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# Debbie Russell

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## PERSONAL STATEMENT

I am a creative and hardworking individual currently in my final year of a Bachelor's degree in Performance Costume from Edinburgh College of Art at Edinburgh University. On top of my studies I have gained valuable experience through both part time work and personal projects, including taking a production to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2023. I am used to working in a fast paced environment, both independently and as part of a team, and bring passion and dedication to every project I am a part of.

## EXPERIENCE

### **Dracula, Gaslamp Theatre, Glasgow** – *Costume Manager*

MARCH 2024

- Organising the costumes and creating a detailed costume plot.
- Finishing or fixing costumes, props, and set pieces
- Assisting in all quick changes during performance.

### **DYSPHORIA, Insane Odds, Edinburgh Fringe Festival** – *Director/Designer*

AUGUST 2023

- Helping to develop, realise, and execute the production.
- Designing and distributing the marketing material.
- Curating the production's visuals on a nightly basis.

### **Doc Martens, Edinburgh** – *Sales Assistant*

JULY 2023 – JANUARY 2024

### **Pace Youth Theatre, Paisley** – *Costume Assistant*

JUNE – AUGUST 2021, 2022, 2023

- Making and sourcing costumes, props, and set pieces for a series of weekly summer productions.
- This involved:
  - Competent, detail oriented crafting and costume making.
  - Working quickly to create what was necessary for each production.
  - Creatively recycling materials to make an effective end product.

## SKILLS

- **Machine and hand sewing**
  - I am capable of working on both industrial and domestic sewing machines, as well as hand sewing.
- **Pattern drafting**
  - I have the drafting skills necessary to make a design into a well fitting garment.
- **Beading, hand embroidery, and embellishment**
  - I can add detailed embellishment to costumes including beading, embroidery, hand smocking, fabric slashing, patchwork, and ribbon folding.
- **Knitting and crochet**
  - I can knit both by hand and machine, and crochet.
- **Fabric printing and dyeing**
  - I have experience in lino, screen, and transfer printing, as well as dyeing a variety of fibres and shibori dyeing.
- **Costume breakdown**
  - I have created costumes at various levels of broken down, from slightly worn to almost completely transformed.
- **Design development and illustration**
  - I have a thorough understanding of how to create costumes with both aesthetic appeal and conceptual clarity.
  - Life drawing classes alongside design projects have let me develop an effective illustration style.
  - I am also confident in CAD and the use of Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, and Indesign
- **Valid UK driver's licence**

## EDUCATION

**Edinburgh College of Art, Edinburgh University** – BA  
*Performance Costume*

SEPTEMBER 2020 – JULY 2024

**Glasgow Clyde College** – *UAL Diploma Level Three: Distinction*

AUGUST 2019 – MAY 2020

## INTERESTS

Aside from costume making, I enjoy making or upcycling garments for my own wardrobe. My love of theatre extends beyond design to watching and occasionally performing in productions.

I have recently started playing Dungeons and Dragons which I've found to be a unique and fun creative outlet. I went to my first LARP event last year, which was an exciting experience that gave a new venue for the imagination and expression that I enjoy in theatre.