

CREATEX Textile Heritage Inspiring Creatives

Prato | Gironella | Łódź | Boras | Santo Tirso



Co-funded by the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union







Fondazione Museo de Tessuto di Proto





Nordiska Textilakademin



Akademia Sztuk Pięknych im. Władysława Strzemińskiego w Łodzi





### Introduction

### **Textile Heritage Inspiring Creatives – Createx Project**

The European Project "Textile Heritage Inspiring Creatives – Createx" was co-funded by the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union, aimed to promote the cultural heritage of the European textile sector as a potential source of creative inspiration for tomorrow's designers and their future productions.

The project's partners, coordinated by the Museo del Tessuto in Prato -Italy, were five institutions located in areas that feature a profound textile vocation, including Santo Tirso in Portugal, Gironella in Spain, Łódź in Poland, and Borås in Sweden, all members of ACTE, the "European Textile Collectivities Association" (www.acte.net).

The project's work plan included the following activities:

- local workshops to raise awareness of the conservation and promotion of local textile archives, testing and proving their usefulness as sources of inspiration for contemporary design;
- creation of an online digital archive comprising approximately 800 examples of textiles, garments and accessories stored in partner territories within several museums, company archives and training institutes. The digitalisation process saw the adoption of the Heritage Manager open source cataloguing software, made available by the Museo del Tessuto for the project, as well as for any future activities;
- 5 open calls aimed at selecting designers under the age of 30 to participate in a creative residency programme in the partner territories, carried out between June and September 2019;
- realization of mini collections created by the selected designers who drew inspiration from the digital archive and their creative residencies. The mini collections produced within the Project activities are presented in detail in this catalogue;
- organising a final conference and a final exhibition of the mini collections, held between December 2019 and January 2020 at the Strzemiński Academy of Fine Arts Łódź;
- creating the present catalogue.

The proposed approach was focused on raising awareness and strengthening archive conservation skills, offering innovative design experiences to young designers who were inspired by the innovative reading of archival materials and the acquisition of skills and services leading to possible new market opportunities.

Project Reference: 595936-CREA-1-2018-1-IT-CULT-COOP3 Period: September 2018 – February 2020 Budget: Euro 330.000/EU co-financing (60%): Euro 198.000

> Filippo Guarini, Createx Project Manager and Director of Prato Textile Museum

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# CREATEX Textile Heritage Inspiring Creatives

# Museo del Tessuto in Prato, Italy



Museo del Tessuto in Prato is one of the largest centres in Italy for the study, conservation and exhibition of historic and contemporary textiles.

The museum is located in the former Cimatoria Campolmi factory. The building, situated inside the medieval walls of the city of Prato, is an important example of industrial architecture measuring 8500 square metres.

The core of Museo del Tessuto was formed in 1975. Since then, the collections have continued to grow and, nowadays, they constitute an internationally important heritage. Textile art is documented from pre-Christian times to the current day, illustrating various manufacturing techniques.

The collections include ancient and contemporary textiles, garments, accessories, sample books, textile instruments, and machinery.

The mission of Museo del Tessuto in Prato is implemented through research, exhibitions, educational activities, conferences, and cultural initiatives to promote and communicate textile heritage.

An important part of this mission focuses on all the activities that enhance Europe's textile heritage as a source of inspiration for the contemporary fashion industry, as an added value and quality of new brands and products. In order to reach this aim, the museum participated in several European projects within an international partnership of textile and fashion museums, archives, design schools and universities, and research centres.

museodeltessuto.it



Createx Creative Residency in Gironella, Spain



# **Camilla Carrara** 30/01/1991

Quality, traceability and transparency, yarns created from wool production waste, PET bottles and zero-waste patterns. This was the principal concept of my Zerobarracento collection. Prato with its historical connection to wool recycling was fundamental and made me focus on the idea of sustainability and create large volumes inspired by shapes from the archive. Then the Catalonia residency, what a stunning experience we had! We got a chance to visit fascinating textile colonies and inspiring fashion and design museums.















