



Yixuan Yang

Portfolio

Design for stage and Screen - costume design and construction

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<https://www.chlwh.net/>

About me

I am a costume designer from China and studying at Nottingham Trent University in UK. To be real or just stay on 2D pages? If we try to create a profile of our favourite character in our mind, you may find that what we imaged will not be the real describe from where they come. One thousands readers will have one thousands Hamlet. To make my favourite characters in my mind, to keep real of them, to give them an authentic soul, making costume for characters is a magic to keep real. These designs come from designers' minds and make the characters flesh and blood. As a theatre costume designer, in the future I want to continue the path of theatre costume design and produce more different stories.

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CV & COVER LETTER

I have been learning about Chinese traditional cultures from a young age, including ethnic costumes, historical tales, classic music, etc. Also, I enjoyed reading different genres of literature, such as history, the arts, and detective and watching the dramas and TV shows adapted and filmed from them. I have always fantasised about bringing the stories in the books to the big screen. Then, a random chance brought me to the field of theatre costume design, and I found that it was the perfect fit for me, as it blends my previous passions and endeavours and provides me with the possibility of fulfilling my long-held aspiration. Therefore, I determinedly chose to enter the Beijing Institute of Fashion Technology to learn fundamental theories and skills related to theatre performance and costume design. As I found early on the fact that musical theatre is not a widely popular form of entertainment in China due to the extensive range of local theatre forms, after completing the first two-year of fundamental courses, I went to the UK, one of the nations with the longest history of theatre performance, to continue my undergraduate studies and currently, I'm a junior in the Design for Stage and Screen (Costume Design and Construction) programme at Nottingham Trent University.

Over the past three years, I have studied background research, academic writing, theatre costume design and production, computer-aided tools, and garment sketching and have become proficient in production procedures, including pattern-making, sewing machine operation, hand sewing and draping. In addition, I have actively participated in a large number of professional practices, completed several stage art and costume production projects, and interned at Nottingham University Lakeside Art in a traditional Chinese storytelling children's theatre production this year, where I worked as a costume design assistant, expanding my design thinking and gaining more real-world design experience. My creative design projects draw inspiration from traditional Chinese culture and stories, combining modern aesthetics with traditional arts to create innovative design concepts and re-creating traditional stories into theatre productions suitable for modern aesthetics. Beyond my dedication to theoretical knowledge and practical skills, my optimistic attitude allowed me to quickly adapt to my study and life abroad, enhancing my adaptability and socialisation. Working with peers from different cultural backgrounds has honed my cross-cultural communication skills. I also collaborated on design projects with practitioners from performance design and fashion management in this summer's design camp, where I coordinated the plans and personnel in the entire design project and increased my teamwork and theatre design skills.

The direction of my future research is the contemporary expression of traditional culture. I hope to re-create classic stories, myths, legends, and historical events in traditional Chinese culture and interpret and perform them under the modern aesthetic perspective, and at the same time, adapt and modernise traditional Chinese art forms such as Peking Opera, acrobatics, and dance, etc. Through innovations in performance form, stage design, and plot setting, traditional arts will be more in line with modern audiences' appreciation while retaining their unique charms. To achieve this goal, I aspire to join your renowned MA Costume programme, as its teaching content and objectives of combining traditional and historic costumes with modern techniques and aesthetics to perpetuate traditional elements and revitalise cultures closely align with my research direction. It will provide more practical opportunities for me to better realise my design ideas, combining design with practical production, empower me to better understand the feasibility and practical application of my designs to deliver more creative ideas on the modern stage and screen and, most importantly, develop my all-round skills to be a professional and independent designer. Upon graduation, I plan to return to my home country to contribute to the development of the theatre and performance industry.

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Yixuan Yang

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LINKS

Yixuan Yang Personal Design
Journey and Website

SKILLS

Costume Design

Innovative

Deadline-driven

Training

Sewing

Adobe Illustrator

Adobe Photoshop

Drawing-Sketching, using
composite material

Adobe InDesign

Adaptability

Organize

PROFILE

Third year student of costume and construction with communication experience gain in student activities. Excellent organisational skills and strong stress tolerance, able to face various difficulties and challenges. Has completed many complete costume projects and related costume production.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

costume assistant at Nottingham Lakeside Art and Nottingham Confucius Institute, Nottingham

December 2022 — February 2023

Consultant, providing information on traditional culture, participating in the design of stage and theatre costumes, and gaining experience in stage work. Focusing on the re-creation of traditional Chinese culture and aesthetic elements in a modern aesthetic perspective, traditional storytelling and contemporary expression.

Summer camp group project participants at H-ART International Art Education, Beijing

July 2023 — August 2023

Directing theatre projects, designing scripts, providing inspiration and design ideas for projects, and collaborating with designers in theatre design and fashion marketing on the project The Seventh Day

Secretary General at Nottingham Trent University Chinese Students and Scholars Association, Nottingham

September 2022 — June 2024

To assist in the smooth running of the Federation's work, to communicate various notices, to collate the Federation's archived materials, and to participate in the planning and organisation of the 2023 Mid-Autumn Festival Gala and Orientation activities.

EDUCATION

Costume Design BA (Hons) at Nottingham Trent University, Nottingham

September 2021 — June 2024

Fundation at Beijing Institute Of Fashion Technology, Beijing

August 2019 — January 2022

HOBBIES

Reading(Prefer history, Art history, Detective, Science fiction, Humanistic studies with a historical background and History novels)/Chinese traditional culture (clothes, history, music, movies)/Chinese national style music (Chinese new-age folk)/Writing

