



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

News Release

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PHOTO CALL

**2PM, THURSDAY 3 APRIL 2014
THE ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE,
30 GRINDLAY STREET, EDINBURGH, EH3 9AX
PLEASE MEET AT THE STAGE DOOR**

Tap-dancing pigeons and cocooned ice queens at costume extravaganza

A six-foot tap-dancing pigeon from the Booker Prize-nominated novel, *Pigeon English*, will be one of the highlights at the preview of Edinburgh College of Art Fashion Show's performance costume strand on Thursday (3 April).

Other attractions include an outfit wreathed in electrical currents, portraying the effect of an epileptic seizure on the body's nervous system. The costume has been developed in consultation with epilepsy charities.

The preview in the Royal Lyceum Theatre will also include a chilling version of Oscar Wilde's *Salome* draped in a latticed veil with blood-red jewels. Also taking to the stage will be the Ice Queen from Erin Morgenstern's *The Night Circus*, whose upper body is cocooned inside a bubble.

The designs have been created by performance costume students for the ECA Fashion Show, one of the capital's leading creative events, which will take place at the University of Edinburgh's McEwan Hall from 23 to 25 April.

The work of one student, Sophie Barlow, has already been selected to take part in an exhibition at the Victoria & Albert Museum this summer. Her chess-inspired designs for Shakespeare's *Othello* and *Iago* will be part of a celebration in London marking the Bard's 450th birthday.

Other designs draw inspiration from Parisian puppets, Russian fairytales, and 1960s beauty parlours.

Seven multi-media shows will be staged over three days, giving audiences the chance to catch a glimpse some of Scotland's most talented new designers in fashion, performance costume and textiles.

Ranked among the top universities in the world

ECA Performance Costume Programme Director Megan Baker said: “These performance costumes will brilliantly showcase the inspirational design work and the professional standards of our graduating students this year. Our course continues to provide the industry with original, talented, hard-working individuals committed to the art and craft of costume design.”

Graduates from ECA’s Performance Costume course go on to work in film, TV and stage shows across the world, including HBO’s Game of Thrones. Most recently ECA graduate Anna Robbins was appointed as the new costume designer for ITV’s Downton Abbey.

Tickets for the ECA Fashion Show are on sale now costing £12 each (plus £1.25p booking fee). They can be purchased via Hub Tickets - <http://bit.ly/buyECAFS2014tix>.

Follow news and reaction with Twitter hashtag: #ecafashionshow

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