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# DECOLONISING FASHION & TEXTILES

TEAM E  
ARTEFACT

# THE TEAM MEMBERS



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*MA Fashion  
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*MA Fashion Design Management*



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**Sahira Khan**  
*Artist & Fashion Designer*



“WHAT IS HOME TO YOU?”



FASHION AND TEXTILE  
ARTEFACTS



# CONTEXT

The project is conducted to honour and celebrate the cultural heritage, and identity of ourselves and the refugee collaborators through an artefact that carries our message of the sense of displacement and belonging.

# RATIONALE

Our artwork is formed by the personal perspective, we use ourselves as references and search for the commonalities between international students and refugees, according to our secondary research which focused on Cross-border Movement, Cultural Adjustment, and Identity Formation (Ward, Bochner and Furnham, 2020).



# RESEARCH METHODS – ARTEFACT RESEARCH



**Ali Ferguson "Stories Uncovered"**



**"Cure Healing"  
Anne Kelly**



**Heidi Parkes & Amanda Nadigart**  
Combine different materials that  
could connect to warm memories



**"Please Rely On"  
Symbol of Home/ Things They Love**

# “THE FEELING OF HOME”

When we move to a foreign country for a specific period, long enough for us to develop feelings like nostalgia and homesickness, then somehow we think about our identity and the cultural diversity among us. This inspired us to come up with the idea of integrating our feelings and perspectives into our artefact, called “The Feeling of Home”. Which was the process of self-healing, when we had a chance to analyse our emotions, our sense of displacement, and belonging throughout the artefact creation.



Digital Sample of Individual Piece



Sketch of Work Plan for the Final Artefact

# THE PROCESS



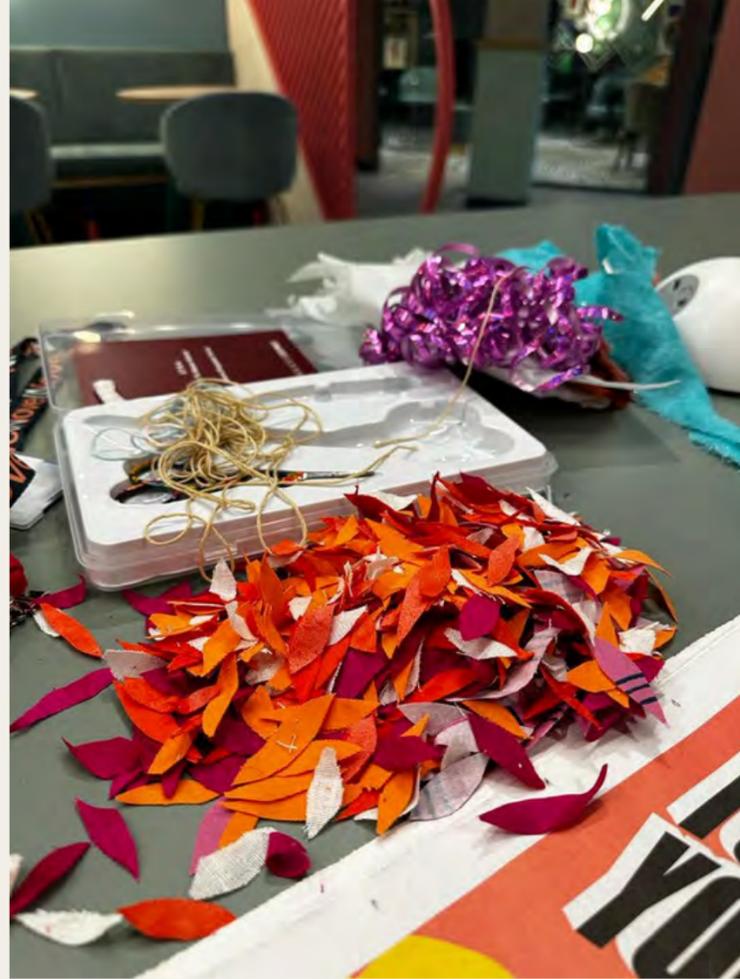
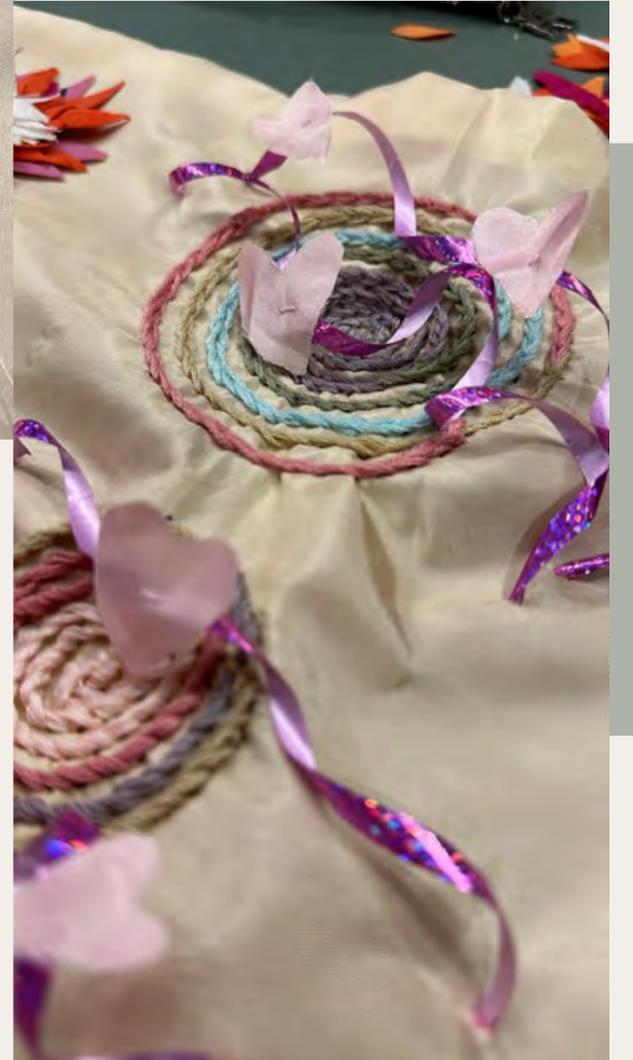
**The team has collected the materials and started working on the creation of the artefact**



