



Costume Design Portfolio

Phoebe A Mellor

Costume Design

Instagram: [_Phoebedesigns_](#)

Linkedin: WWW.linkedin.com/in/phoebedesigns

Website: <https://phoebedesigns.info>

Email: phoebemellor2001@gmail.com



Phoebe Designs

Negotiated Major Project



This project is unique as it includes four components costume making, armature making, making a set, and finally the making of a short stop motion animation. My initial concept was to make costumes for seven of the characters from the story of 'The Enchanted Wood' by Enid Blyton. It began to grow from there into something that I could not have imagined. My childhood dream was to make the characters and costumes, as I have longed to see them come to life as an animation within a magical setting. The setting is from the chapter the 'Land of Birthdays'. The armatures include the children Joe, Beth and Frannie, including my favourite characters Moon-Face, Dame Washalot, Saucepan Man and Silky the fairy. The costumes have been made primarily from felt which I will make using the technique of wet felting and Nuno felting.



Negotiated Major Project

I have learned many new skills in armature construction, animation, and miniature costume making for my final project.

I have included many production photos to display the various elements which have created my armature puppets.

You can see a final image of 'Sauce pan Man' to the right. I believe that his character's personality shines through his costume and helps tell the story of 'The Enchanted Wood'.







Manchester Day Parade

The Manchester Day Parade celebrates the beautiful city of Manchester. Initially, we were organised into teams to create a parade float and costumes for this project.

We teamed up with some set design students and created a collaborative project; the theme for our float was 'Parks and Gardens'; from this, we made many mood boards and designs.

My final costume consisted of a halter neck top fastened with press studs, embellished with artificial flowers; this is paired with a satin circle skirt with an elasticated waistband. A wired topiary skirt embellished with artificial flowers and ivy layered on the wireframe.



Manchester Day Parade



Here are some of the designs I created as part of the project. I wanted to follow the colour scheme of green with the inclusion of bright colours, which I feel best to describe our beautiful parks and gardens. I have chosen to add wings to the designs to give them a magical feel.

On the next page, I have added some progression photos of my final make for this project, I believe the outcome was a success, and as a team, we created a perfect set and collection of costumes.







Hobson's Choice

For this project, I explored the Hobson's Choice script and fashion in the 1800s. I have designed and created a bonnet for Alice Hobson. I have chosen a light pink colour pallet as I feel this best describes Alice's personality after reading and breaking down the script.

I have included crocheted flowers on the bonnet, which adds an authentic finish; I then embellished this with peal beads which I upcycled from an old bracelet.



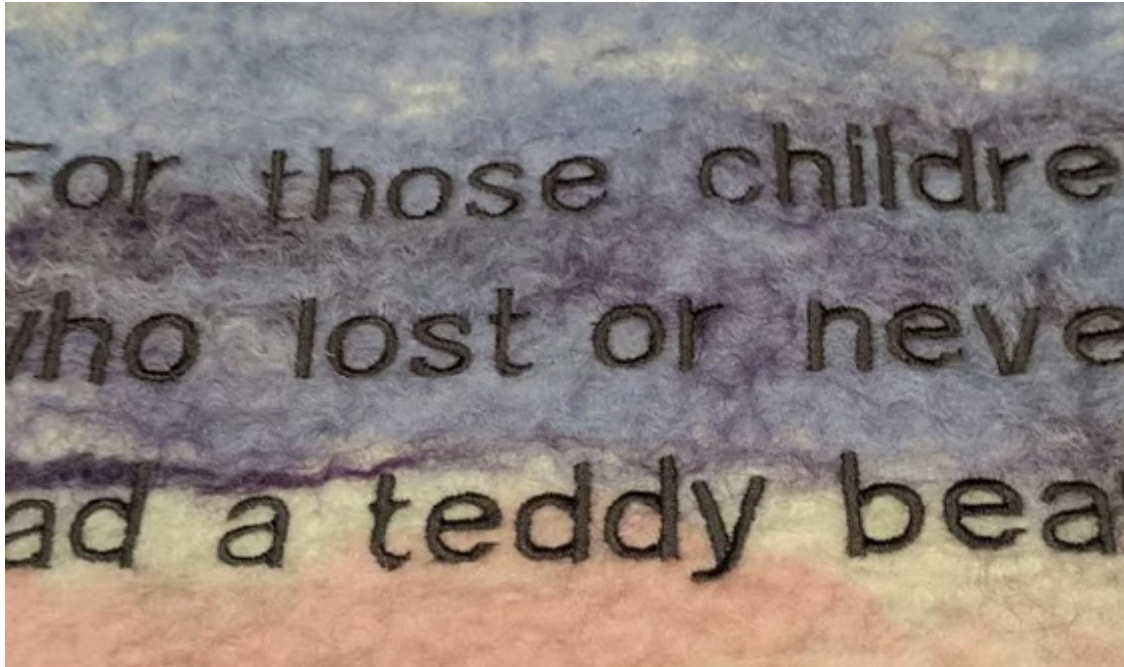
Soggy Bear

...For those children who lost or never had a teddy bear...

