

Elio Fantini

Costume Maker & Wardrobe Assistant

Education

Undergraduate (currently, expected 2024) BA Costume for Performance- London College of Fashion, University of the Arts London

A Levels (St Brendans Sixth Form College) 3 including: Textiles, Film Studies, Criminology (BBC)

GCSEs (St Katherines School) 9 including: Maths, English Language, English Literature, Science x2, Drama, Art, Philosophy, Film Studies

Work experience

National Portrait Gallery (London)

October 2023-ongoing

The National Portrait Gallery is home to the world's largest collection of portraiture across its archives, permanent displays, and exhibition pieces. Chosen for the competitive Young Producers program to collaboratively plan and execute three free youth events to broaden access to the gallery for young people. Currently working on a Youth Late event in collaboration with the musical *Six* and The *Six Lives* exhibition.

Major Responsibilities

- Pitching events ideas and plans to a group
- Liaising with external artists and events producers
- Working collaboratively with Gallery staff and other Young Producers on logistical event planning with consideration for both art conservation and material sustainability

Core Skills- Learned and Developed

- Knowledge of museum and gallery working practices, as well as national arts organisations internal structures and expectations for employees
- Professional relationships formed whilst working closely on specific activities and artworks
- Working towards a tight budget and a short timeframe to complete excellent detailed work

Contact

ElioMilesFantini@gmail.com

Dylan Joel Studio Ltd. (London)

February-May 2023

Dylan Joel Studio Ltd. is a formerly London based haute couture gender neutral drag and fashion brand that creates both custom commissions and biannual collections, with a focus on PVC corsetry, tailored suit jackets and hand-crystalled stretch catsuits for performance. Worked as a fashion intern, assisting with all garment-related aspects of the business.

Major Responsibilities

- Drafting, adapting and cutting new & existing patterns for a variety of complicated and tailored pieces
- Assembling and altering garments in a fast-paced environment
- Utilising specialist hand sewing skills such as darning and beading to complete detailed pieces
- Responding to real-time feedback and instruction related to the construction & design of garments
- Assisting at events including photoshoots and pop-up events

Core Skills- Learned and Developed

- Effective time management and prioritisation of tasks
- Developed higher levels of confidence with both PVC and stretch fabrics
- Improved problem-solving ability in high pressure environments
- Learned professional wardrobe/fitting/dressing etiquette & expectations

Federation Store (Park Street, Bristol)

July-September (inc '18, '19, '20)

Federation store is a significant independent high street retailer (c 10 employees) in the business of gifts, homeware, clothing, and piercing.

Major Responsibilities

- Delivering excellent customer service across the whole of the product base
- Cashing up, financial planning, and ensuring that money and receipts aligned on a weekly and monthly basis
- Shop displays, window dressing, creation of high impact displays and ensuring visually appealing layouts

Core Skills- Learned and Developed

- Excellent customer service
- Good financial/cash management
- Good attention to detail
- Developed creative flair in terms of merchandising and design
- Competent use of different till and receipting systems
- Dealing with difficult customers eg return of goods and other dissatisfactions

Off The Record (Bristol)

March-September 2019

Off The Record is a Bristol based charity supporting mental health and well-being in young people. Co-authored a paper (subsequently published) investigating the effect of social justice and activism on loneliness in young people. This was a paid piece of work supported by lottery funding.

Core Skills- Learned and Developed

- Research and investigation in key themes
- Conducted interviews and workshops to determine findings and opinions
- Creation and distribution of questionnaire to 2000 young people within Bristol postcodes
- Collation and interpretation of findings

Interests and spare time

- **Elected course representative** for BA Costume for Performance every year of course (2021-2024)
- **Research and cultural studies**- passionate about developments in critical theory and performance theory. Completed undergraduate dissertation to the highest standard of professional academic research, receiving full marks for writing about contemporary musical theatre as an undervalued medium of performance and 'high art'- with a focus on representations of HIV/AIDS and Queer temporalities portrayed on stage.
- **Textile artwork selected through open call**- exhibited in the Courtauld Institute x Ugly Duck Gallery exhibition 'Crafting Ourselves' and Central Saint Martins LGBTQ+ History Month exhibition
- **Theatre & live performance**- regularly view and engage with live performance of all kinds, especially pre-contemporary musical theatre and newly devised verbatim pieces