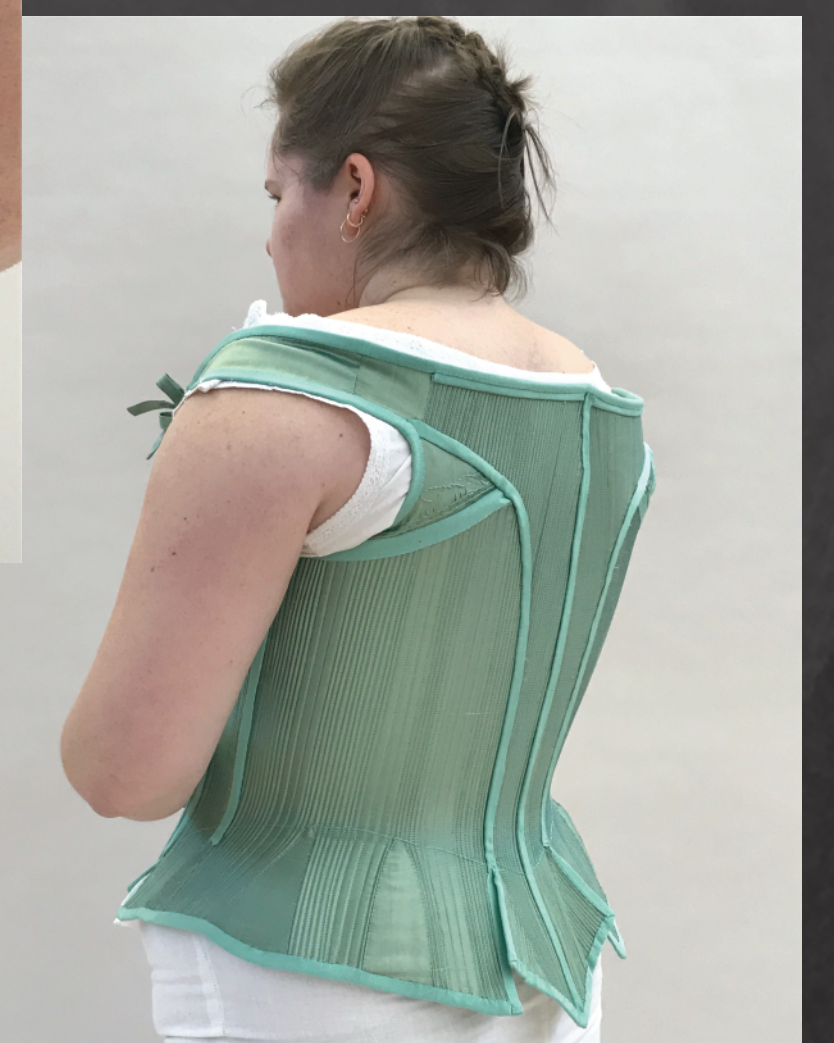
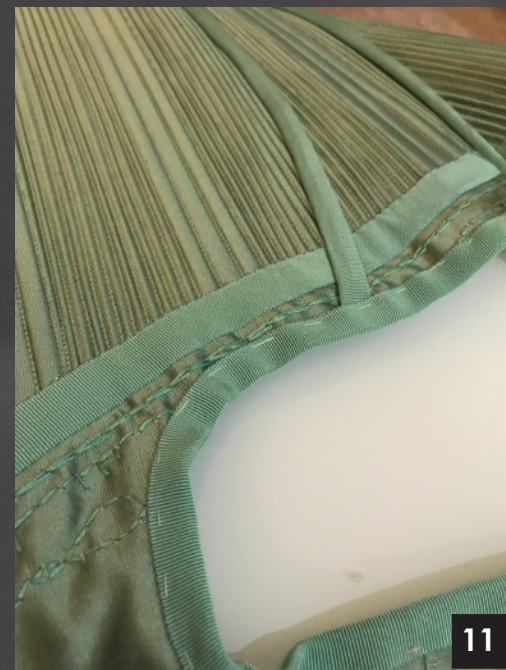


STAYS & BUSK

Advanced Couture Corset Project: Fall 2017

I copied this 17th century from the V&A, using a pattern that is available from the original garment that I sized it up to fit me. The mock up I made was of canvas and trimmer line in place of the baleen (2). I found it was easiest to stitch the bones into the channels with a zipper foot rather than try to stitch all the channels first. My first mock up had the seam allowances on the outside for ease of change if needed (3). For the second fitting I changed out some of the bones to help support the shape. While some of the bones are traditional white steel there are some that are synthetic whalebone. Second fitting was done seams for a cleaner look (4).



After some tests on the best way to finish the seams I decided to follow the traditional way the seams were sewn. In this method the seam allowances of each piece are folded in before the top and bottom layers are stitched together (5). With the seam allowances folded back I stitched each one of the bone channels. The synthetic whalebone I used in the majority of the corset was smaller than the trimmer line of the mock up so there were more channels in the actual corset (6). A grosgrain is added to the top of each section where the bones stop to reduce ability to poke out (7). Seams done by stitching each side to a grosgrain and then stitching the back of the seam by hand so they abut (8 & 9). Before finishing the binding I did a fabric fitting to make sure there were no changes (10). All of the edges around the corset are bound in one long piece of grosgrain (11).