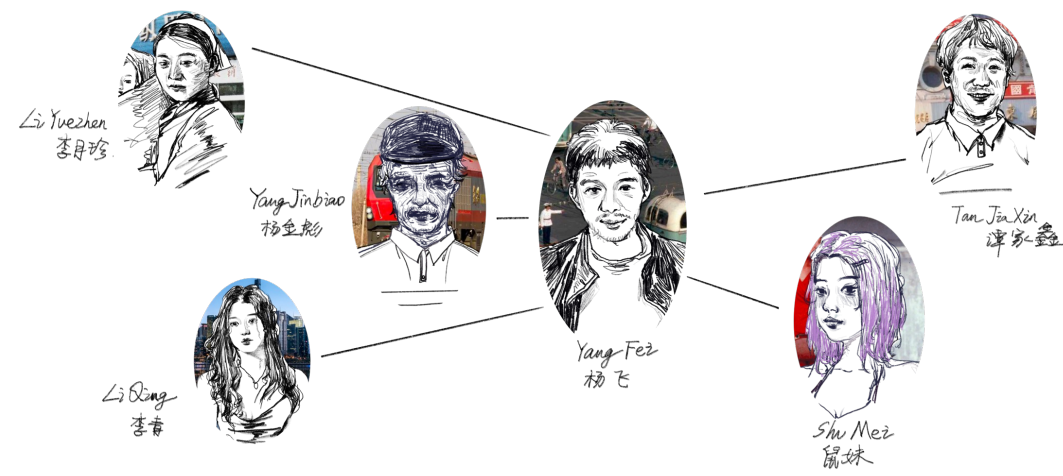
The Seventh Day-

Story brief

The story is adapt from the same name Chinese novel The Seventh Day writted by Yuhua, told from the point of view of the deceased Yang Fei, whose soul enters a funeral parlour waiting to be burnt after his death. He spends the first seven days of his death in the funeral parlour, reuniting souls who had some connection with his life, and telling the story of the life and death of the people who were at the bottom of the Chinese society with him. At the end of the story, those who have suffered in life live happily in the Land of the Dead, while Yang Fei returns to the funeral parlour and reunites with his adoptive father, Yang Jinbiao.



Character relationship



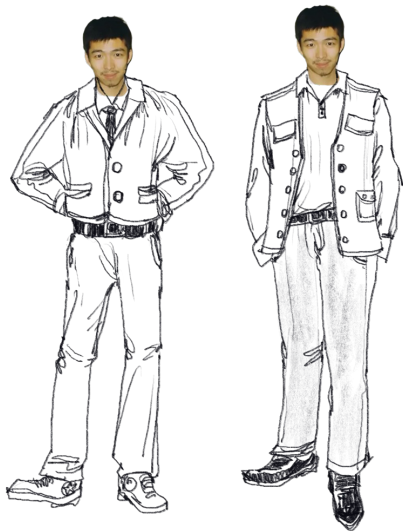
Stage background



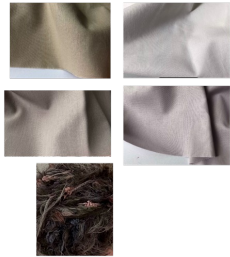
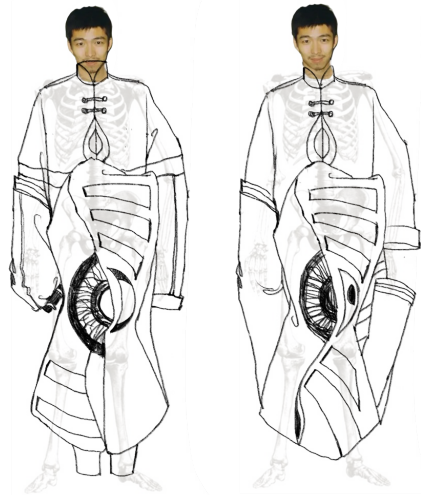
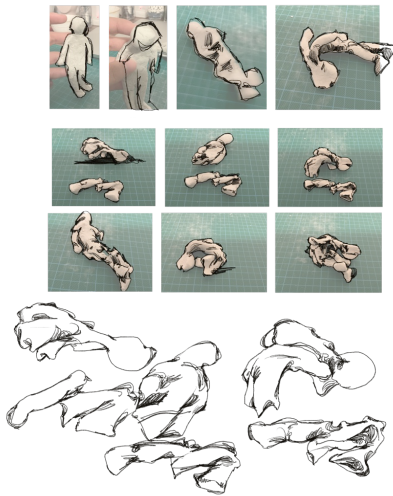
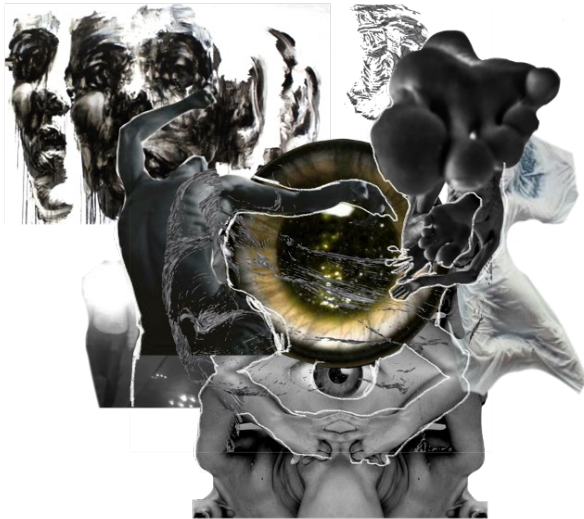
The Seventh Day-
Yang Fei – Alive and Death
Mood board