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Createx Creative Residency in Gironella, Spain



# **Giulio Morini** 28/05/1995

I took inspiration for my collection from a fabric designed by Gio Ponti in 1932 included in the online database of Createx Project. By analyzing the archival works of the artis, especialy those created in the 1930's, I was able to develop a project rich in poetic and cultural references. The Createx Project also allowed me to deepen the cultural research process, my love for fashion heritage and understand how to improve the communication of a fashion collection.

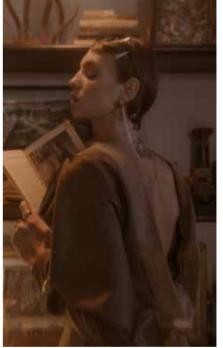




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PRATO

**Createx Creative Residency in** Gironella, Spain



### **Andrea Sebastianelli** 10/05/1992

The velvets I designed feature patterns derived from Createx archive and other visual elements as a reference to the history of velvet. Traditional design elements, color and texture, are used as tools to both testify the heritage common thread of all Heritage Manager collections and to evoke the symbolic, economic and social impact of velvet textile in history. The overall project I developed is a visual research based on stratification of motifs through time creating an analog framework from which the users would be able to experience the archive in their daily life.













PRATO

## The City Council of Gironella, Spain

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The City Council of Gironella is a local public authority. Its function is to provide services to its citizens. Gironella is a municipality with a rich social and cultural life supported by the City Council mainly in collaboration with local associations.

Gironella is located in the north of the province of Barcelona, in an area called Berguedà, in the Pyrenees with 4.829 inhabitants. The municipality has a medieval historical heritage and an important industrial heritage: the textile colonies.

The aim of the town hall is to reconvert the architectural heritage of the colonies for dynamic use of existing cultural activities as well as the promotion of industrial heritage. This will provide sources of inspiration, promotion and innovation of contemporary art as well as strengthen the interactions between the heritage, cultural and creative sectors.



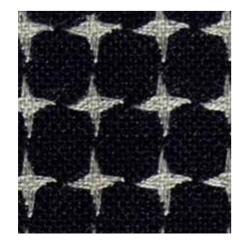
### Createx Creative Residency in Łódź, Poland

**INSPIRATION** I was inspired by factors related to my nearest environment, Gironella and Catalonia. The style of the collection can be defined as 'Catalan fashion today'. The material, cotton, which has been produced for many decades in the industrial zones of the town, was a clear choice for the collection. The colours are also related to the industrial zones of the town, the textile factories where nowadays grey and black tones can be found. The collection could not go without a bit of yellow which unfortunately accompanies the Catalans today.

# Queralt Portell 22/12/1996

### EXPERIENCE

The whole experience has been enriching and positive for us as designers. We had to design various pieces looking for inspiration in our nearest textile environment. During our stay in Poland and the Academy of Łódź I observed different techniques and methodologies which helped me to finish defining the project. We also visited museums and art-related places to enrich ourselves personally. In the final stage we finished defining the designs by using all the previous experiences, made the patterns of different pieces, went shopping for clothes that would suit the idea of the project. Finally we put the finishing touches and took photos to give a more global view of the pieces, placed in an environment where the general concept could be understood. The photos were taken in an industrial area of Gironella, by whose different textures and colours I was inspired.



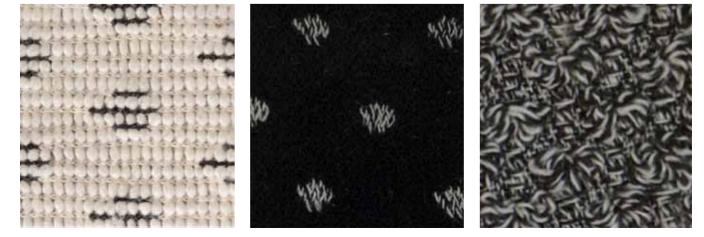












**Createx Creative Residency in Łódź, Poland** 



### **Paula Trasserra** 16/04/1999

The Createx collection is inspired by the fabrics digitised by the partners. I chose those fabrics which appealed to me. After choosing the fabrics and paterns I drew first sketches to get the colours and textures I wanted to have in my pieces.