# SAHIRA

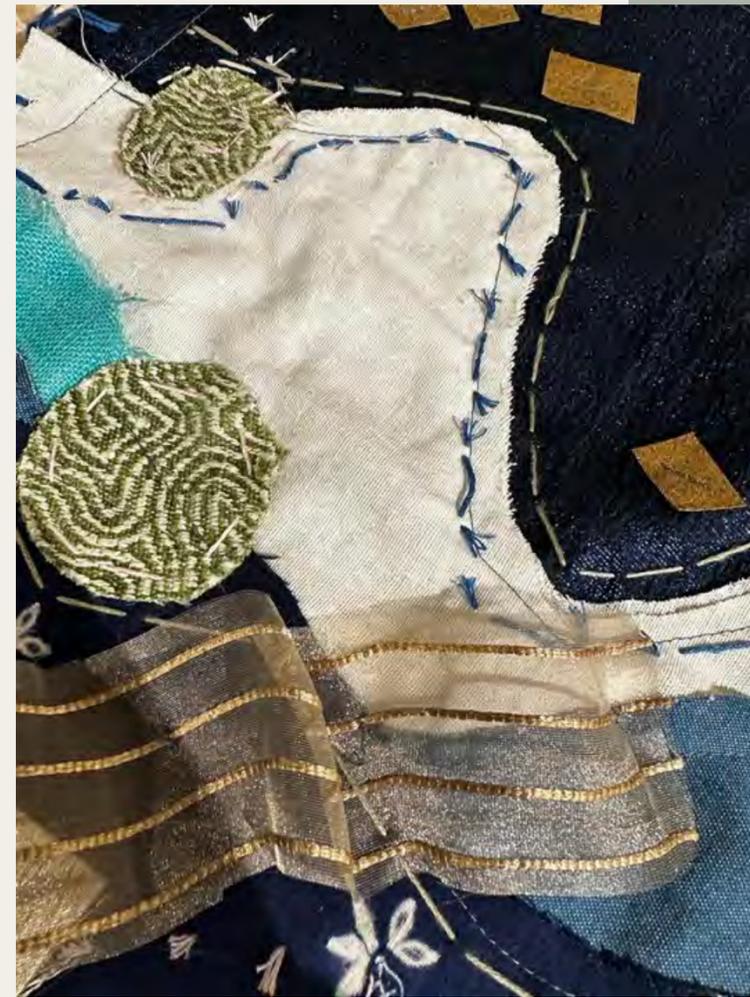
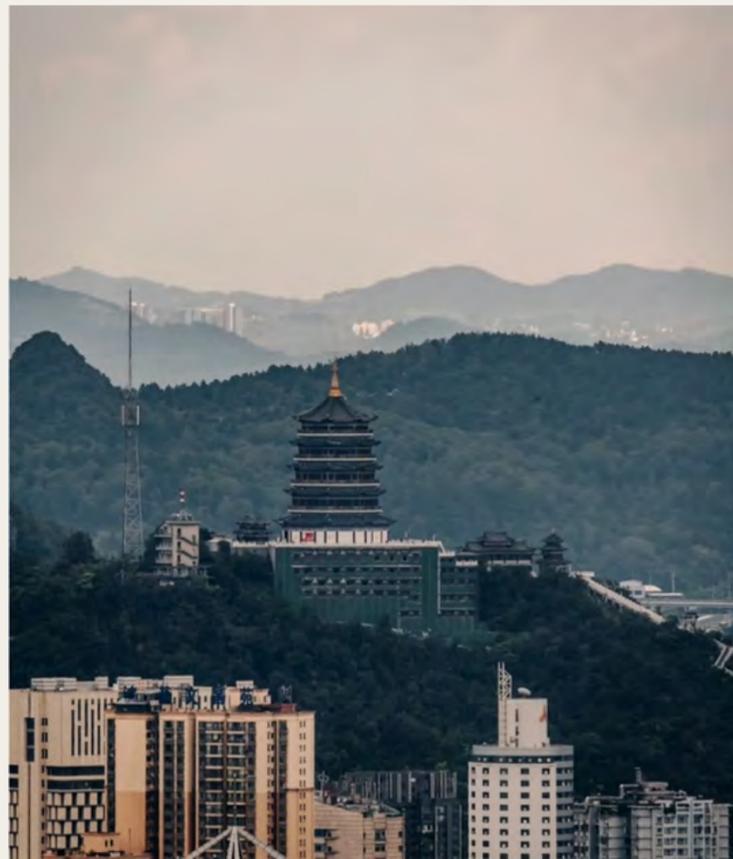
“LIFE IN  
A MAZE”





