

# Fiber optic dress changes color on a whim

January 9 2014

---



A bartender serves drinks during the first press event 'CES Unveiled' at the Mandalay Bay Convention Center prior to the 2014 International CES in Las Vegas, Nevada on January 05, 2014

The techno-chic with a few thousand dollars to spare can sport outfits that can change color on a whim.

London-based designer Amy Rainbow Winters showed just how in a FashionWare area at the Consumer Electronics Show here on

Wednesday.

On display was a dress she made of fabric with [fiber optics](#) woven in and sensors in the sleeves. Light traveled through the cloth, which glowed blue. With a touch of a sleeve, Winters changed the color.

"If you feel like having a purple, the dress will be purple," Winters said. "If you later feel like having red, you have red. You just look at the sleeve and decide what color you want."

Winters designs fabric and clothes, then collaborates with technologists to make the materials needed. She works with many techno-fabrics, including some that react to sound, sun or water.

Nearby she had on display a dress with [motion sensors](#) in the cloth that changed colors if the wearer jumped.

Fabric she creates can be made into just about any garment.

"The [fabric](#) can be anything; pants, shirts, dresses, hats...", Winters said. "If someone is going to wear Google Glass they might as well wear fiber-optic pants."

Her creations are custom, and have been used in entertainment productions such as [music videos](#) or to catch eyes in ads. She is not in the ready-to-wear market.

"I've had some retailers ask me about stocking, but you have to be really careful because they are so expensive to make," Winters said.

"They are showpieces; but if people have a couple of thousand dollars to spare here it is."

Fiber-optic dresses cost about \$3,000 to make, but the price can rise depending on the design, according to Winters, whose creations are on display online at [rainbowwinters.com](http://rainbowwinters.com).

© 2014 AFP

Citation: Fiber optic dress changes color on a whim (2014, January 9) retrieved 23 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2014-01-fiber-optic-whim.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.