The pieces are made of brass, preserved flowers, resin and paint. All the pieces are created with the same materials, playing with the design made out of the sketches. The combination between the colors and shapes for this collection had the same inspiration: nature.

















# The Strzemiński Academy of Fine Arts Łódź, Poland

ŁÓDŹ

Łódź was founded in 1332 as an agricultural village and became a city in 1434. Until 1989 Łódź was the centre of Polish textile industry. Nowadays Łódź is a modern academic city where six public and twenty two private higher education institutions are located.

The Strzemiński Academy of Fine Arts Łódź is one of the public higher education institutions. It was established in 1945.

Faculty of Textile and Fashion

In 1988, in recognition of Strzemiński's merits, the school was named after him. It was officially recognized as one of Poland's seven state art academies in 1996. Its new, modern building was erected in 1976 – its recognizable architectural style is now one of the Academy's trademarks and an important city landmark.

The Faculty of Textile and Fashion educates designers and artists in all the areas of textile and fashion: clothing, fabrics, printed fabrics, jewellery, footwear and leather articles. It is the oldest and biggest Faculty of this type in Poland.

Aims of education:

To train highly qualified specialists in the area of design and research, guaranteeing the proper cultural outcome of industrial production. Graduates should be able to design utility processes, forming and satisfying human needs. The faculty pursues a new approach to the educational process, paying special attention to students creativity and activities concerning the relationship between function and form.

Since 2017 it has organized the annual international contest Łódź Young Fashion whose main prize is 30.000 EUR. Since 2010 it has been the organizer of the international contest Young Textile Art Triennale.

In 2017 the Faculty of Textile and Fashion received the highest rating from the Minister of Science and Higher Education.

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ÓDŹ

**Createx Creative Residency in Santo Tirso, Portugal** 



### **Aleksandra Bonikowska** 3/07/1995

I was inspired by traditional patterns and ornaments of women's clothing and hats. My interior furniture shows the artistic potential of my region. It combines creativity and innovation with tradition. I made my puffs the same way people in Opoczno sewed their costumes a century ago. The upholstery was woven on a foot - treadle operated loom. I am proud because almost all of my furniture is handmade in Łódź and it has a soul unlike goods made by fast fashion industry. The dark green hue, traditional for Opoczno, is a base of my collection. Bright colourful stripes add a typical Polish pattern. Details play a big part in the project, so my furniture has multicolour, handmade pompons. The puffs look good in vintage or retro interiors but can work as an interesting accent in modern spaces. They are perfect for a living room but can bring a Polish touch to a home office or bedroom.









ŁÓDŹ

**Createx Creative Residency in Santo Tirso, Portugal** 



### Weronika Cudna 16/11/1999

The collection is mostly inspired by Polish folk culture. In my projects I combine what is most valuable in it and transfer it into a modern dimension full of lightness, transience, with the emphasis on the beauty of the human body.

By definition, silhouettes are not perfect. They are frayed and can be considered unfinished. Their role is to emphasize delicacy and unity with nature.

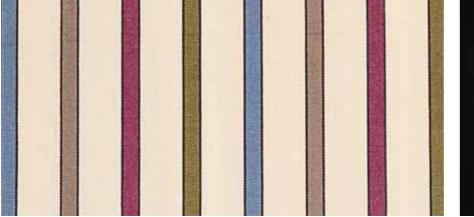
All elements of the collection were made by hand.













ŁÓDŹ

### **Createx Creative Residency in Santo Tirso, Portugal**



## Maria Hrokh 12/03/1996

My collection of printed fabrics was inspired by the traditional clothing of the Łowicz region, mainly colors (yellow, blue, orange, pink, dark red, green). I was excited by that simple but at the same time gorgeous combination of colors. The collection consists of five fabrics. Their main characteristics are traditional colors and geometric patterns.

For me simple geometric elements and vivid colors are also associated with the "Boho style" and hippie clothing. These 5 fabrics are combination of folk, historical patterns with more recent trends in fashion and art. These fabrics can be used for clothes, furniture, accessories as well as for interior decoration. They will suit modern interiors perfectly, bringing warmth and comfort. Patterns can be printed with the help of various printing techniques and on different fabrics (natural and synthetic), depending on the further use.

