I make small changes in my creative practice by incorporating more sewing and scraps of fabric into my art making. Incorporating this technique is a positive challenge to my arts practice. Personal changes for me can come in the form of sewing paper or fabric together creating interesting collages in the form of fine art or one-of-a-kind clothing, such as making shoes out of scrap leather or reconstructing an article of clothing. Incorporating this technique is a positive challenge to my arts practice. I have a vest that was made from well-worn, memory filled Ralph Lauren oxfords. Maybe my baby steps of change can inspire Ralph Lauren, the brand, to use their dead stock, make smaller batches of clothes, and lower seasonal production lines. Change starts with me and you.

Vest made from my well-worn Ralph Lauren Oxford shirts.

Remake Our World (https://remake.world/ and on Instagram @remakeourworld), and Global Fashion Exchange (on Instagram at @globalfashionexchange) work as global advocacy groups to gain fair pay and climate justice for workers in the fashion industry. #StopWasteColonialism (at stopwastecolonialism on Instagram) is working to stop the European Union from writing waste colonialism into law. Read the position paper regarding waste colonialism: at https://stopwastecolonialism.org/stopwastecolonialism.pdf and sign the petition to stop the EU!

I reference Chul’s words (and his image) from our interview as my inspiration for higher quality upcycling items.

As I take time to reflect on the work of participants in the various venues, I would like to broach upon the reality of what is happening in the fashion world and how fast fashion is a form of malevolent creativity. Malevolent creativity is the deliberate intention to cause harm in various settings through creative acts.

Wearable Art for a Purpose provides a strong springboard to not only educate, but to inspire and demand change in personal and industry-wide global fashion practices. Below I will point out some of the work inspiring change today.

I challenge you to give up one hour of your life each week to use your voice by writing to your favorite companies to demand transparent industry-wide changes and thank those enacting change. Use your money to buy from companies who use renewable sources, pay living wages, support transparent environmental change, and contribute to real examples of human dignity. Be selective and buy clothes that are Farm-to-Closet, second hand, or craft your own from dead stock fabric or used clothing.

Learn more about the impact of fast fashion, how you can contact companies, and how you can redesign global fashion markets. Educate yourself on how you can be the change.

Where do your discarded garments go? Read about it in this article.

https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2023/jun/05/yvette-yaa-konadu-tetteh-how-ghana-became-fast-fashions-dumping-ground (this is a link to the full article that uses the photo and graphic)