

## Programme

# Dressing the Part: Costume Design for Film and Television

## Details

Autumn term online live sessions: Fridays, 22 September – 27 October 2023

Watch lecture recordings on demand, available at the end of each day, until 8 December 2023

## Overview

Celebrating 100 years of filmmaking, this course explores the evolving role of the costume designer from silent films to superheroes, via the Golden Age of Hollywood. From silent films to superheroes, costume design plays a pivotal role in creating unforgettable characters and iconic images. This course will examine how that role has changed over 100 years, including in-depth modules on The Golden Age of Hollywood and the British 'Costume Drama'. It considers the importance of creative collaborations between actor and designer (Marlene Dietrich and Travis Banton) and director and designer (Alfred Hitchcock and Edith Head).

The course discusses the importance of television costume design for the variety shows of the 1970s (Cher and Bob Mackie) and the significance of costume in creating the 'Diva'. It reveals the challenges of designing character arcs on long-running and much-loved franchises such as Game of Thrones, Downton Abbey and The Crown.

Featuring interviews with leading costume designers and expert speakers, it will also look at the changing nature of costume design for the digital era, including designing for motion capture, animation and superheroes. It concludes with the post-film legacy of costume design from its impact on fashion and popular culture to blockbuster exhibitions.

## Your course leader

Keith Lodwick is a writer, curator and film historian. He is the former Curator of Theatre and Screen Arts at the Victoria and Albert Museum. At the V&A, Keith curated *Vivien Leigh: Public Faces, Private Lives* and has written extensively about Vivien Leigh and her life and work. Keith was the V&A curator for the blockbuster exhibition *Hollywood Costume* (2012), one of the most successful exhibitions in the museum's history. Keith has contributed to several publications including: *Hollywood Costume* (2012); *Alexander McQueen: Savage Beauty* (2015); *Vivien Leigh: Actress and Icon* (2017), *Shoe Reels: The History and Philosophy of Footwear in Film* (2020) and *Performance Costume: New Perspectives and Methods* (2021) and the forthcoming *DIVA* (2023) to coincide with the major V&A exhibition.

*Note: V&A Academy programmes are subject to change without notice.*

### Week 1 – Friday 22 September

10.20 Introduction & Welcome **Keith Lodwick**

10.30-11.30 Introduction: A Century of Costume Design **Keith Lodwick**

12.00-13.00 Designing Characters, Creating Stars **Dr. Lucy Bolton, Queen Mary University**

### Week 2 – Friday 29 September

10.30-11.30 The Golden Age of Hollywood **Keith Lodwick**

12.00-13.00 Costume to *Couture*: Audrey Hepburn and Givenchy **Henry Wilkinson**

### Week 3 – Friday 6 October

10.30-11.30 'Costume Films are England's Greatest Export' (Picturegoer, 1950): The British Costume Drama **Keith Lodwick**

12.00-13.00 Gainsborough Pictures and *The Wicked Lady* **Dr. Susan North, Curator of 18th Century Fashion, V&A**

### **Week 4 – Friday 13 October**

10.30-11.30 Television: The Streaming Age **Keith Lodwick**

12.00-13.00 Q&A with Emmy Award-winning costume designer **Michele Clapton**, costume designer for Games of Thrones and The Crown

### **Week 5 – Friday 20 October**

10.30-11.30 New Frontiers: Costume Design for Fantasy, Science Fiction and the Digital Age, **Keith Lodwick**

12.00-13.00 Q&A with Oscar winning costume designer **Alexandra Byrne** (Elizabeth: The Golden Age, Guardian of the Galaxy, Murder on the Orient Express)

13.15-13.45 Meet & Greet, **Keith Lodwick**

### **Week 6 – Friday 27 October**

10.30-11.30 Staging Costume: The Making of Hollywood Costume **Keith Lodwick**

12.00-13.00 Staging DIVA: **Kate Bailey**, Senior Exhibitions Curator, V&A and **Veronica Castro**, Assistant Curator, DIVA, V&A