Based on drawn sketches projects are made using Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator.











# The Nordic Textile Academy, Borås, Sweden



BORÅS

Welcome to the Nordic Textile Academy.

Our mission is to increase the profitability and competence of Swedish textile companies through cooperation, advice, and education.

The Nordic Textile Academy conducts education within the textile areas. Everything from design, buying, sales, quality management, and sustainability. We hold ourselves to a high standard in order to provide the industry

COMPRNY

with skilled professionals and we are well established amongst companies in the industry. Our internship and work placement programs often lead to employment for our students immediately after graduation.

Vocational college The Nordic Textile Academy offers two-year vocational college programmes which supplies the textile industry with skilled professionals. The degree awarded upon completion is a Higher Vocational Education. The course content is directly adapted to the industry's needs, where we teach by linking theory with practical work. This combined with the applied knowledge of internships and continuous business partnerships provides the students with major competitive advantages towards employment and allows students to gain all the tools they need to be employable and competitive.

### nordiskatextilakademin.se

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### Createx Creative Residency in Prato, Italy



# **Caisa Ericsson** 2/10/1996

From the very beginning my inspiration came from patterns that reminded me of how animals look, move and sound. The fluffy kimono with a hoodie is inspired by one of the outfits I made when I first entered this competition - which was much more extravagant. I chose to make three wall hangings inspired by The Createx Heritage Manager Database, with dimmed and earthy colours. Together these pieces work as a whole. The kimono is all hand-sewn. I've mixed materials - light and heavy, to create a contrast. The thin materials were kindly given to me by the Swedish company FOV Fabrics AB, and had just the right airy touch to them! The prints and patterns are hand made on the computer - line by line - and then machine woven. During this experience I've learned a lot and been given so much inspiration for my future journey as a designer.

### Inspirations







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BORÅS

**Createx Creative Residency in Prato,** Italy



### **Linda Johansson** 22/05/1992

It all began with me looking around at all the patterns on Heritage Manager. I checked what the patterns included, their form and elements. Then I translated the forms and further developed these into my inspiration that comes from haute couture. Of all my different ideas, I decided to make a dress. A dress with volume and several layers of different sizes. The two bottom layers are in transparent fabric, consisting of mosquito nets and organza. This was aimed to create a contrast in the dress. I got help with the sewing as well as the pattern construction from Marina Lantz, a tailor. On the city hall of Gironella I found a pattern which seen from above looks like a spiral. It inspired me to give a similar look to my work.



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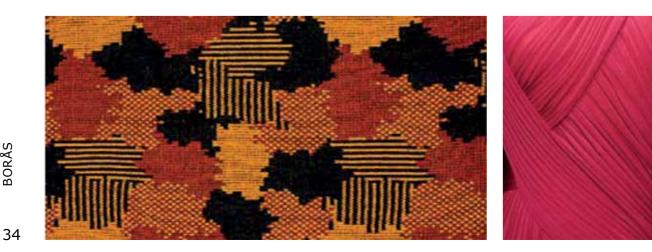
### **Createx Creative Residency in Prato,** Italy



## **Isabella Talay** 9/06/1995

I am very interested in making prints and my design process started with looking at Rita Rossi's print Camouage. After that I thought of the product I can apply it on. My first thought was to make a rain jacket but after my trip to Italy I decided to make a trench coat instead.

I chose to make pleated details and a different pocket solution. The pleated details are subtle but still make the jacket special. After the final sketch was done the search for the right material started and I found it at a Swedish brand in Borås FOV. Thanks to the tailor Marina Lantz I got the jacket made on time. The use of screen print gave me control over the layout of the pattern. I really learned a lot during this process and it was very inspiring to see your idea in real life.