Soggy Bear holds many happy childhood memories for me; my late father used to read it to me many times as a child, making this project very personal.

It is a children's book based on a teddy bear who was left behind on a Cornish beach; he was then swept away by the tide and found by a fisherman, and his journey until he was found.

I have created a piece of felt based on the illustrations from the book. I have then printed images from the story on fabric and sewn them onto the felt piece. Finally, I have added seashells I collected on my holiday in Cornwall to further connect the piece to me.



For those children
who lost or never
had a teddy bear



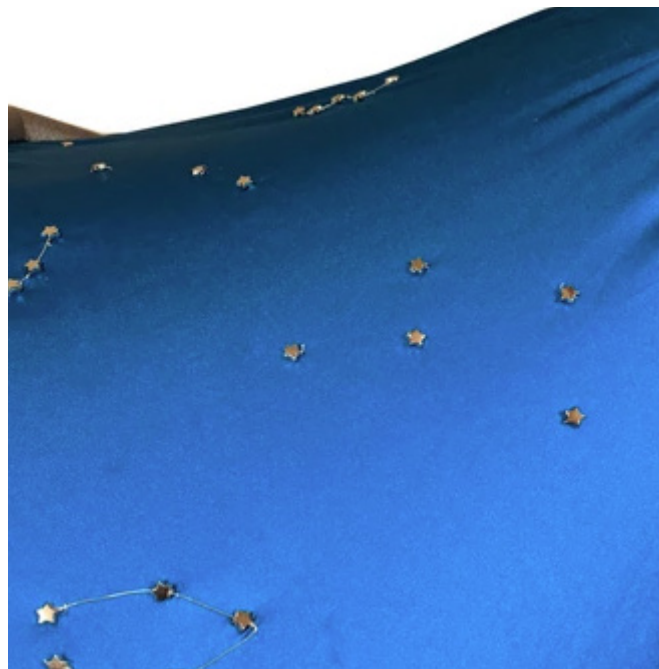
Half-Scale Costume

This project was based on the Rainbows uniform; Rainbows are the youngest members of the Girl Guiding Movement. As a volunteer for my local rainbows group, I wanted to create something which showcases something I love to do. When designing the uniform, I first considered the current uniform and looked into the history of Rainbow's uniforms. I then discussed this with the Rainbows and gained primary sources as the girls drew their designs, which I could include as part of my research. I wanted the design to have bright colours and be practical for the girls to wear to their meetings. I finally decided to make an elasticated skirt embellished with a large pocket. I then made a round-necked t-shirt with the addition of elasticated braces.





