

A Study on the Aesthetic Characteristics for Women's Swimsuit Expressed in Transitional Period

(Focused on the Starting 1998 through 2002)

Ryu, Hye-Kyung* · Yang, Sook-Hi**

*Master, Dept. of Clothing & Textiles, Sookmyung women's university

**Professor, Dept. of Clothing & Textiles, Sookmyung women's university

The Purpose of this study is to desire to investigate aesthetic characteristics that appear on swimsuit in the transitional period on basis of modeling and aim development-direction of new swimsuit design that can satisfy various aesthetic value of modern woman.

First, the transitional period brought sudden change to the society, accelerating advancement in a society toward a highly industrialized and information and knowledge based society. This new aesthetic consciousness and advent of new identity have been affecting the full spectrum of our lives including society, culture, arts, and specially the fashion industry leading notable changes in its subcategory, women's swimsuit. Second, after analyzing women's swimsuit in 1998, it has been found that the majorities were bikini swimsuit displaying variations of primary colors, black. The popular bikini were main used Lurex that put in gold thread sporadically and thin leather. During 1999 the majority of swimsuits were achromatic reactionary style with spotted designs. The material was used Lycra and metal. And boding-bags wear popular. In 2000, Halter necks bikinis military-designed with various red and yellow pattern were popular. That swimsuit's material is Polyester and luster things. Accessories such as belts and big ear-ring were also used. In 2001, One-piece style made of metal with bright colors displaying designs of irregular stripes was the major item and big bags was so popular. In 2002, swimsuits that looked like outerwear was popular and the diversity of color increased and brilliant multi color geometrical pattern were used. Starting from knit to Jacquard diverse materials were used with knit bags, belts, sunglasses, etc.

Third, women swimsuits in Transitional Period

showed five distinctive aesthetic characteristics such as romanticity, sexuality, multi-cultural character, functionality, and futurity. In aspect of Romanticity, hot items were splendid flower-patterned bikini style made of Lycra with ruffles and ribbons ornamented to give the feeling of romance. In aspect of Sexuality, animal-patterned bikinis that boldly show breasts. Colors used mainly were black, and strong primary colors were also used. Material used was Lycra and see-through material. Accessories used were to emphasize sexiness so sunglasses and bikinis with metal ornament. In aspect of Multi-culturality, the swimsuit style was a one-piece, and colors were strong with primary colors. Designs were a mixture of ethnic Peijeulri pattern and folk pattern. Accessories were turbans and hand made bags with feathers attached. In aspect of Functionality, One-piece and bikini on active spandex materials and Lycra material that does not change easily by sunlight and water were the main style. Colors are more black and white colors. Designs were mainly stripes and geometrical patterns. Accessories used are sporty bags, watches, cross bags, etc. In aspect of Futurity(head for future), the major style was bikinis futuristic-colored such as silver and white. Designs were symmetric abstract pattern and oblique pattern. Shiny and metallic materials were the main characteristics. Accessories were aimed at making one focus on the swimsuit by bringing attentions to gold ornaments, giving life to the mechanical and futuristic image.

As stated in the above, this research aims to help them to grasp the trends of women swimsuit and to help develop innovative designs.