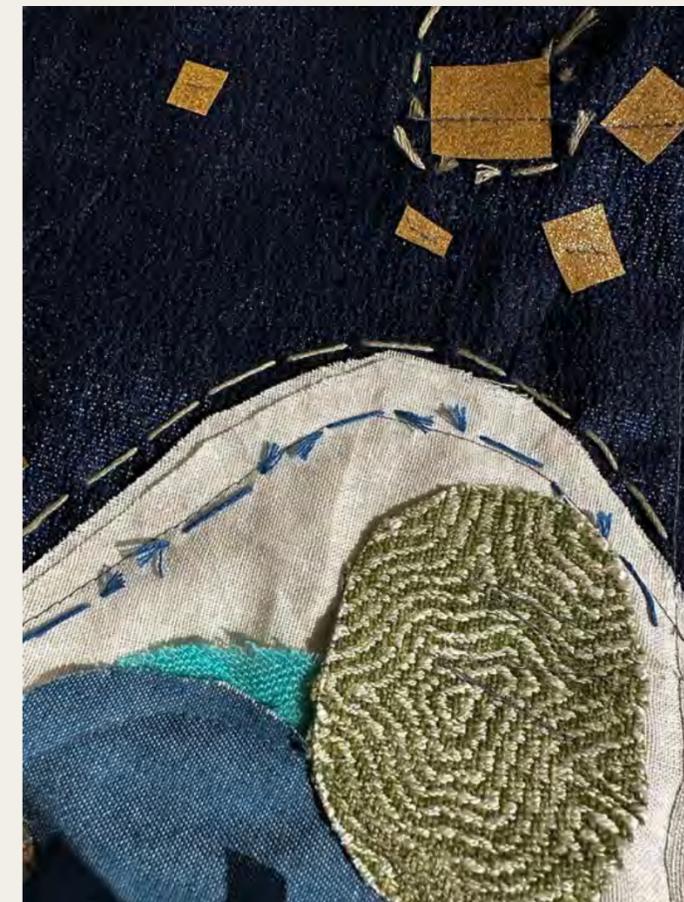
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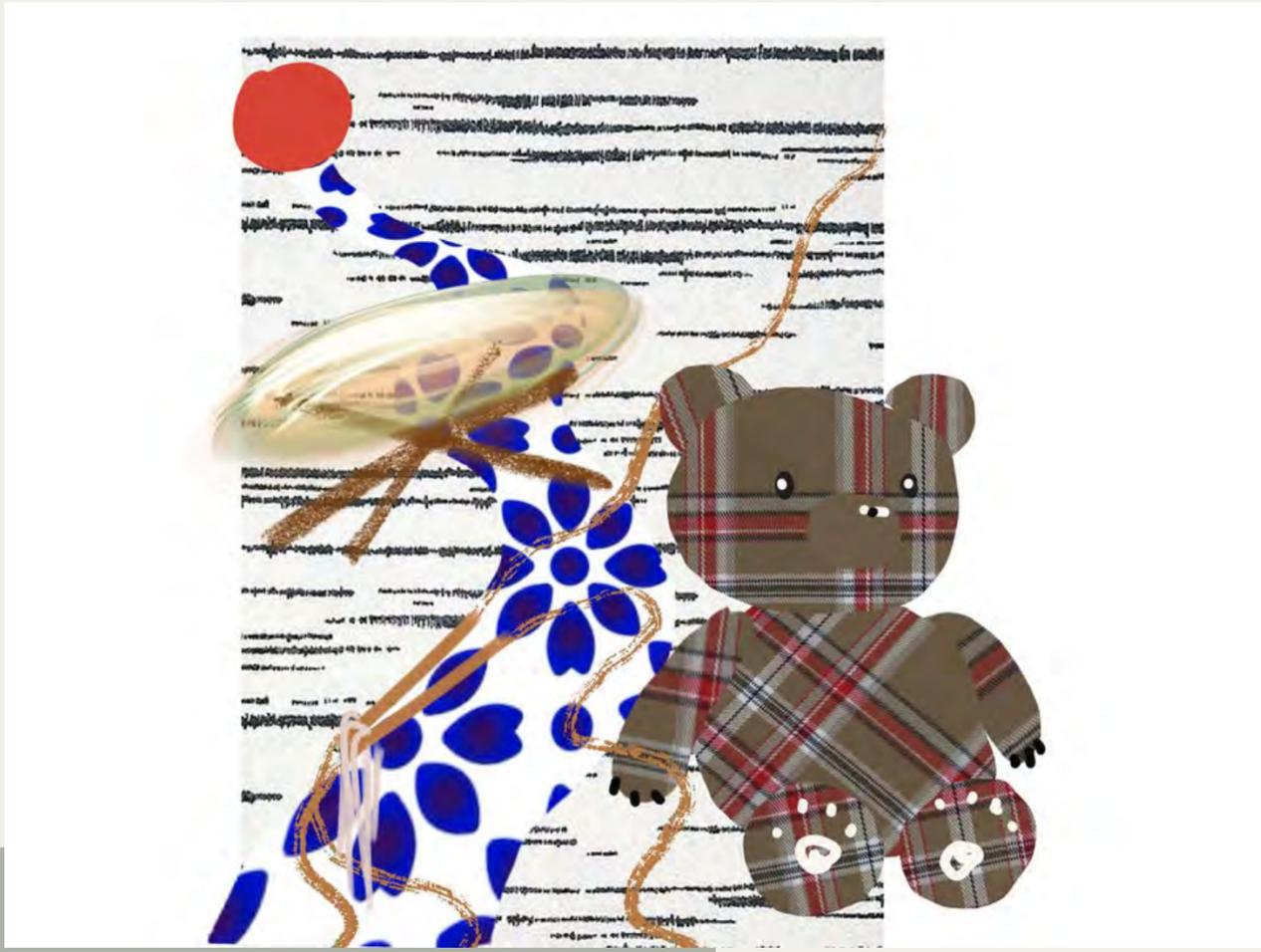
“HOMES”



