

Ishita Kulkarni

Costume | Textile | Sustainability

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I am a multi disciplinary designer with experience of working with Costumes for performance, Textiles and Crafts. I nurture interest in study of traditional textile crafts and investigating their sustainable possibilities. I aim to challenge conventional outlook towards textiles and contribute towards a sustainable future.

EDUCATION

2014 - 2016
MA Costume Designing for Performance,
London College of Fashion UAL, London

2010 - 2013
BFCSC Clothing & Textiles,
M. S. University, Baroda, India

AWARDS

2010 – 2013
Gold medals were awarded for outstanding academic achievement in the field of Clothing & Textiles, M. S. University, Baroda.

- Smt. Ichhagauri Kuverji Naik Gold Medal
- LT. Smt. Jerbanu N. Katpitia Gold Medal
- Prof. Sunanda M. Phadke Gold Medal

SHORT COURSES & WORKSHOPS

January 2020
Circular Fashion: Art, Design and Science in a Sustainable Clothing Industry
Wageningen University, Netherlands

- Learned about the crucial role a designer can play in the transition from linear to circular economy.

November 2019
Science in Art: The Chemistry of Art Materials and Conservation
Trinity college, Connecticut, USA

- Got a brief insight into field of art conservation, its importance and different career avenues.

September 2019
Curative & Preventive Conservation of Textiles,
IIS University, Jaipur & Textile & Clothing Research Centre, Delhi.

- A two day intensive workshop which imparted brief theoretical and practical knowledge about Textile conservation.

May 2011
Fashion Illustrations & Block printing with vegetable dyes
National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad

- A two week long workshop which equipped me with practical and theoretical knowledge of block printing, natural dyes and illustrating fashion garments.

EXPERIENCE

Ajeenkya D.Y. Patil University
Assistant Professor – School of Design
August 2021 - Present

Tailor's Garage
March 2019 - Present
A sustainable initiative which focuses on

- upcycling and remaking pre loved garments and giving them a second life.
- to reduce post consumer waste and adopt a circular production system.
- Explore and employ traditional Indian craft techniques to achieve sustainability.

Costume design (for films)
May 2016 – January 2019

I worked on various acclaimed regional films as well as mainstream commercial Hindi cinema.

During my tenure as a costume designer I assisted -

- Sachin Lovalekar
- Amit Divekar
- Pallavi Patel

Key Responsibilities –

- Research of regional traditional clothing manners & textiles (Maharashtra, Punjab, Sind, Jammu & Kashmir)
- Sourcing of fabrics, garments, ageing costumes according to camera & script aesthetics
- Creating color pallets & character graphs
- Designing of character looks
- Liaising with tailors, dyers, embroiderers and other karigars
- Team management and seamless execution of costumes on set

List of film projects –

The Disciple
Director : Chaitanya Tamhane
Release September 2020

Mauli
Director : Aditya Sarpotdar
Release December 2018

Shikara
Director Vidhu Vinod Chopra
Release February 2020

Habbadi
Director : Nachiket Samant
Release to be announced

Gulabjaam
Director : Sachin Kundalkar
Release February 2018

Band of Maharajas
Director : Girish Malik
Release to be announced

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INTERNSHIPS

2013

Kamubala, NGO, Vadodara

Objective: impart basic sewing skills

Outcome: patch work scarves made from textile waste which educated the women about upcycling.

Bodhi, Vadodara

Textile intern

Quality control of garments and assist a group of local women doing hand embroidery for saris & stoles.

SKILLS



Project Management



Collaboration



Leadership



Problem solving



Research



Documentation



Microsoft Office



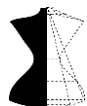
iWork



Pattern making



Sewing



Draping



Handicrafts



Illustration



Printing



Dyeing



Embroidery



Weaving

ACADEMIC PROJECTS, LONDON COLLEGE OF FASHION

September 2014 - January 2016

As an MA student, I designed, conceptualized and constructed costumes for Live performance and films. Following are the projects –

Dr Faustus by Christopher Marlowe

Based on the text a parallel world was created which explored 7sins leading to man made apocalypse.

The Visit by Friedrich Durrenmatt

Through this project the physical transformation of the costume was explored based on the layers of emotions experienced by the character.

The Rose & Nightingale by Oscar Wilde

The live performance depicted the nightingale's transformation into rose by dismantling and reassembling of the costume.

Performed Live at Saddlers Wells, London January 2016

FREELANCE PROJECTS, LONDON

September 2014 - October 2015

A matter of Time

Director : Dhruv Tripathi - London Film School

Costume Design

Created a wardrobe which evolved with intensity of the colour as the story reached the climax.

Prague Quadrennial PQ'15 – TRIBES

Costume Design

Street performance inspired by acts of tribal sacrifice which delved in the concept of good and evil being the two sides of the same coin.

Senses Organisation and V&A Museum of childhood

Textile Designer

This project was focused on converting the childhood memories of visually challenged people into quilted textiles