



# Photographs of Molly Goddard's Tulle Creations, Taken by Her Mother

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Photograph © Sarah Edwards. Courtesy Chelsea Space.



**Dress Portrait is a new exhibition that celebrates the close collaboration between the designer and her mother, the photographer and set designer Sarah Edwards**



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TEXT Belle Hutton



Since creating her first collection in her parents' spare bedroom, designer **Molly Goddard** has worked closely with her family as her eponymous brand has grown. Her sister, Alice Goddard, has worked with her as a stylist, while her mother, **Sarah Edwards** – once a primary school teacher and now photographer and set designer – has created immersive and enthralling sets for her shows and installations, from an 18th-century bedroom for the designer's Fashion in Motion show at the V&A to a canopied marketplace for Spring/Summer 2019.

Now, an exhibition at Chelsea Space celebrates the collaboration between Goddard and Edwards as designer and photographer. Here, Goddard's effervescent tulle creations are captured up-close and abstracted; folded up and tumbling from a ceramic plinth, hanging beneath some plastic sheeting, or with focus placed on the intricate shirring of a sleeve.



GALLERY / 9 IMAGES

**Dress Portrait: Molly Goddard and Sarah Edwards**

In the exhibition, which is titled ***Dress Portrait***, gowns and photographs from Goddard's archive are brought together, with the dresses often appearing as the subjects of still-life imagery rather than worn by a model – or if there is a model, the print itself might be hanging on the wall partially obscured by a translucent plastic sheet. This playful approach to displaying Edwards' images is an extension of the way Goddard creates clothes – clothes which, through Edwards' lens, are seen in a beautiful alternate reality.

A connection to the exhibition space, which is housed in the Chelsea College of Art, comes through in *Dress Portrait's* Reading Room, an element of the show that was created by Goddard in collaboration with students on the institution's Masters course in Curating and Collections. The Reading Room offers a closer look at Goddard's practice, with her notebooks, research material and studio equipment on display. Much like *Patty*, Goddard's Tim Walker-lensed photo book released last year, *Dress Portrait* is a celebration of the Molly Goddard way, with the joy of close collaboration at its centre.



Dress by Molly Goddard Photograph © Sarah Edwards. Courtesy Chelsea Space.

*Dress Portrait: Molly Goddard and Sarah Edwards is at Chelsea Space, Chelsea College of Art, London, until March 1, 2019.*