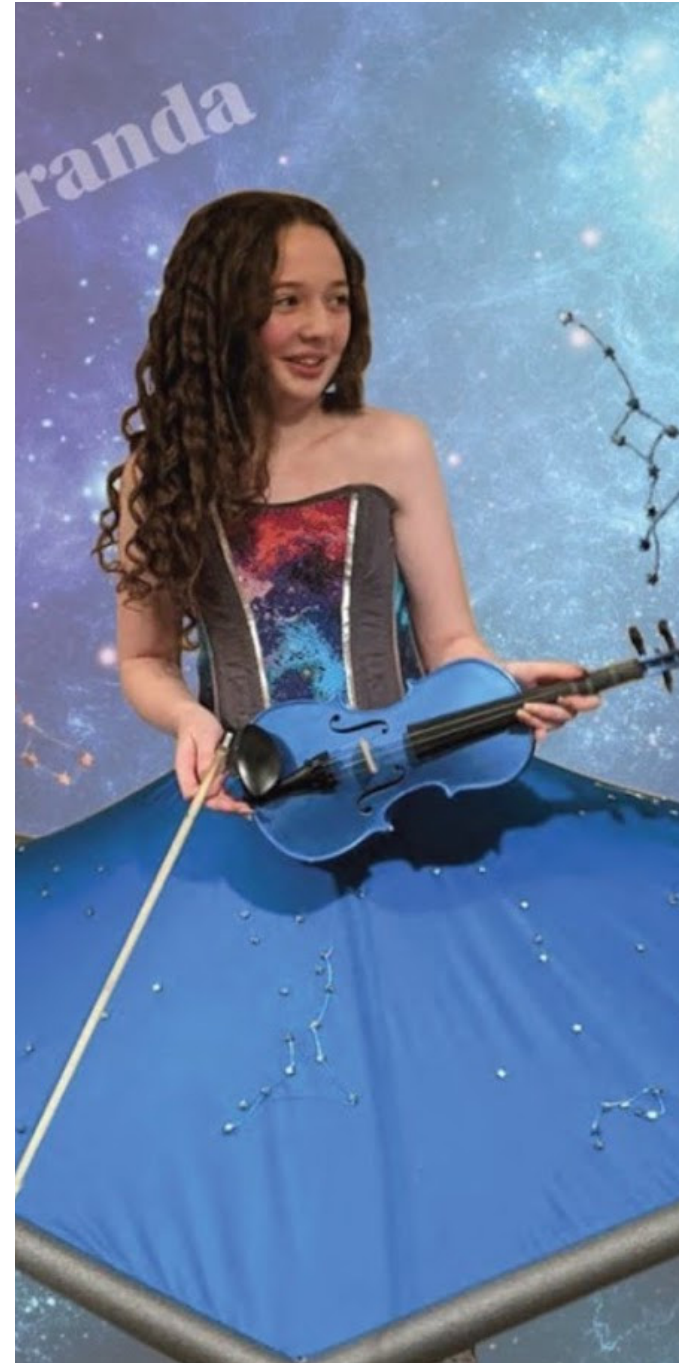
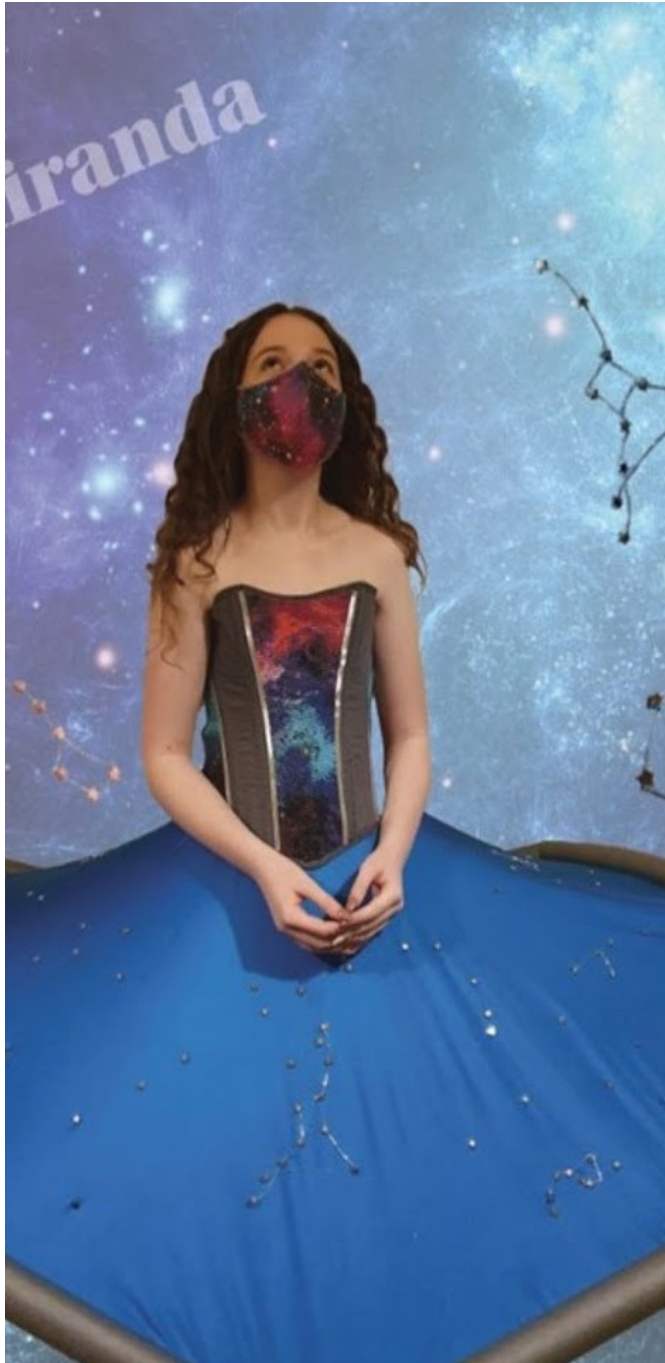
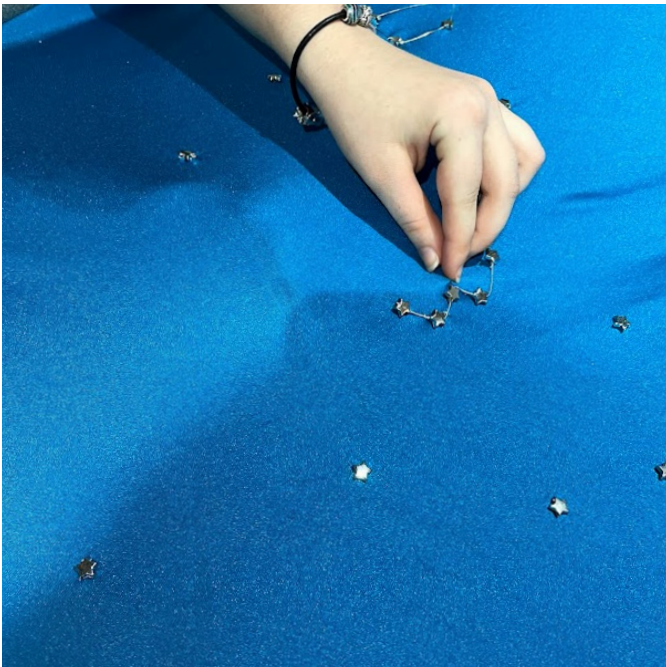
Return to the Forbidden Planet