Alive



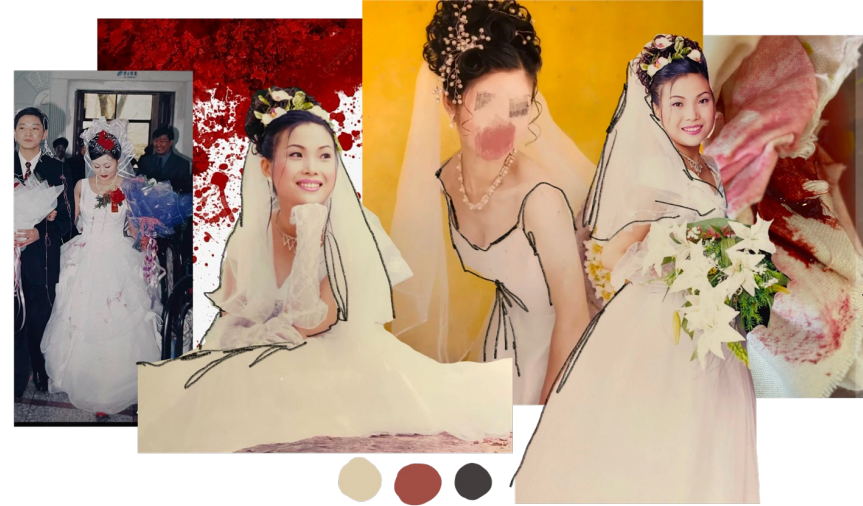
Death



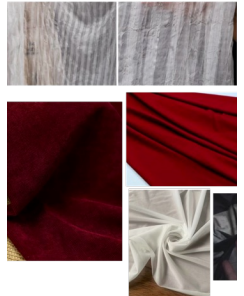
The Seventh Day-

Shu Mei – Alive and Death

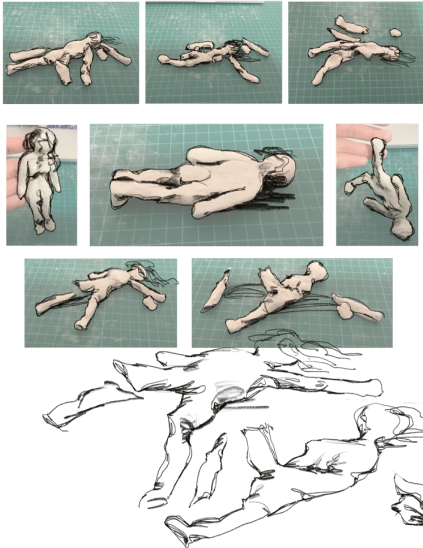
Mood board



Alive



Death

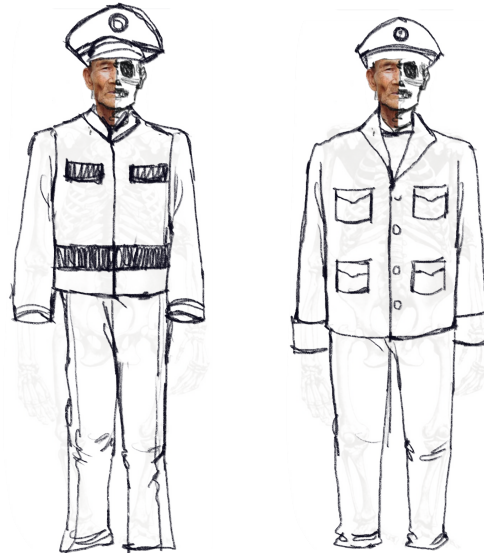


Yang Jinbiao- Alive and Death

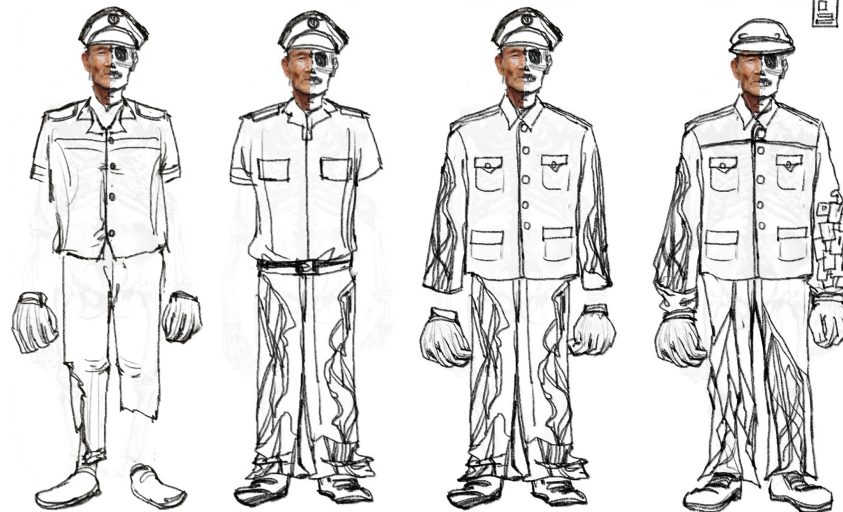
Mood board



Alive



Death

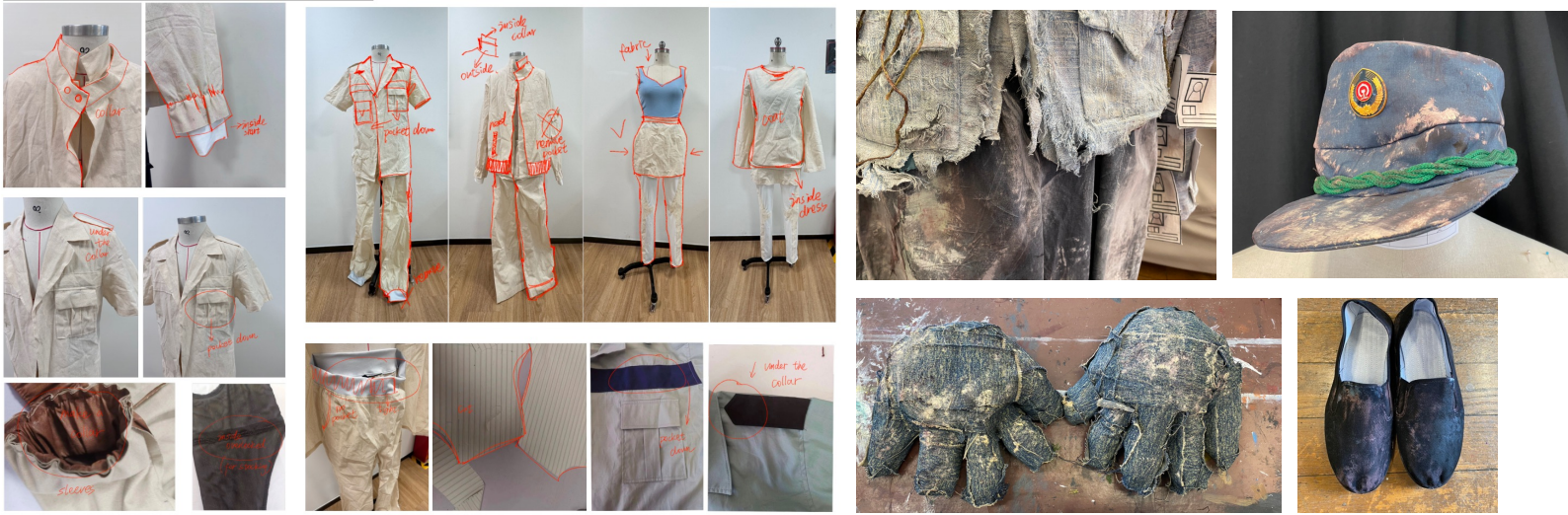


The Seventh Day-

Line up

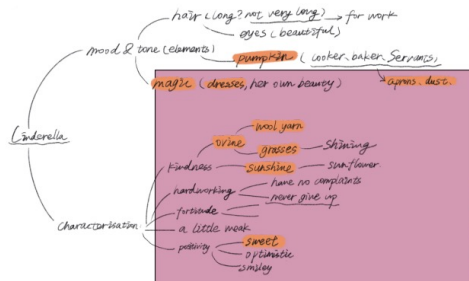


Making



Cinderella-

Stage set and design for Cinderella



Character list:

