

Lorna Connolly

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Profile

I am a creative and enthusiastic individual with extensive knowledge and excitement for costume. I recently completed my bachelor's degree in Performance Costume at the University of Edinburgh/ ECA, where I strengthened my skills in costume construction and design. My proficiency in critical thinking and finding creative solutions allows me to excel independently and as part of a team. I thrive in social environments and take pride in my capability to engage positively with others. Alongside my studies, I gained valuable experience through part-time work and creative volunteer projects. Balancing these varying responsibilities has allowed me to become a quick learner and versatile worker. My attention to detail and dedication are proof of my strong work ethic and passion for costume.

Work experience

August 2023 – April 2024

Fashion Executive-

The Edinburgh Charity Fashion Show. @ _ECFS_

Through an annual fashion show and supporting fundraiser events, ECFS is dedicated to raising money for charities and pursuing positive change. Collectively, we centralise diversity, inclusivity, and sustainability in all we do. The ECFS team is united in the ambition to support young creatives and create work that is responsibly and ethically executed.

- Curating looks that would fit within the show's overarching theme through recruiting and scouting up-and-coming designers.
- Communicating with other departments in the committee through multiple weekly meetings:
 - Closely assisted the creative director, art team, and chairwoman in executing the show's creative vision.
 - Maintaining a relationship with model relations to ensure diversity and inclusivity in casting. Conducting fittings to ensure all our models are happy, confident and comfortable in the selected garments.
 - Helping to realise the editorial team's visions, providing looks and styling, and providing on-hand help on shoot days.
 - Working with the hair makeup team to create cohesive looks that captured the show's four sections.



Instagram : @Paranoid.cherub

Skills

- Historical research
- Costume plot and script breakdown
- Design development and illustration
- Pattern drafting and cutting
- Sewing - hand and industrial machines.
- Corsetry
- Beading, hand embroidery, and embellishment
- Fabric printing, dyeing and breakdown
- Wig styling
- Millinery
- Fabric manipulation - making structural fabrics.
- Laser cutting
- Adobe InDesign, Photoshop and Illustrator
- Presentation skills
- Dressing
- Teamwork
- Creative problem solving
- Sourcing
- Budgeting

- Keeping close contact with our designers, communicating updates and answering any questions.

- Wardrobe organisation. Using spreadsheets to help keep track of the recruitment process and taking visual logs of each outfit, noting any styling required.
- Maintenance of the garments: Safely storing and transporting them, as well as supervising during editorials and show day, to ensure we return them in the condition we received them.
- Working within a strict budget, we remained conscious of our spending, as anything extra would be taken out of the money raised for charity.
- Dressing models and overseeing quick changes.

September 2022 – November 2023 **Waitress- La P'tite Folie**

Although not explicitly linked to my industry interest, my time as a waitress has allowed me to develop many transferable skills that are valuable in any professional work environment. Fast-paced in nature, I worked alongside a diverse team, which increased my communication skills and taught me the value and benefits of maintaining a positive and professional work environment. Communication with customers was equally essential to ensure excellent service and fulfil expectations.

April 2022 – September 2022 **Professional serving- Off to Work (agency)**

My experience with the agency *Off to Work* required me to work at high-end events across Edinburgh and Scotland at venues such as Hopetoun House, Holyrood Palace, Stirling Castle, and the Balmoral and Musselburgh Racecourse. The job was unpredictable in nature, with changes in location, team, event type and role forcing me to learn fast. Often, we were required to work long days and nights. Therefore, dedication and enthusiasm were essential to stay focused and motivated. Many of the events included Weddings and Balls; however, I was specifically selected to work for several VIP occasions such as the 150th Golf Open, Ladies Day at the Races and the Queens Garden Party. Working for this elite clientele required extreme professionalism and commitment. This is a testament to my ability to adapt and adjust quickly to several roles and tackle any problem I face capably and rationally.

Education

2020-2024 BA Hons Performance Costume, Edinbrugh College of Art

This degree provided lessons in design and construction, along with practical skills essential for the costume field, such as budgeting, fabric sourcing, and creating costume plots.

2018-2020 Highers and Advanced Highers, Inverkeithing High School

Advanced Higher: Art and Design- A
Higher: Business Management- A
Photography- A English- A Drama- A
Art- A

