

It was three weeks before the show, and I had no clothes. I had to figure out what to do. I ended up hiring someone to sew for me and make the first patterns.

You drew the designs?

No. I never learned how to draw. I found other garments that were similar, that kind of got me close.

What do you mean other garments?

Things that were in stores. That were similar to what I was thinking.

You bought these clothes?

Yes, and I said to Gail, the woman who was making the patterns, it's kind of like this, but the neck is more like that, and it's a little longer, or it's a little shorter, it's a little wider, it's got a long sleeve or a shorter sleeve or something like that. It was going off of something that existed.

-- Eileen Fisher in conversation with Janet Malcolm, "Nobody's Looking at You," *The New Yorker*, September 23, 2013