Cinderella(woman): thick skinned, generous, friendly, spirited , heart of gold. Makes the most of what she's got, and sees the best in all.

Maureen: fun, dim, curvaceous, copies her sister's example but ultimately not a bad bone in her body. Low self esteem but chocolate bars in her socks.

Dandini: equerry efficient, immaculate, cool, talented, witty, witty, bright, fun, slick, cheeky but a professional, closest friend of prince charming

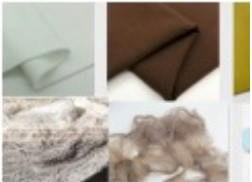
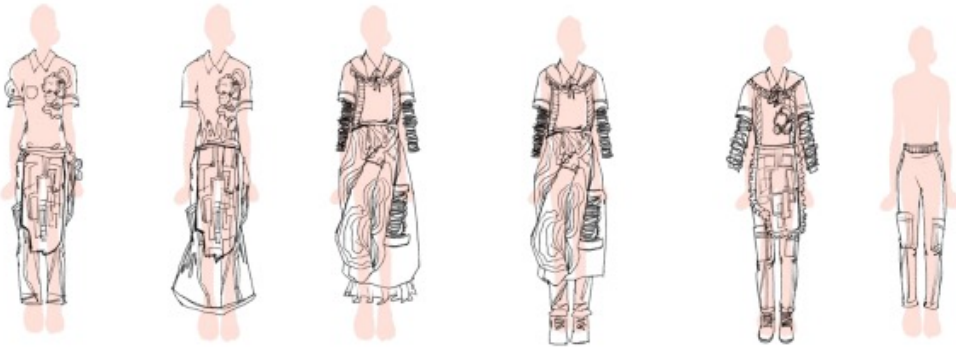
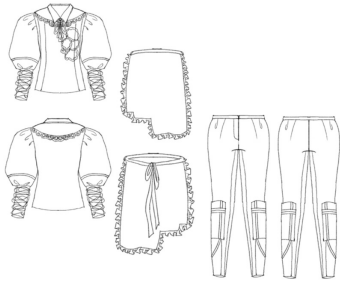
Act /character	Cinderella	Buttons	Prince Charming	Maureen	Chlorine	Dandini	Fairy liquid
Act one	Set 1(Poor cook dresses up)	Set 1 (Servant Dress up)	Set 1 (as prince) Set 2 (change with Dandini)	Set 1 dress	Set 1 dress	Set 1 (as equerry)	Set 1 (as old lady) Set 2 (fairy liquid)
Act two	Set 2(magic dress) Set 3(royal wedding)	Set 1	Set 1 (royal wedding)	Set 2 (on dinner)	Set 2 (on dinner)	Set 1	Set 3 (royal wedding)

Location list:
Kitchen - Grocery shop warehouse
The village square - bazaars
Forest - back yard of the grocery shop
The royal ballroom - Office, labelled supermarket
Palace corridor - supermarket
The royal wedding - street in front of the big supermarket



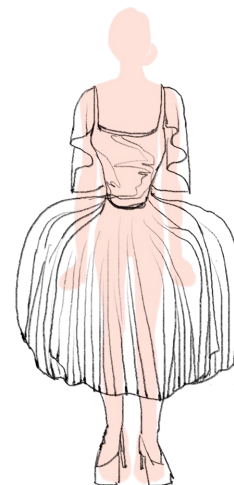
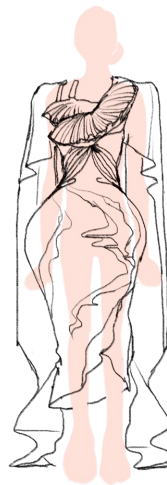
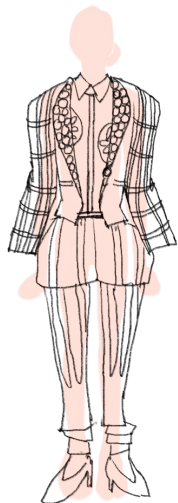
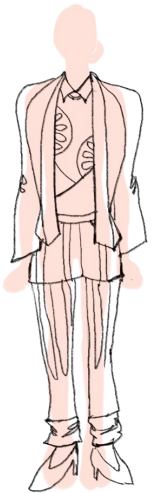
Back yard of the grocery shop