# GERUI

“MOUNTAINS”

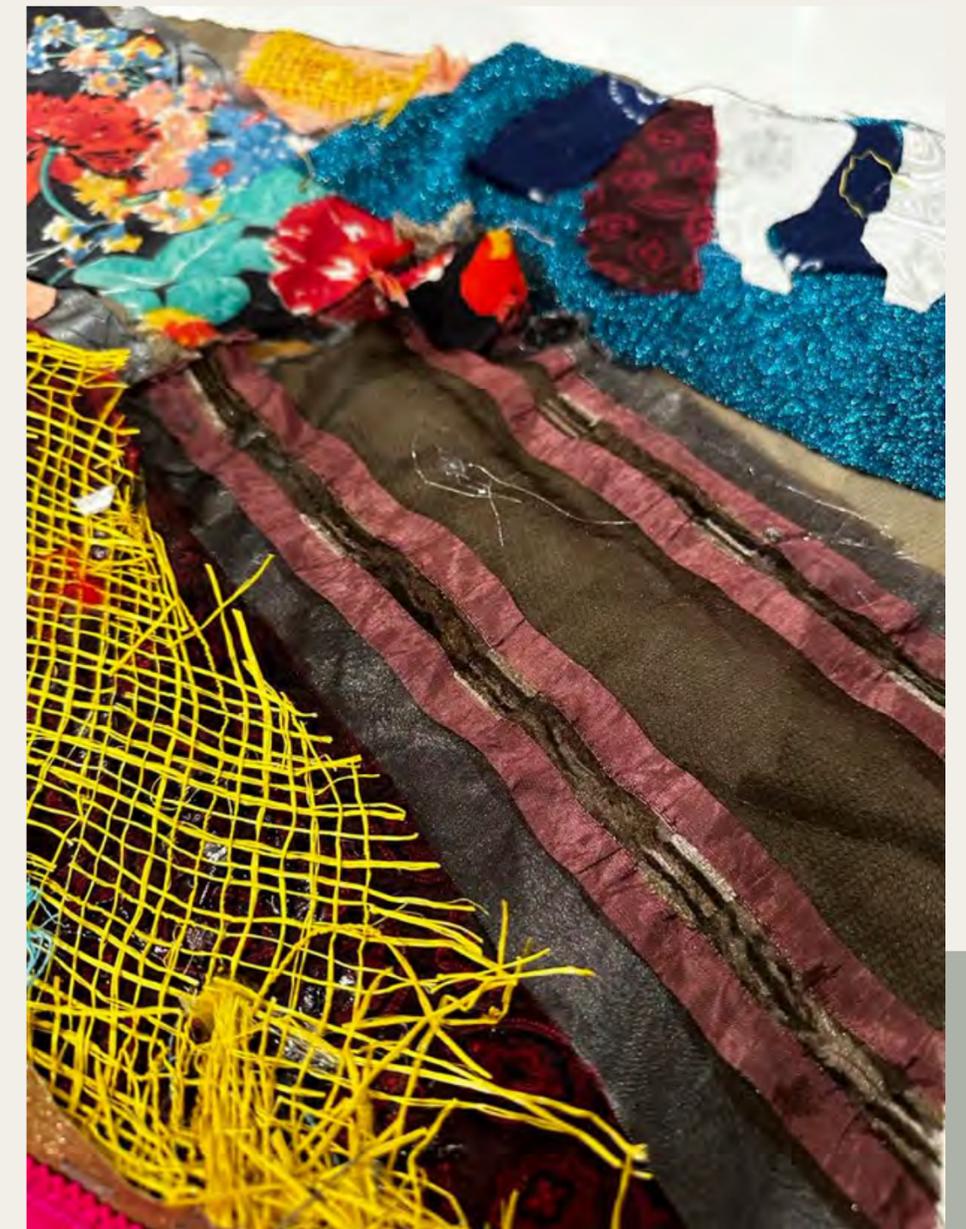
