

AYLIN ALTINELLI

Costume Maker | Deputy Wardrobe Manager | Costume Technician

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PROFILE

RADA-trained Costume specialist with over 12 years' experience across opera, theatre, film, television and higher education. Experienced in costume construction, backstage wardrobe, costume maintenance and repairs, supporting productions from rehearsals through to live performance.

KEY SKILLS

Costume Construction & Pattern Cutting

Costume Alterations & Repairs
Tailoring & Couture Techniques
Industrial Sewing Machines

Backstage Wardrobe & Dressing

Costume Maintenance & Quick Changes
Production Support & Teamwork
Fabric Knowledge

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Costume & Fashion Technician | Middlesex University | September 2014 – Present

Provide technical support for Theatre Arts productions from costume development through rehearsals and performance.

- Construct costumes using professional techniques.
- Support costume fittings, alterations and finishing.
- Manage costume workshops, stores and industrial sewing equipment.
- Source fabrics, costumes and materials for productions.
- Support multiple theatre and dance productions while maintaining professional workshop standards.

Costume Maker | English National Opera | December 2021 – Present (Freelance)

Construct costumes for principal artists and chorus members, working from design drawings, existing garments and reference pictures. *La Bohème* (2022, 2024/25), *La Traviata* (2023) and *Carmen* (2025), including constructing the principal costume for Nadine Benjamin.

Deputy Wardrobe Manager | Witness for the Prosecution | April 2019 – January 2020 Casual Engagement: December 2021 – Present

- Maintain costumes throughout performances.
- Carry out repairs and costume maintenance.
- Prepare costumes, footwear and accessories for performances.
- Support backstage wardrobe operations and quick changes and pre-sets

Wardrobe Assistant | Magic Goes Wrong, Apollo Theatre | December 2021 – February 2022

- Dressed performers and assist with quick changes.
- Prepared costumes for performances and pre-sets.
- Carried out costume maintenance, repairs and laundry.

Costume Maker & Tailor | Karen Avenell Ltd | April 2022 – Present (Freelance)

Produce bespoke garments and luxury alterations for variety of productions, fashion brands and high-profile clients, delivering precise workmanship within demanding deadlines.

Wardrobe Supervisor / Costume Maker | Musical Theatre Academy | August–September 2017 & 2018

- Constructed costumes from patterns and designer drawings.
- Managed fittings, alterations and costume sourcing.
- Supervised wardrobe teams during productions.

Assistant Costume Supervisor / Costume Maker | Clerkenwell Films | February – May 2015 *HG Wells Short Stories* (Sky Arts)

Constructed period costumes, supported fittings, managed costume continuity and assisted with sourcing during filming as well as working as a stand by on set.

Costume Supervisor / Costume Maker | E15 Acting School | June – July 2014

Constructed costumes, completed fittings and delivered professional costume-making workshops for students during the production of *King Lear*.

Costume Supervisor | Darker Purpose Theatre Company | December 2013 – February 2014

Managed costume sourcing, fittings, alterations and costume maintenance for *King Lear*.

Costume Maker | Richard Alston Dance Company | August – October 2013

Constructed tailored coats and matching dresses for the productions *Illuminations* and *Phaedra*, ensuring consistency across multiple identical garments.

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

- **Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education** | Middlesex University | 2024
- **Postgraduate Diploma in Theatre Costume** | Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA) | 2011–2013
- **BA (Hons) Journalism** | University of Istanbul

Professional Development

- Couture Tailoring – Central Saint Martins (2023)
- Couture Techniques – Fashion & Textile Museum (2019)
- Creative Draping – Central Saint Martins (2018)
- Pattern Cutting: Experimental & Explorative Approaches (Parts 1 & 2) – Central Saint Martins (2018)

References available on request