The supermarket



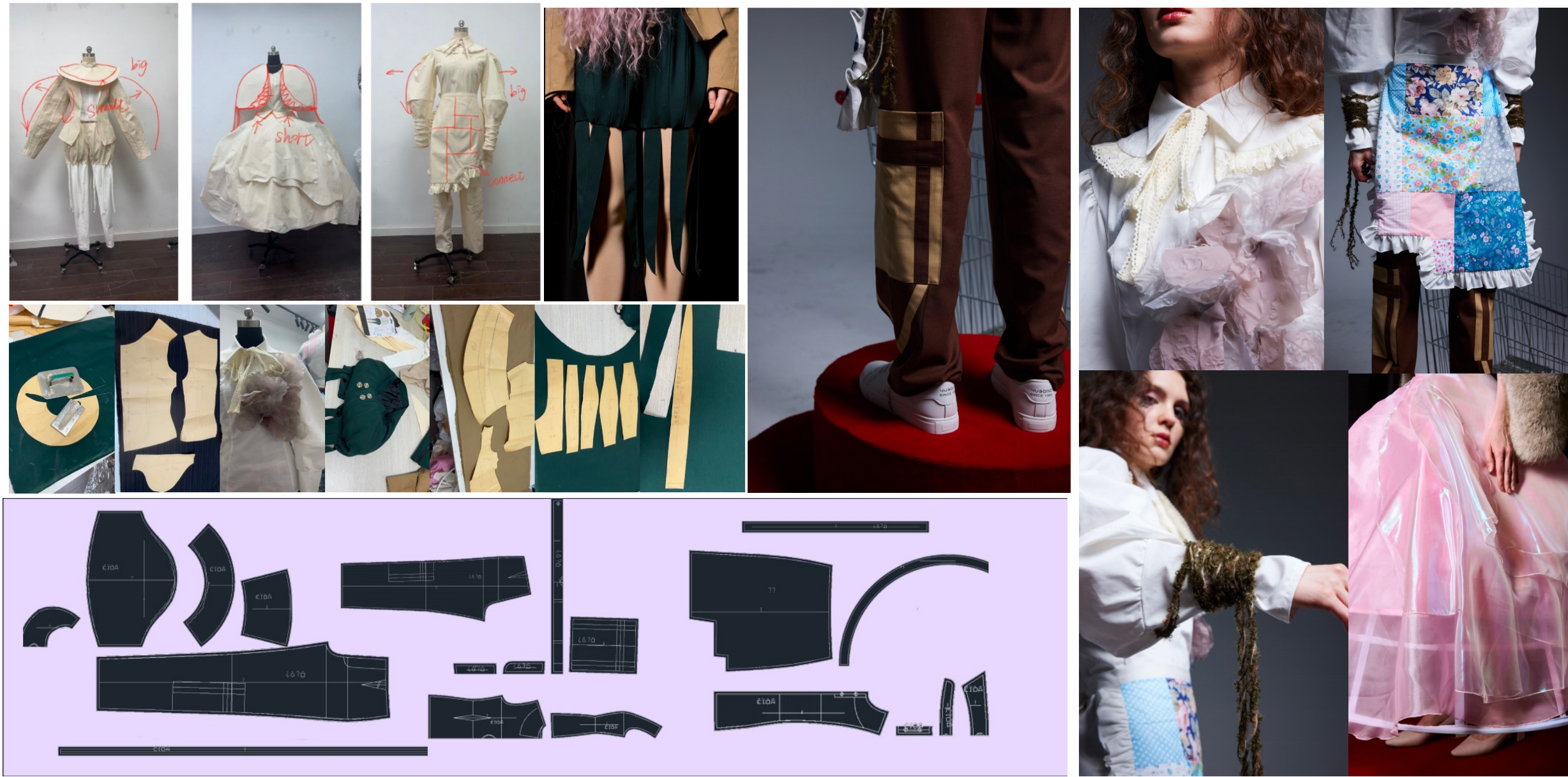
Cinderella-

Ugly sisters



Cinderella-

Making and final



Cinderella-



Biopic Anna May Wong-

Anna May Wong's Whole Life

Wong Liu Tsong (January 3, 1905 – February 3, 1961), known professionally as Anna May Wong, was an American actress, considered the first Chinese-American movie star in Hollywood, as well as the first Chinese-American actress to gain international recognition. Her varied career spanned silent film, sound film, television, stage, and radio.

by Paul Tanqueray half-plate glass negative 1933 © estate of Paul Tanqueray

Anna May Wong's whole life

Born 1905

1921-1924: Anna May Wong's debut, Oriental women are sexy on the Hollywood screen

1928-1929: Anna May Wong She went to Europe, had her own glamorous role and received the acclaim she deserved

1930: Anna May Wong back to Hollywood, she is still acting in works with a bad image and has grown from her debut

1937: Anna May Wong back to China and looked for her roots

1937-1950: Anna May Wong became to make her own characters in the films and helped China in the World War II

Imagine her (1950-1961): in her later years, she was not understood by those around her and by the Chinese people, and was sadly suffering from alcoholism and mental problems

1929: Anna May Wong in Europe

1935: back to Hollywood again

1937: Anna May Wong back to China and looked for her roots

1937-1950: Anna May Wong became to make her own characters in the films and helped China in the World War II

Imagine her (1950-1961): in her later years, she was not understood by those around her and by the Chinese people, and was sadly suffering from alcoholism and mental problems

1937: Anna May Wong back to China and looked for her roots

1937-1950: Anna May Wong became to make her own characters in the films and helped China in the World War II

Imagine her (1950-1961): in her later years, she was not understood by those around her and by the Chinese people, and was sadly suffering from alcoholism and mental problems

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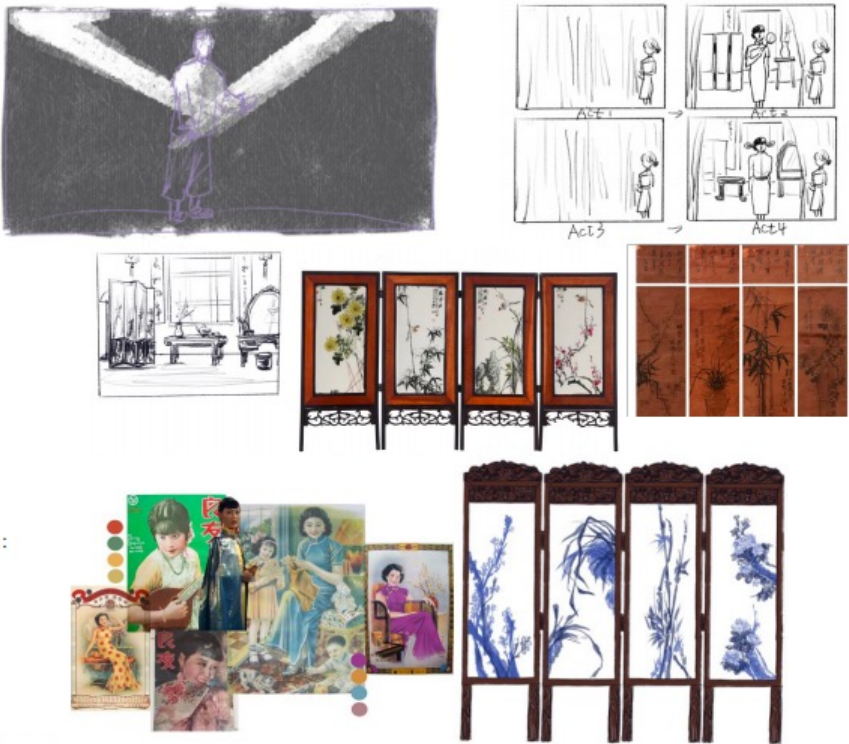
Imagine her (1950-1961): in her later years, she was not understood by those around her and by the Chinese people, and was sadly suffering from alcoholism and mental problems

