

PHOEBE ROBERTS

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Profile

I am a graduate of the Costume Design degree at Wimbledon College of Arts looking to establish a career in the costume industry.

Experience

Screen printer for Exiles in Creativity, Atelier Armonico, June and July 2019

I was part of a team of textile practitioners making a hanging theatre backdrop. We used both traditional and experimental techniques to recreate the designer's drawing. We had to work as a team with good communication skills, to confer with each other about techniques and work on different parts of the same cloth at the same time. It also required attention to detail, to accurately scale up and replicate the qualities of the original design.

Enrolment Assistant, Morley College, August 2016 to present:

I currently worked as a temp enrolment assistant and receptionist. This has required me to become very familiar with the college systems including the computerised system for enrolling. I have had to cultivate customer service skills to help the students.

Work Experience as a Costume Assistant, The Royal College of Music's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Feb to March 2018:

I worked in the costume department on Benjamin Britten's opera, directed by Liam Steele and designed by Michael Pavelka. I saw the production most of the way through from initial costume fittings, alterations, makes, dressing including quick changes, maintaining costumes during the run, and the get out.

Etsy shop, BelphoebeDesigns, March 2015 to present:

I run an online shop where I sell period garments, including historical stays and corsets. This requires a knowledge of historical fashion and construction methods, pattern cutting and a high level of sewing skills. Good communication with customers is essential, and I have been able to complete custom orders when requested.

Commissioned sewing, 2011 to present:

Occasionally I am commissioned to design, make, alter and repair clothes. I also construct one-off pieces for textile designers like scarves, cushions, curtains, and once a cape, a kaftan and a kimono. This requires attention to detail, coming up with creative solutions for the customer's unique needs, and working to a deadline.

Work Experience as a Costume Assistant, Theatre Designer Leslie Travers, June 2016:

I worked with the designer in his studio on costumes for *The Fiddler on the Roof* and *The Marriage of Figaro*. I gained insights into his research and design methods, and helped him with period research and adapting period embroidery designs for his costumes.

Chaperone, The Turn of the Screw, March 2015:

I was chaperone to the singer who played 'Miles' in the concert performance of the opera as part of the Beethoven Festival in Warsaw, Poland. I gained an insight into the rehearsal process and the needs of opera singers.

Studio assistant, The Colourhouse, September 2011 to 2016:

The Colourhouse was a small textile and wallpaper design company. My main role was the construction of one-off products like place-mats, aprons, bags, scarves, handkerchieves etc. I also assisted in the hand screen printing of the designs. It was important to have good knowledge of the products, prints and techniques. I also took part manning the stall at trade shows, which required good customer service skills.

Social Media assistant Moi&Toi, July to September 2014:

Moi&Toi is a concept store for hand-picked, classic to contemporary childrens' clothes and other things. I set up a pinterest account for the company showcasing some of their products.

Shop assistant, Cath Kidston, August to September 2013:

While working at Cath Kidston I had to become familiar with products and prints. I worked on the shop floor helping customers. On the till I dealt with sales, orders and returns. In the stockroom I unpacked deliveries and refilled the shop floor.

Education

The School of Historical Dress, July 2019:

Short course on: Women's Tie-on Pockets c.1550-1850

Morley College, September 2016 to present:

Short courses in: Stitch and Embellishment, Fabric Manipulation, Tailoring, Mask-making, Painting

Wimbledon College of Arts from September 2014 to July 2017:

BA Theatre and Screen: Costume Design 2:1

Morley College, September 2012 to August 2014:

Textile Foundation Merit

Short courses in: Textile printing and dyeing, Period Corsetry, Period Hat Making, Period Costume, Patten Cutting, Clothes Making, Drawing, Jewellery, Fashion Design

The London Oratory, September 2010 to June 2012:

A Levels: Maths B, History B, Physics B

AS Level: History of Art A

Notre Dame RC Girls' School, September 2005 to June 2010:

GCSEs: 2 A*s, 9 As including Maths and English, 2 Bs

Interests and hobbies

As part of my chosen career development I have cultivated an interest in Science Fiction, Fantasy and Historical films, television, theatre and books. I have recently begun to explore the world of cosplay, recreating some of my favourite costume designs from the screen. I have cultivated skills in other extracurricular areas also, for example I have a keen interest in cooking and baking, specialising in celebration cakes, and I have run a food stall several times. I recently achieved a Merit in my Elementary Spanish Dance exam. I also have ABRSM Grade 6 Piano and Grade 5 Music Theory. I have had singing lessons and been a member of choirs, which has helped build my confidence both individually and as part of a group. Being a member of the Girls' Rowing team at school was also great for learning to work as a team.