

Elsie Howard

Costumier



Sheffield based - Willing to relocate

07935934059
elsie1407@icloud.com

About me

Hello! My name is Elsie (LC), I have a longstanding passion for Costume Making, accumulating in almost 5 years of formal experience. Alongside my interest in garment construction of both historical and contemporary costume, I possess an in depth knowledge of sourcing and back stage skills. I am passionate about creating an immersive experience through costume use, and I am accomplished at bringing characters to life and ensuring performers of all disciplines are accommodated.

Skills

-
- Pattern drafting and garment construction
 - Costume fitting
 - Costume breakdown
 - Draping in the stand
 - Dressing
 - Hand stitching
 - Mannequin padding
 - Team management
 - Work with industrial sewing machines and irons
 - Costume supervision and sourcing

Experience

Royal Northern College of Music Youth Opera (Treasure Island) / Deputy Wardrobe Manager

January 2025 - February 2025, Manchester

Upon my return to the RNCM, I had the opportunity to take on a higher level of responsibility in an upcoming adaptation of Treasure Island. Working closely alongside our designer, I costumed a cast of 45 adults, and supported the costuming of approximately 150 children. As my Wardrobe Manager was extremely busy working on multiple other shows, it was my responsibility to schedule and carry out fittings, complete alterations and laundry duties, breakdown costumes, complete the shows 'get-out' and facilitate the hiring of costumes and their safe return. This job gave me the opportunity to challenge my knowledge of organising a wardrobe department and I gained many more valuable skills through completing this job.

Royal Northern College of Music (L'etoile) / Wardrobe Assistant

October 2024 - December 2024, Manchester

During my time at the RNCM, I assisted in the preparation of theatrical costumes for a large cast of opera singers. This project required me to be present in fittings, aid with the sourcing of costumes, and construct a number of garments and soft-prop pieces. Due to the nature of the productions here, I was also present backstage during the show run, helping with dressing, alterations, quick changes and laundry. Working through the different stages of the show allowed me to gain a deep understanding of each aspect of the job. In order to work here, I relocated to the area, something I am willing to do again in future.

Warburton Costumes (for Cirque Bijou) / Dresser

October 2023, Chichester

Working as part of a close-knit team to organise and supply the costumes to a large group of performers, my role as Dresser was to assist in ensuring each costume was ready for the stage, and performers were provided with everything they needed for the shows. As this was an immersive private party, costume was extremely important in creating the atmosphere necessary, and attention to detail was paramount. Alongside dressing, I completed alterations, cleaned and pressed costumes, and organised rails. Our wardrobe was based on-site so I helped to ensure it was tidy and efficient.

Education

Arts University Bournemouth / BA (hons) Costume

October 2021 - June 2024, Bournemouth

AUB allowed me to branch out into the world of historical and theatrical costume and gave me the chance to expand and refine my range of making skills. It gave me the chance to meet like minded people, both within my Costume Course and outside of it. Whilst here my confidence and independence flourished. During my third year, I organised and oversaw a Sea Swimming Society where I encouraged my peers to experience the benefits of cold water swimming.

Greenhead College / A-levels

September 2019 - July 2021, Huddersfield

Whilst studying at Greenhead College I obtained 3 A-Levels and an Extended Project Qualification where I competed in the Royal Opera House Design Challenge.

Art and Design - A

Sociology - A

English Language - B

EPQ - A

Credits

**Royal Northern College of Music Youth Opera (Treasure Island) / Deputy
Wardrobe Manager**

January 2025 - February 2025, Manchester

Royal Northern College of Music (L'etoile) / Wardrobe Assistant

October 2024 - December 2024, Manchester

Private Commission (David Bowie costume) / Maker/ Supervisor

June 2024 - July 2024, Bournemouth

Palace Court Theatre (La Casa Nova) / Costume Maker

February 2024 - May 2024, Bournemouth

Palace Court Theatre (A Midsummer Nights Dream) / Dresser

May 2024, Bournemouth

Arts University Bournemouth (Day of Dance ICONS) / Dresser

March 2024, Bournemouth

Arts University Bournemouth / Casual Technician

January 2024 - May 2024, Bournemouth

Manor Operatic Society (Robin Hood Pantomime) / Wardrobe Assistant

December 2023 - January 2024, Sheffield

Independent Film (Outliving Amanda) / Costume Maker

December 2023, Bournemouth

Palace Court Theatre (Wolves of Willoughby Chase) / Costume Maker

October 2023 - December 2023, Bournemouth

Warburton Costumes (for Cirque Bijou) / Dresser

October 2023, Chichester

Independent Film (Babylon) / Wardrobe Supervisor

May 2023 - June 2023, Bournemouth

Bournemouth Musical Theatre (Shrek) / Dresser

May 2023 - June 2023, Bournemouth

Gobbledegook Theatre/ Wardrobe Assistant

June 2022, Christchurch

Greenhead College (The Tree Thief) / Dresser

October 2020 - December 2020, Huddersfield