Stage set

- 1.1921-1924:Anna May Wong' s debut, Oriental women are sexy on the Hollywood screen
- 2.1928-1929:Anna May Wong She went to Europe, had her own glamorous role and received the acclaim she deserved
- 3.1930:Anna May Wong back to Hollywood , she is still acting in works with a bad image and has grown from her debut
- 4.1937:Anna May Wong back to China and looked for her roots
- 5.1937-1950:Anna May Wong became to make her own characters in the films and helped China in the World War II
6. Imagine her(1950-1961): in her later years, she was not understood by those around her and by the Chinese people, and was sadly suffering from alcoholism and mental problems



Reference :
Hamilton
(musical)



Set: Time shifts are achieved by actors walking into the shot and changing the background and props



Biopic Anna May Wong-

Butterfly 1921-1927

Description: Under the enactment of the Chinese Exclusion Act in Hollywood Huang Liushang was a fledgling young girl who performed many roles that fit her image but were discrediting to the Chinese. The scenes are painful, but hopeful and youthful in character.

Moodboard and feelings



I chose the classic roles of Huang Liushang when she was just starting out, the "Lotus Flower"-like innocent girl, and the sexy Mongolian slave, as her collection of elements.



Developing



Research



Biopic Anna May Wong-

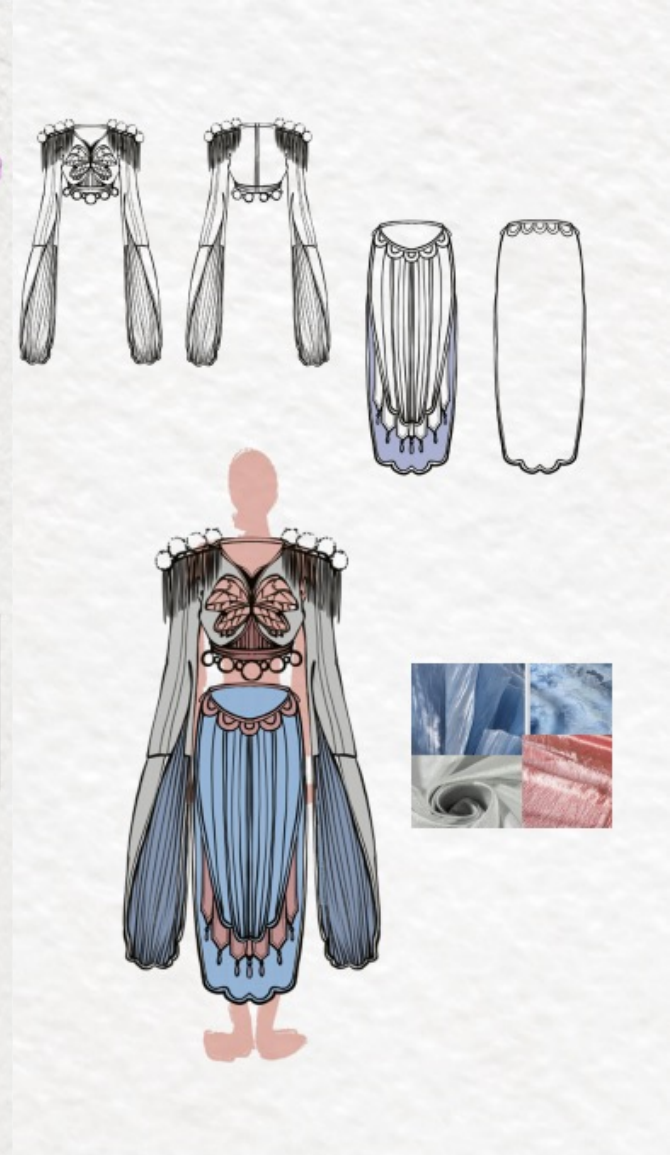
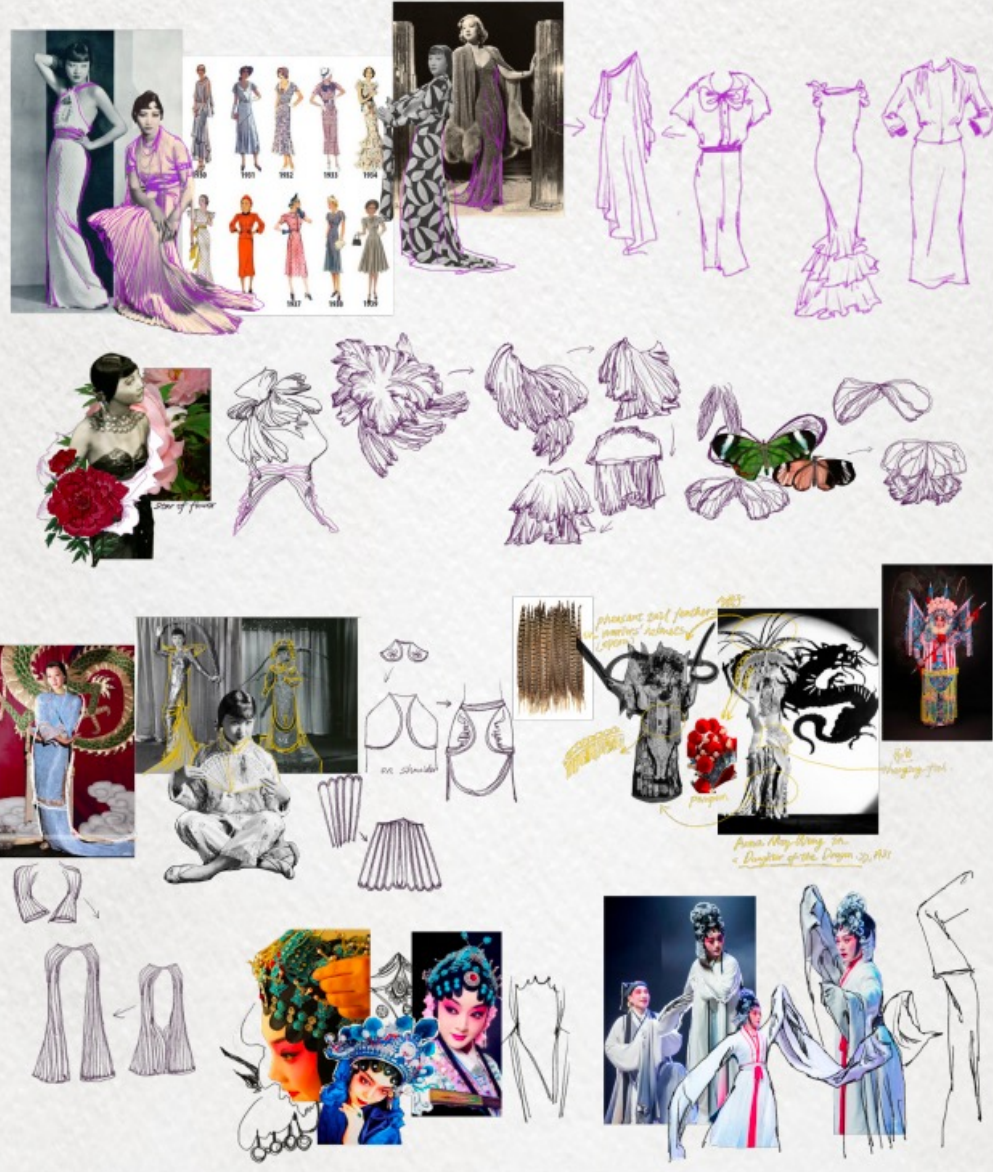
The Glory Days 1930-1936s