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BORÅS

# The Santo Tirso Municipality, Portugal

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Santo Tirso is an historical county with about 70 000 inhabitants, located in the north of Portugal, the heart of the Portuguese textile industry, the Ave Valley Region. Here, one is always surrounded by nature, embraced by the flow of the two main rivers in the county: Leca and Ave. All over the county, various festivities keep the cultural flame alive in a region where the marks of rural interlinks with the great industrialization, creating a unique atmosphere. With the young and dynamic

population Santo Tirso has experiened in recent years the emergence of new spaces and facilities for night life also add excitement to the city centre. The International Museum of Contemporary Sculpture, whose aim is to highlight ultimate expressions of contemporary outdoor sculptures, together with Singeverga Monastery, Nossa Senhora da Assunção Church and São Bento Monastery, leave nobody indifferent and attract visitors from all over the world to Santo Tirso. This land of dedicated

and hardworking people has made Santo Tirso well known for its strong industry, especially in the textile area. Some of the biggest companies are based here and employ thousands of people from the region.

Santo Tirso has always known how to combine economic development with quality of life. Santo Tirso is a Municipality where you can work, live or spend leisure time.

SANTO TIRSO

### Createx Creative Residency in Borås, Sweden



## Valéria Ferreira 29/09/2000

Since the beginning, I wanted to introduce Santo Tirso and Jesuítas to the public, bringing my roots and my hometown to, what would become, my first interior design project. Having Textile Heritage and a concept as the first basis of the project, I decided to create a modular seating inspired by Jesuítas and Santo Tirso. Jesuítas are made of two layers, one made of sugar that has a smooth and matt finishing on top of several sheets of puff pastry that looks rough and has a lot of texture. The piece in the exhibition is the sugary part, made out of velvet to resemble the merengue on top of the Jesuíta and it's shape is a modern take on the shape of the pastry itself.

## Inspirations







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SANTO TIRSO

Createx Creative Residency in Borås, Sweden



## **Mannu Guennes** 29/10/1990

I love connecting all the time with everything and everybody around. The collection "Connections" shows how we are linked to our own and to other cultures, how we are tech-oriented but first and foremost, human. Portuguese tiles and Swedish nature, as part of the interchange provided by Createx Project inspired my collection in their shapes, colours and textures. Five patterns in three products mix technology and sustainability connected through digital printing and traditional embroidery.

## **Inspirations**



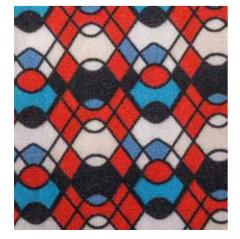


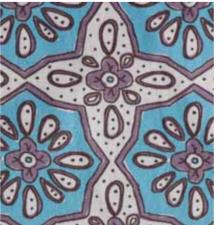
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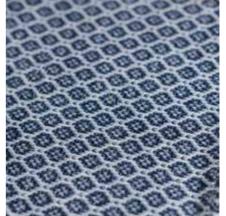












**Createx Creative Residency in Borås,** Sweden



## Luísa Mendes 28/01/1989

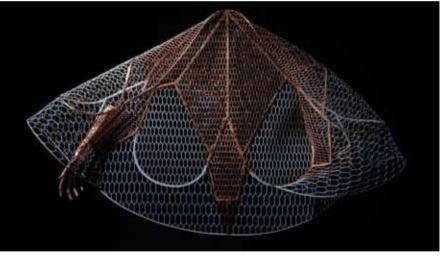
My project aims to develop garments that integrate passive prostheses. This work can increase and advance the phenomenological discourse on clothing as a body organ and expand the debate on prosthesis as an identity aesthetic element. Embodiment Garment Project, for the Createx creative residency is intended to create "skins", printed by 3D printing technology, inspired by the functional knits present in Santo Tirso textile collection.

