



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

News Release

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PHOTO CALL

**1.30PM, TUESDAY, 8 MAY
ENGINE HOUSE
EDINBURGH COLLEGE OF ART
76-78 LAURISTON PLACE EH3 9DF**

Spectacular designs spotlight student flair at dazzling costume show

Colourful characters from a female wrestling group, a futuristic bird-woman and a monster based on religious icons will be previewed by University of Edinburgh students on Tuesday (8 May).

For the first time, Edinburgh College of Art's Engine House exhibition space will be transformed into a vibrant theatrical space for the annual Performance Costume Show.

The eye-popping showcase of designs by performance costume students takes place on 18 and 19 May.

Taking inspiration from a 1980s wrestling group, student Poppy Stublely has created her own Formidable Ladies of Wrestling. Her gutsy characters are based on women that inspire her, such as OJ Simpson lawyer Marcia Clark and rapper M.I.A.

Katie Powell's eye-catching clairvoyant costume features a woman with a huge red beak and cape covered in red veins. She has used a number of unusual fabrics – such as fibre glass and sushi paper – to create a futuristic look inspired by biotechnology.

A Brazilian crime drama is the focus for Megan Gallacher's impressive creation. Her larger-than-life totem costume references religious practices, monuments and icons from Rio, Slovakia and Glasgow.

Harriet Ogden bases her endearing outfits on a Terry Pratchett novel that imagines a whole universe within a carpet. Her humorous costumes reflect oversized specks of dust entangled with remnants of all the bits and pieces caught up in a rug pile.

Bohemian costumes for women from the Bloomsbury Set – a group of early 20th century – are the basis of Liberty Bramall's designs. Her lampshade ladies have bannister walking sticks, lampshades for hats and patterned outfits covered in tassels.

Performance costume graduates have gone on to follow successful careers in cinema, TV and theatre. They graduate Emma O Loughlin winning an Emmy and Bafta award last year for

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Game of Thrones and *The Crown*, Emily Bates winning the 2018 Royal Opera House bursary award as well as many others, which include most recently *Paddinton 2*, Disney's *Artemis Fowl* and Wes Anderson's *Isle of Dogs*. Others have gone on to work at the Royal Opera House, the V&A Museum, Scottish Opera and Northern Ballet.

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