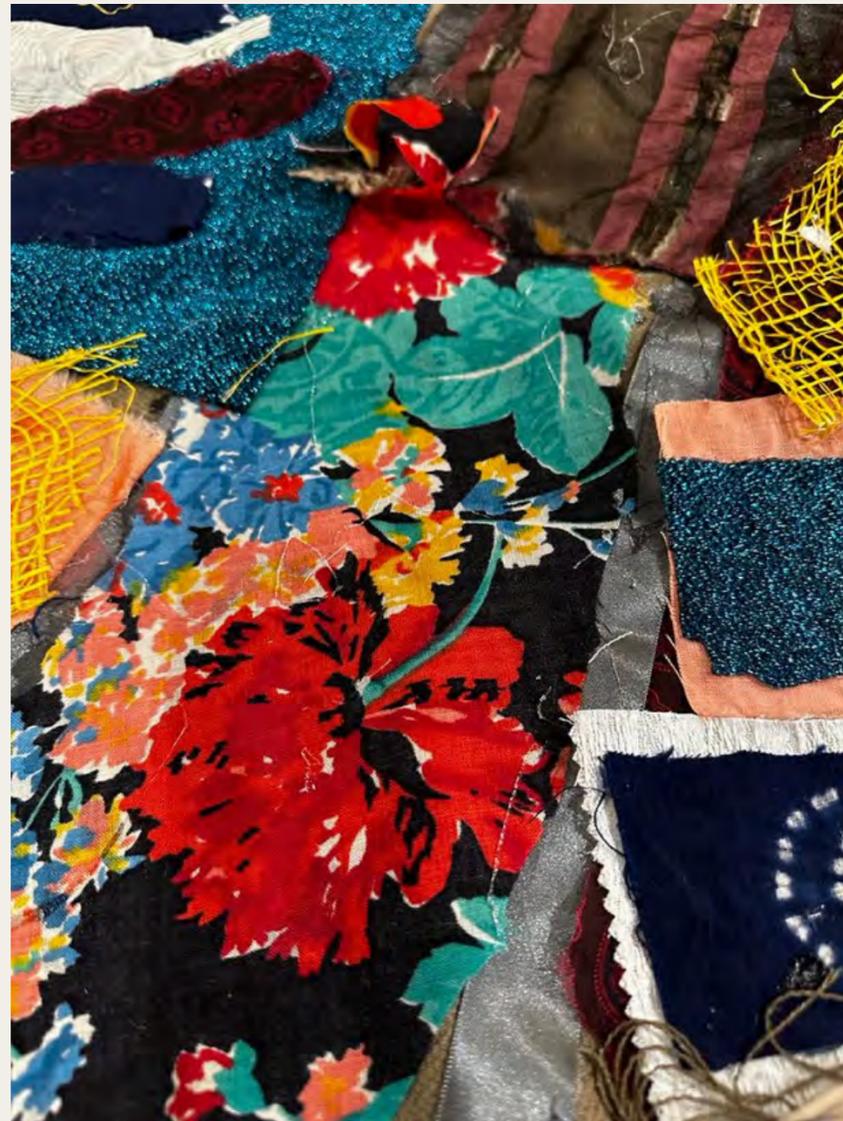