## Inspirations









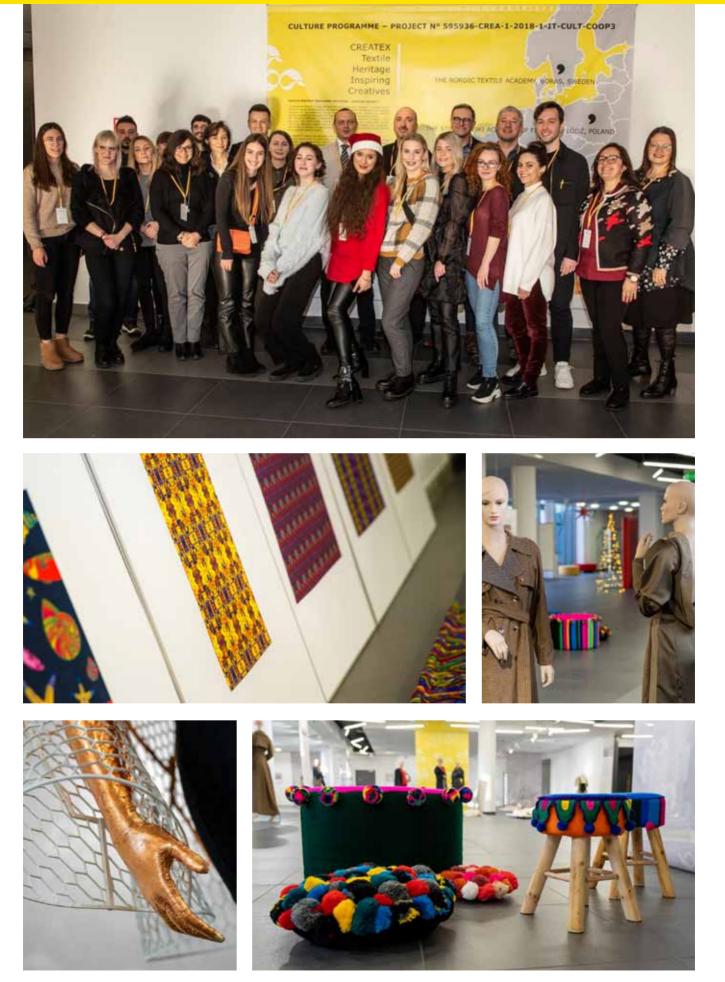






SANTO TIRSO

Photo reportage of the Final Conference and Exhibition in Łódź





















# Thank You Notes

### The Prato Textile Museum Foundation, Italy

The Prato Textile Museum Foundation sincerely wishes to thank Lottozero for Creative Residency coordination together with the local textile companies and ateliers involved in the program of study visits and activities:

Marini Industrie

Stemar

Ventex

CRAAFT

Prato Textile Museum Foundation also wishes to thank: Filippo Guarini, Textile Museum Director, Arianna Sarti, Giorgia Petrozza, Laura Fiesoli, Silvia Fiaschi and Francesco Bolli.

## The City Council Of Gironella, Spain

The City Council of Gironella wants to thank all the partners and collaborators who contributed to this project. First of all we want to thank the private company which offered their archives for the digitalization. Secondly we also want to thank Agencia de Desenvolupament del Berguedà for their support and commitment to this project, and last but not least, we thank everyone who contributed to this project, especially the young designers and the experts, and made it a success.

### The Strzemiński Academy of Fine Arts Łódź, Poland

The Strzemiński Academy of Fine Arts Łódź would like to cordially thank the great museums mentioned below for their cooperation during the Createx Project: for lending their precious exhibits for the purpose of creating the Heritage Manager database and for passionate and inspiring lectures presented by their representatives.

Muzeum Regionalne w Opocznie

Muzeum w Łowiczu

Muzeum Archeologiczne i Etnograficzne w Łodzi

### The Nordic Textile Academy Borås, Sweden

The Nordic Textile Academy in Borås would like to thank all the people who made this project possible, both our own staff at Nordic Textile Academy and all the external partners. Special thanks to:

**FOV Fabrics** 

Marina Lantz

Textile Museum of Sweden

### The Santo Tirso Municipality, Portugal

To honour and to preserve our textile tradition is a mission that can only be achieved through cooperation of several stakeholders. The Municipality of Santo Tirso thanks the institutions below for their contribution to the success of the Createx Project.

A. Sampaio&Filhos -Têxteis S.A

**ESAD** 

Estamparia Adalberto Fabrics4Fashion

Lantal Têxteis S.A

LMA-Leandro Manuel Araújo S.A Minho University

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