

Tobias James Fairclough

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Wardrobe Technician and Footwear Specialist | Transitioning to Film and High End TV

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

I am a Royal Academy of Dramatic Art trained Wardrobe Technician and Footwear Specialist with over a decade of professional experience across major theatrical productions, international touring shows, and large scale live events. My career has taken me from the stages of London's West End to the arenas of Macau, across Europe, Asia and beyond with Cirque du Soleil via WB Studios Leavesden and I am now seeking to build my career in film and high end television costume. I bring a deep technical skillset built in some of the world's most demanding production environments: exceptional hand and machine sewing, specialist footwear expertise, meticulous continuity and record keeping, and the calm professionalism and adaptability that complex, fast paced productions demand. I am passionate about the craft of costume and the storytelling power it holds on screen, and I am committed to bringing the highest professional standards to every production I work on.

KEY SKILLS TRANSFERABLE SKILLS FOR SCREEN PRODUCTION

- Costume continuity management across shooting days
- Exceptional hand sewing finishing, repair and detail work
- Domestic and industrial machine and overlocker proficiency
- Garment alteration and fitting to individual requirements
- Specialist footwear skills construction, modification and care
- Background artist costume allocation and management
- Care and maintenance of high value and delicate garments
- Large inventory management and precise record keeping
- Rapid costume changes under time pressure
- Cross department collaboration and stakeholder liaison
- Calm, solutions focused approach in fast paced environments
- Full clean UK Driving Licence

SCREEN EXPERIENCE

Crowd Costume Daily

March 2022

Meg 2: The Trench | *Deep Blue Productions*

WB Studios Leavesden

- Assisted with costume allocation, alterations, preparation and continuity for large numbers of background artists on a major studio feature film production at WB Studios Leavesden.
- Gained first hand experience of the pace, precision, and collaborative demands of a professional film set including the critical importance of continuity across shooting days and the efficient turnaround of background artist costume.

Crowd Costume Daily

October 2014

Victor Frankenstein | *Davis Entertainment*

On Location, UK

- Worked as a Crowd Costume Daily on a major film production, supporting the costume department with the preparation, allocation, and continuity management of background artist costume on location.

Costume Trainee

October 2013

The Guvvors | *Fulwell 93*

On Location, UK

- First screen production as Costume Trainee, gaining foundational experience of the film costume department and the working practices of a professional screen production environment.

THEATRICAL EXPERIENCE TRANSFERABLE TO SCREEN

Wardrobe Technician Footwear and Puppets

October 2024 - December 2025

Luzia | *Cirque du Soleil*

Various International Venues

- Led all technical operations for footwear and puppetry across a major international touring production directly equivalent to the continuity, condition management, and per performer record keeping required on a film or TV set.
- Maintained meticulous allocation and condition records for 40+ performers across changing tour locations, mirroring the continuity discipline demanded across film shooting days.

Wardrobe Technician Costume

March 2023 - September 2024

Luzia | *Cirque du Soleil*

Various International Venues

- Daily preparation, maintenance, alteration, and repair of a technically complex costume inventory across a touring company of 40+ performers using skills directly applicable to the prep and shoot day demands of screen production.

Wardrobe Assistant

May 2022 - January 2023

Get Up Stand Up The Bob Marley Musical | *Playful Productions*

Lyric Theatre, London

- Supported all wardrobe department operations including garment preparation, pressing, alteration, repair, and the maintenance of detailed costume and continuity records.

Wardrobe Technician Footwear Specialist

March 2018 - August 2019

The House of Dancing Water | Melco Entertainment / Dragone

City of Dreams, Macau SAR China

- Promoted to Footwear Specialist taking sole responsibility for 300+ specialist performance footwear across a resident production, encompassing construction, modification, alteration, fitting, and condition management.
- Trained and supervised local wardrobe staff, maintaining high professional standards and department integrity throughout.

Wardrobe Technician

March 2018 - August 2019

The House of Dancing Water | Melco Entertainment / Dragone

City of Dreams, Macau SAR China

- Managed the daily preparation and maintenance of a large scale costume inventory across a technically demanding live production.
- Developed expertise in handling high value specialist garments, footwear, and performance equipment to the highest professional standards.

Principal Dresser (Effie White)

January 2018 - March 2018

Dreamgirls Sonia Friedman Productions

Savoy Theatre, London

- Served as Principal Dresser for lead performers playing the role of Effie White, managing all costume, footwear, and apparel requirements.
- Maintained detailed personal apparel records for principal artists, ensuring continuity and precision across every performance.

Principal Dresser

August 2017 - January 2018

Follies and St George and the Dragon National Theatre

Olivier Theatre, National Theatre

- Served as Principal Dresser for lead performers across various concurrent National Theatre productions, managing all costume, footwear, and apparel requirements.
- Maintained detailed personal apparel records for principal artists, ensuring continuity and precision across every performance.

Swing Dresser / Principal Dresser

January 2017 - August 2017

Beautiful The Carole King Musical Mark Rubenstein Ltd

Aldwych Theatre, London

- Covered multiple dressing positions across the full company, requiring comprehensive knowledge of all costume and apparel allocations.
- Supported the wardrobe department in the day-to-day management and preparation of all costume and apparel for cast and ensemble.
- Maintained detailed records of costume allocations and condition across a full West End company.

Ensemble Dresser / Swing Dresser / Principal Dresser (Glinda)

November 2013 - December 2016

Wicked! The Musical Playful Productions

Apollo Victoria Theatre, London

- Progressed through three consecutive roles over three years on one of the West End's longest running productions, culminating in Principal Dresser for the lead role of Glinda.
- As Swing Dresser, learned and covered all dressing positions across the full company, developing a comprehensive knowledge of the entire show's wardrobe operation.
- Managed apparel, costume, and footwear for a large company across eight performances per week, maintaining exacting standards of presentation and organisation throughout.

Wardrobe Crew

June 2012 – September 2012

London 2012 Olympic & Paralympic Ceremonies LOCOG

Olympic Stadium, London

- Contributed to the wardrobe operations for one of the largest live events in history, coordinating costume and apparel for thousands of performers across multiple ceremony events.

EDUCATION

BA Technical Theatre and Stage Management

Specialising in Costume Production and Supervision and Theatre Design (Set and Costume) Pass with Distinction

Royal Academy of Dramatic Art 2012 - 2013

Foundation Degree Technical Theatre and Stage Management Pass with Merit

Royal Academy of Dramatic Art 2010 - 2012

REFERENCES

Alex Surrige

Head of Wardrobe, Luzia Cirque du Soleil

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Bernadette Brennan

Head of Costume, The House of Dancing Water

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