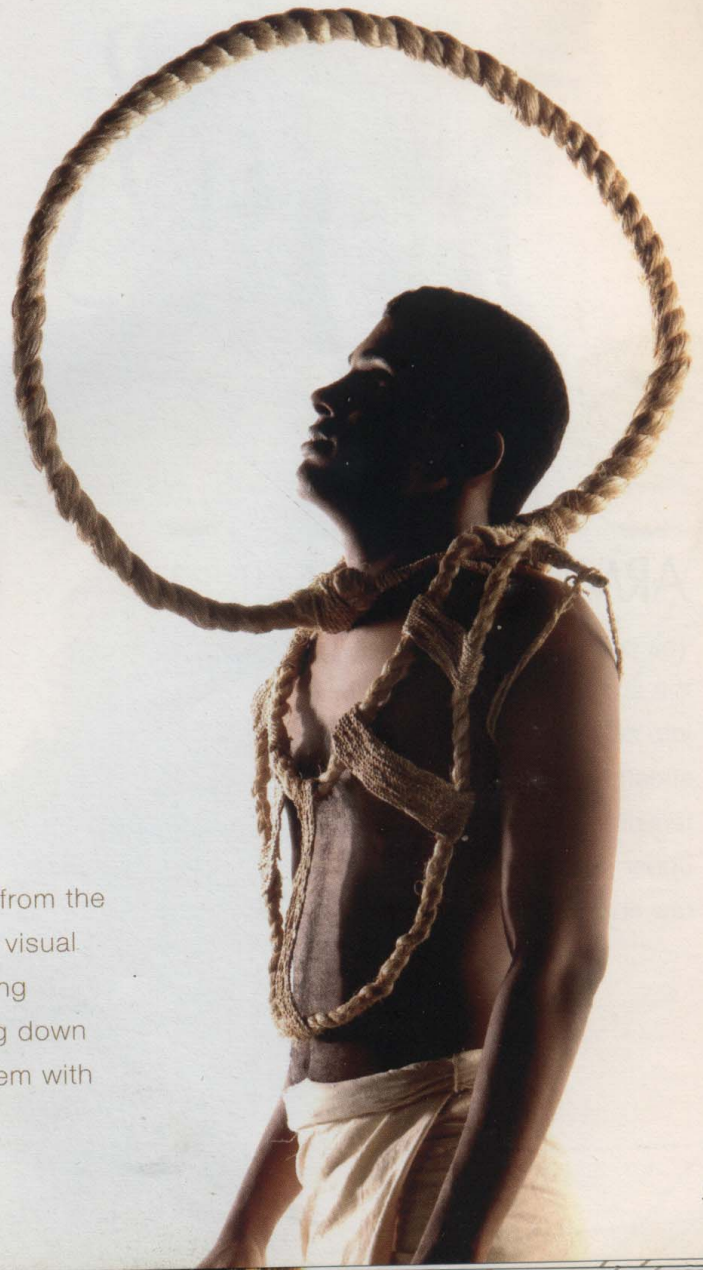
Simply woven with two colors of Banana fiber, the design consists of mainly a head gear and neck gear. The petal-shaped form shelters the head, inspired by the way the Banana leaf shoots out to protect the fruit. The same design covers the neck, with raw fibers draping the chest and back, exhibiting a sense of pride, leadership and royalty.



HIDING IN STYLE

An illusion of segmenting the face by a group of rings running across. The thin, but rigid rings that wrap loosely around the face attribute to the costume a strong, feminine personality. The neck and upper torso are covered by a set of more bendable rings that trickle downwards, connected randomly to emphasize the strength and protection while maintaining a sense of class and style.





BISECTED DISGUISE

The design prominently consists of a thick ring that runs from the back of the neck to the front. It bisects the face into two visual elements, distorting the identity of the model and providing protection through a form of camouflage. The rings falling down from the neck, highlight the body curves and connect them with strips of yarn at pressure points.



ARMOR OF FEMINITY

The protection given for the pith of the tree by the sheaths is repeated in this design. Molded into an armor covering the upper body, the sheaths are used to bring out the look of a feminine warrior. The exaggeration at the upper part is blended gently into the mesh of raw fiber that covers the lower part.



RECURRING FORMS

The same forms are repeated in negative and positive spaces. Inspired by the arrangement of veins on the Banana leaf, layers of fiber are formed into curves covering the head and shoulders of the body. The rings of fiber are of a variety of techniques, ranging from raw fiber to sheath, and to macramé.