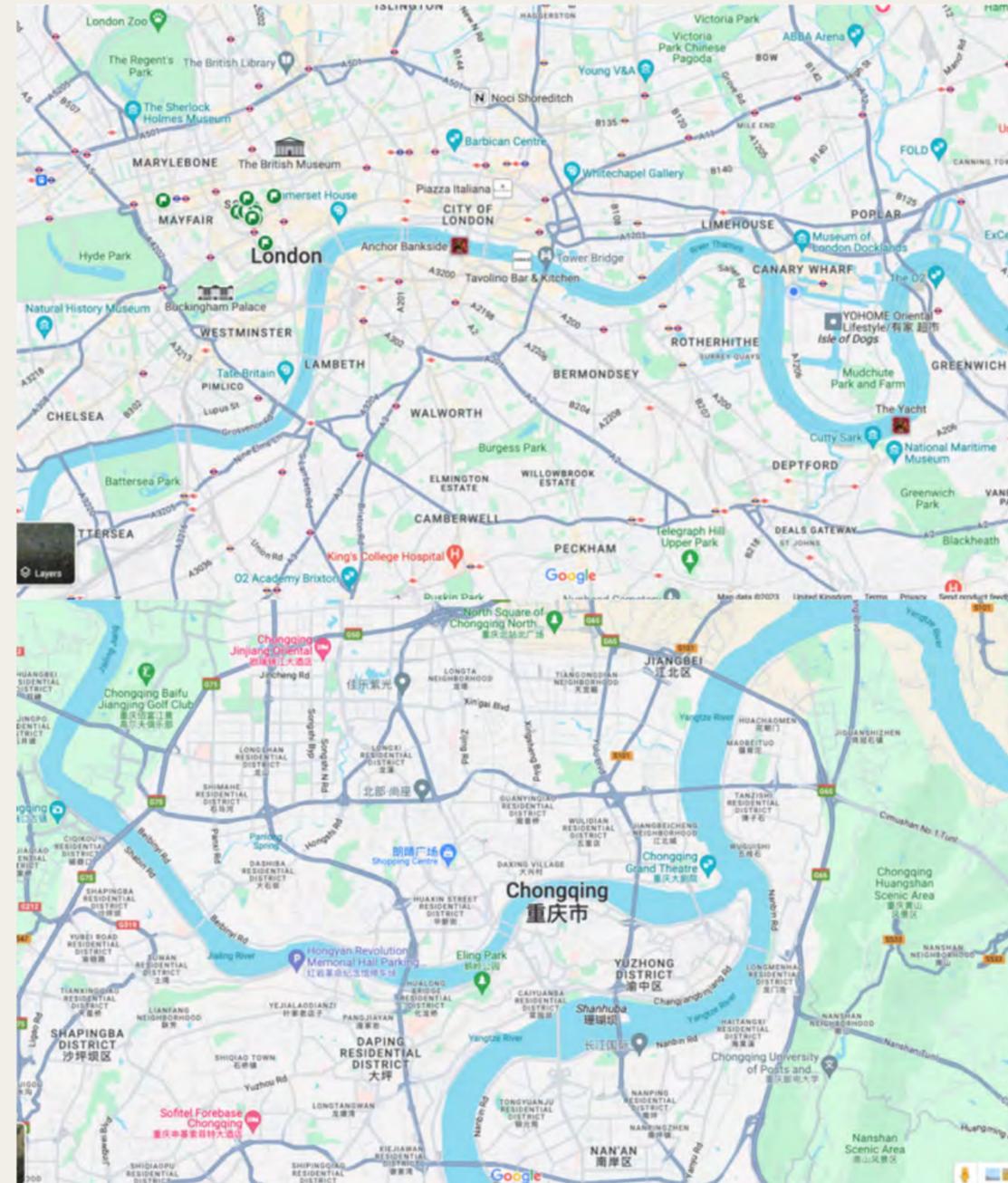