Sustainability in this module was vital; I have used many elements of recycled materials in this project.

The corset is constructed out of a bedsheet which I have embellished with tiny gems, hand placing each one of them

The corset is paired with an upcycled dancing skirt which I have flared out with insulation piping and embellished with star constellations. My vision was to include a science-fiction feel.



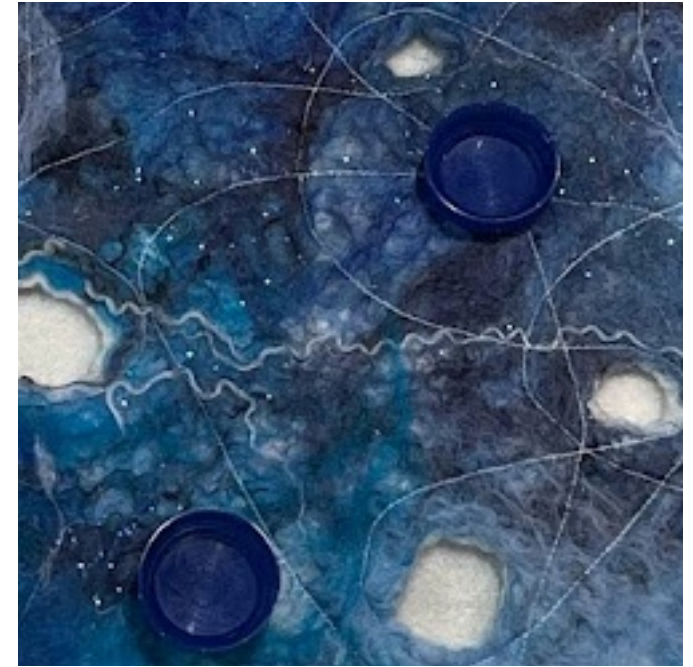


Costume Design for Live Performance

We teamed up with FLUX, a dance company that teaches children about our environment and how to protect our oceans for future generations. For this project, I needed to consider many things when designing; firstly, the brief stated that the performer would be wearing stilts as part of the performance. Secondly, it has to be an approachable character and suitable for children. Finally, the costume must be made of sustainable resources.

I enjoyed this project as it combines my love for the natural world and my passion for educating and teaching children through the medium of costume design and storytelling. The final costume consisted of many recycled elements such as my old school pencil case, my little sister's reading folder, handmade natural felt and crochet.





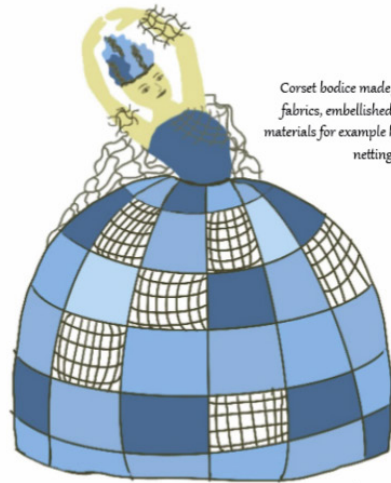
Costume Design for Live Performance

I enjoyed creating and manipulating recycled materials to create different surfaces and textures for the panels in my Willow skirt. Each panel on the skirt had a different story to tell. I have used new techniques within my felted pieces, such as resistors to create folds, holes to add new dimensions and recycled bottle tops. I also used the smocking pleat machine to create tight ruffles out of old plastic bags.





Each headdress is unique but all share a willow headband and shells.



Corset bodice made from recycled fabrics, embellished with recycled materials for example buttons, beads or netting.

Design One

The structure of all the skirts is made from willow.



Design two incorporates tabs at the waist and half way down the skirt to allow for movement, and also for transport purposes

Each open section will be framed by the willow, to give the skirts a picture frame look.

Design Two

The large circumference of all the skirts allows the dancer to move freely.



The capes in all of the costumes are crocheted using a net design

Design Three

Design Development

- Queen Cordelia -



Thank you for taking the time to follow my artistic journey through my portfolio. My passion is to be a sustainable designer while still creating bright, fun and quirky costumes. I look forward to making many more exciting costumes in the creative industry.



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