ARRANGEMENT

A subtly woven packaging, with traditionally inherited The vertical arrangement of the fibers in a Banana trunk are depicted by the raw fiber layers held between the macramé belts. The layers are placed at intervals such that maximum protection is given to the most important parts of a female body.

REPITITION OF PATTERNS

An armour is created by echoing simple patterns, to shield the head and upper body. Inspired by the repetitive arrangements in the cross section of a Banana trunk, the puffeduot casting adds a sense of pride and capacity to the masculine body it rests on.





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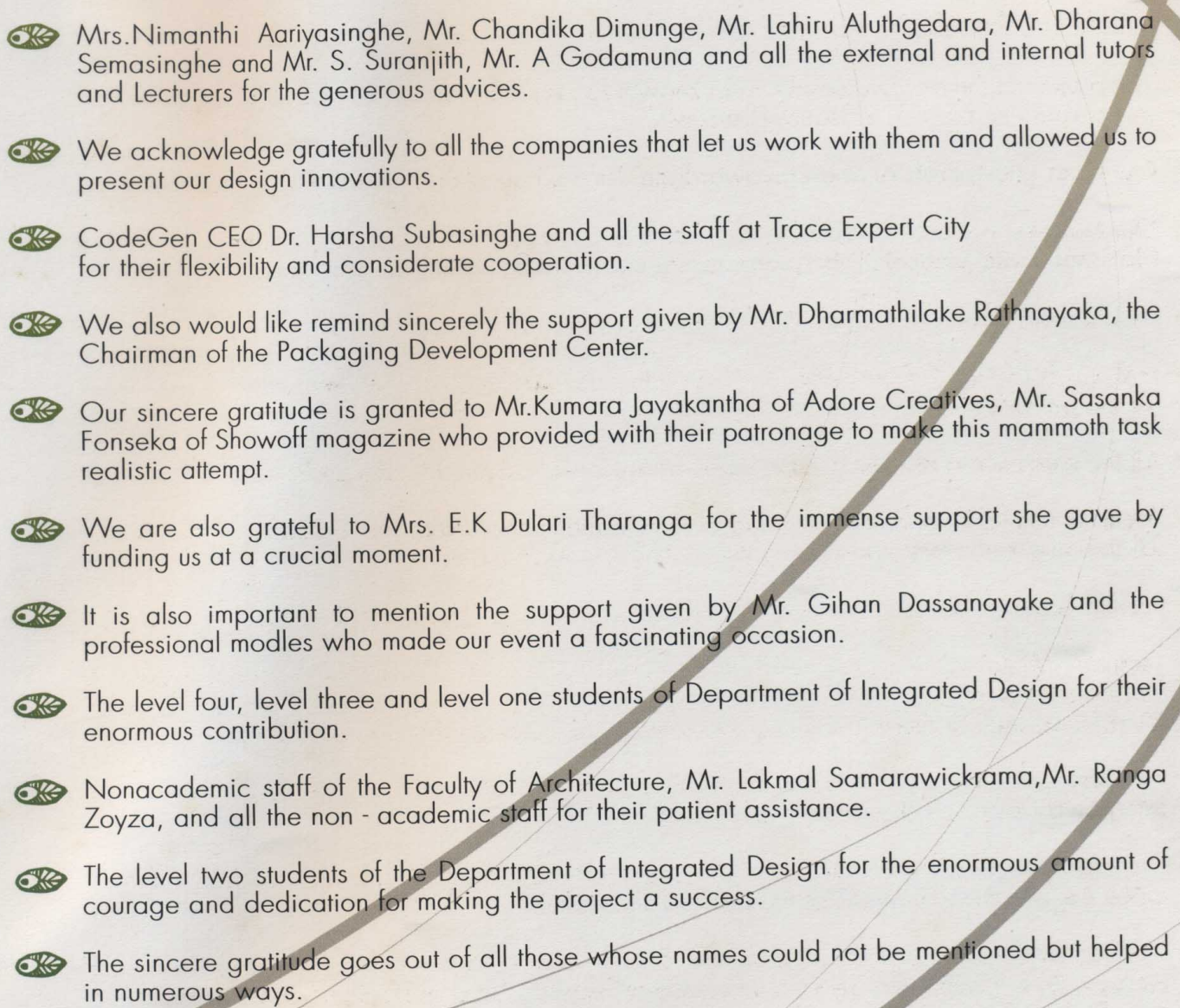











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