# ZICHEN

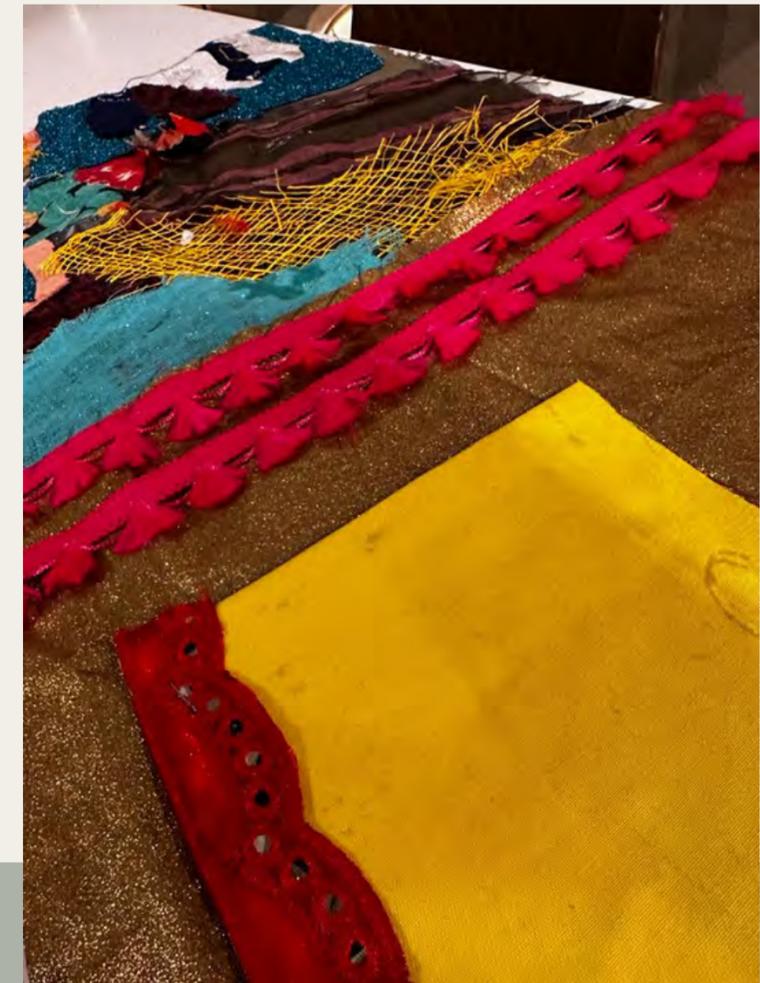
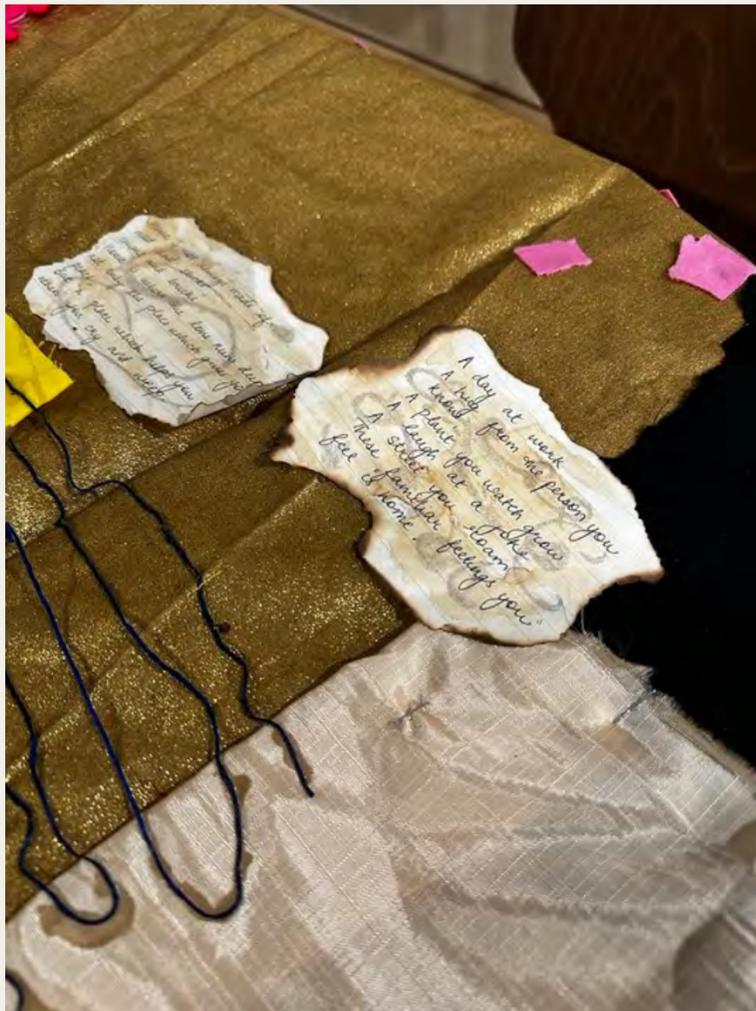
“JOURNEY  
OF  
IDENTITY”