Description: Anna May Wong back to Hollywood, she is still acting in works with a bad image and has grown from her debut. But she had enough to be able to fight some of the racism, and enough visibility that she began to find herself.

Returning to Hollywood after reaping the benefits of fame in Europe, Willow Frost Hwang still wants to play very good roles, but she's still playing roles that are stereotypical of Asians. So I focused more on her real-life experiences.



Research



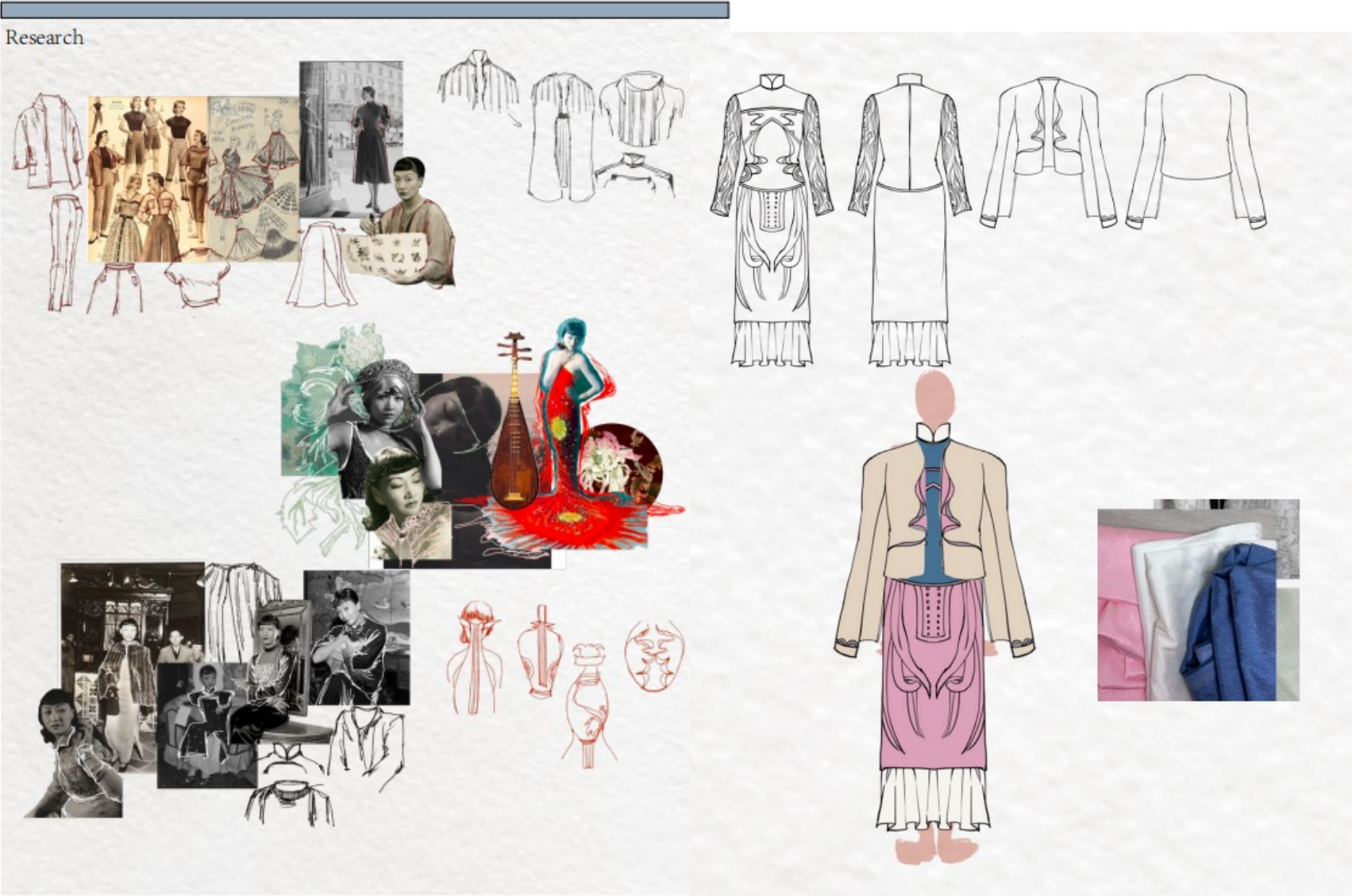
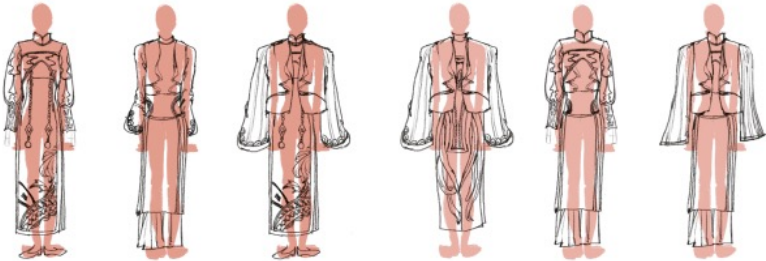
Biopic Anna May Wong-

