

Hello,

You are about to read my written reflection, which is a research of and a reflection on gender fluidity and representation on stage and in costume design. It is structured around my intention with my MA work, along with a workshop that is a part of my final MA project.

You'll be welcomed by the first object I made at KHiO that represents what my intention with my MA study is - together with a corny quote, for those who need the extra notes. In the introduction, you'll get to know me a little better and hopefully get an understanding of why I think this specific work is essential for the costume field.

I will run you through the introduction to the workshop, and you'll meet my Drag persona Frankie Boi and get an understanding of my intention of the workshop as well as the connection it has to the rest of this paper.

With the help of Judith Butler, I'll explain the normative gender system and reflect on this through my workshop, where I explore how much the performativity of garments affects us. I am leaning on Alok Vaid-Menon, who is a strong player throughout my whole paper (and generally in my life) they are a gender non-conforming writer and performance artist, who shares their knowledge through poetry, books and performance art. I turn to them work to explain further on gender-nonconformity, how and why it is so important to try and expand this into the field of costume.

From there I'll take you deeper into what performativity means in regard to garments, how it can affect non-conforming people and when garments stop being clothes and start becoming a costume. I read a book by Ida Holmegaard called Look that goes deep into this question of; when clothes become costume and the other way around. I use some of their thought experiments to elaborate on my own questions regarding this, which takes me into the thought of "dressing up", what clothes mean and what they can do to us. I reflect on how clothes can affect what we do on stage vs what we do off stage also, going into how masculine vs feminine clothes affects us.

I explain a little about Drag and why I find a lot of inspiration in the way Drag concerns itself with garments and performativity, also touching on the discourse of Drag concerning how we see and understand GNC stage performances and how we talk about it.

In the end, I hope that you reach an understanding of and a curiosity about gender and performativity and how it all can connect within costume design.

Enjoy!

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