# XINGHAN “BRIDGES”



# AASHVI

“CONNECTION”



# ATTACH ALL THE PIECES TOGETHER



The use of threads to attach all the individual pieces to make a complete artefact is a metaphor for the cross-cultural connection between us, despite our different ethnicities, nationalities, and cultures.



# PROJECT FINDINGS

There were a lot of learnings through the process, about the refugees, their feelings, their cultures, and identities.

Some learning are as follows:

- **Significance of Equality:** The process underscored the crucial role of equality. The absence of equality often leads to experiences of injustice and frustration among refugees.
- **Unlearning and Decolonisation:** The endeavor involved more than just decolonising preconceived notions; it required a substantial amount of unlearning, accepting, and relearning. Specific ideas had to be reconsidered to genuinely understand the experiences of refugees.
- **Challenges of Refugee Life:** As an individual, it was eye-opening to comprehend the challenges refugees face. This includes instances where basic rights to live and survive are sometimes denied, exposing the refugees to a particularly challenging lifestyle. This realisation emphasised the need for empathy and understanding in addressing the difficulties refugees encounter.

**Therefore, we hope that the formation of our artefact can bring out particular emotions that the refugees and international students, or anyone that is living in a foreign country can relate to. Because we can reflect on our feelings and tell our story through the process of creating this artefact.**

# REFLECTIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

## REFLECTIONS

Throughout the entire process, different workshops brought us many new perspectives to better comprehend decolonisation, from involving minority cultural groups in the artistic creation to reading poetry in different languages, all of which helped us understand the power and value of respecting multiculturalism

## LIMITATIONS

- Time Limitation
- Lack of primary research
- Could not reach out to other refugee participants

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Our artefact could be collectivist and allow more refugees and international students to collaborate and co-create to add more pieces to it, by attaching and connecting them to make an evolving artefact

# REFERENCES

Ward, C., Bochner, S. and Furnham, A. (2020) Psychology Culture Shock. Routledge.



THANK YOU FOR  
LISTENING!