Imagined period: back to young girl's dream 1950-1961

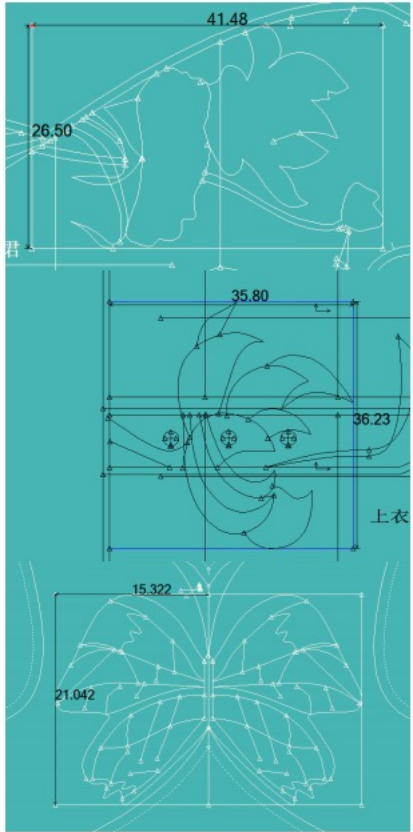
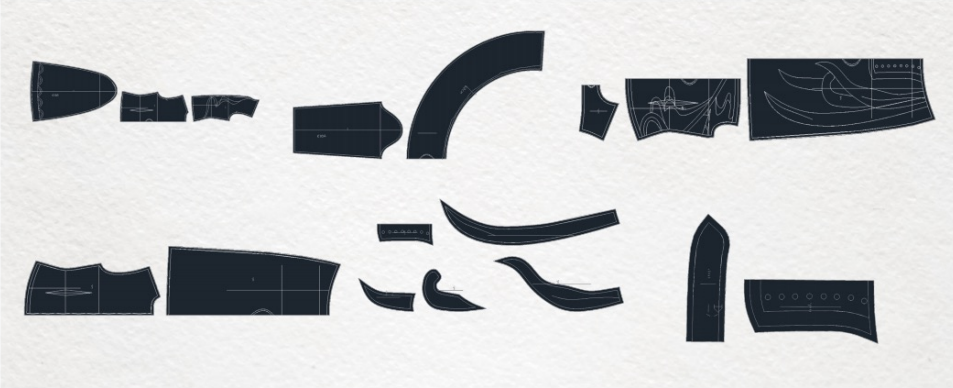
Description: In her later years, she was not understood by those around her and by the Chinese people and was sadly suffering from alcoholism and mental problems. The emotion of missing home and the passing of the years. I imagine Wong Liu Fong remaining exquisite and beautiful in her old age. She would wear traditional clothing from her homeland (China) and use exquisite tea sets, but most of all she would always miss her hometown. The suffering of illness and separation from her loved ones always tormented her, but she was never defeated.



I have restored Wong Liu Fong to her teenage years and she is still in love with life, but suffering from alcohol and physical reasons, she is not able to participate in her acting career anymore, very regrettable.



Biopic Anna May Wong-



Biopic Anna May Wong-

Butterfly - 1921-1927



The Gloys Days - 1930-1936



Placement and previous work

Placement at Lakeside Art



2023 Placement in Traditional Chinese Storytelling at Lakeside Arts Theatre, Nottingham, working as an Assistant Costume Designer on a project touring a small 2-3 person storytelling show celebrating Chinese myths and legends for the Chinese New Year in 2023, with an approximate performance time of 50 minutes. The storytelling theatre tells some of the extraordinary myths and folktales of East Asian China, including the origin of the moon rabbit, the legend of the dragon, the story of Hou Yi shooting the sun, and the tale of the carp leaping over the Dragon Gate. I participated in this internship with Yunshu Jiang from Theatre Design to complete this project. We used a lot of traditional elements from China and integrated them into a short family drama that is suitable for both young and old. The plot sets the main characters, Robin and Fengfeng, playing and role-playing a number of stories in their home, highlighting through thematic undercurrents that our actions can have positive or negative consequences, and that we all need to make positive efforts to maintain harmony in the world.



Teamwork with team

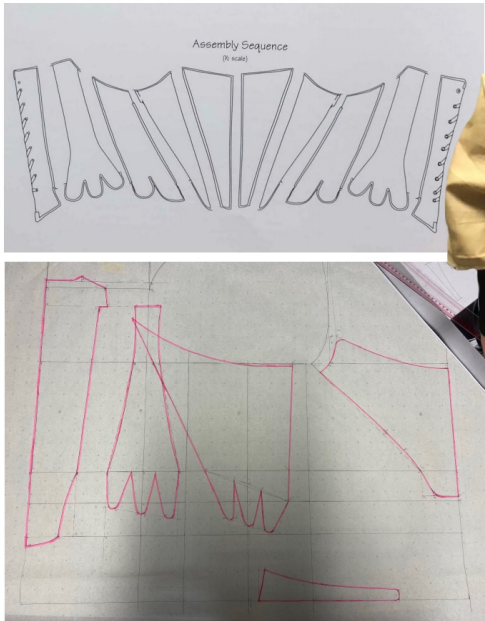


Placement and previous work

Stay construction and millinery



Historic costume construction



I have the skill of historic costume construction and as well as using historical research to inform my practise. Good at patterning and matching with ready-made fabrics

Design make and Tailor project

