

Lee Dartnell (They/Them)

About me

I am a costume maker, specialising in dyeing, breaking down, and Armoury. With a wide range of experience working in different costuming roles in both theatre and film, including costume supervisor. I'm hardworking, remain calm under pressure and function well in a team.

EXPERIENCE

Costume Maker and Textile artist

David Copperfield, Bath Theatre Royal – *textile artist and dyer*

(January - February 2026) Dyeing multiple duplicates of costumes and a subtle breakdown

The Christmas Carol, BOVTS – *Maker*

(November 2025) Black frock coat and cloak for “The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come”; this make includes Tailoring, breakdown, and mould-making.

The Watsons, BOVTS – *textile artist and dyer*

(February 2025) Colour matching and dyeing existing garments.

Theabans, BOVTS – *textile artist and dyer*

(February 2025) Breaking down several garments and creating blood SFX.

A Midsummer Night's Dream, BOVTS – *Maker*

(January – February 2025) I made a stretch, medieval-inspired gown for Titania with wings. Alongside this, I also dyed the outer fabric a range of different colours and the base fabric to match the actor's skin tone.

Treasure Island, BOVTS – *Textile artist and dyer*

(November 2024) I broke down several costumes and created a range of different dye effects.

Costume supervisor

Mephisto, BOVTS – *Costume Supervisor*

(April – June 202) Promenade/ semi-immersive play, performed at the Loco Club, set from the 1920s to the 1930s. Contains a heavy dressing plot, extensive hair and makeup and several plays within the play.

Foxfinder, BOVTS – *Cover Costume Supervisor*

(April – May 2025) For a dystopian thriller, I covered the second and third rehearsal weeks for this show. Finished alterations, breakdown

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SKILLS

- Dyeing and breaking down costumes
- Costume construction
- Leatherwork
- Costume supervision
- Chain maile
- Natural dyeing
- Armour Making
- Costume Prop
- Tailoring
- Pattern drafting
- Fitting and sourcing costumes
- Makeup, hair, and basic SFX effects
- Dressing
- Millinery
- Spinning and Weaving
- Research and design

EDUCATION

Bristol Old Vic Theatre School —

Costume for Theatre, Film and TV BA
(September 2025 - July 2026)

Bristol Old Vic Theatre School —

Costume for Theatre, Film and TV *FDA*
September 2023 - July 2025

Hereford College of Arts -Foundation

Diploma in Art and Design
September 2022- July 2023
(Distinction)

Ludlow College - A-Levels

September 2020- July 2022
(A, B, C)

costumes and created SFX for a fresh whip wound on a vest.

The Welkin, BOVTS – *Costume Supervisor*

(October – November 2024) Set in the 18th century, with some modern elements. As part of working on this show, I also led workshops in Dye and breakdown, and worked closely with stage management and the actors to rig SFX effects into the costumes.

Black Mountain, BOVTS— *Costume Supervisor and Dresser*

(May 2024) A modern thriller, set in the mountains. This show also required costumes to be broken down and the prepping of various blood SFX effects.

Costume Assistant and Dresser

The Marriage of Figaro, Open Opera Project

(August – October 2024)

Tiger Country, BOVTS

(March 2024)

A Very expensive Poison, BOVTS

(February 2024)

Film/ Costume standby

Ramble, Peanut Productions Ltd – *Runner*

(March 2025)

Palindrome, BOVTS – *Costume supervisor and standby*

(February 2025)

Four-letter word, BOVTS – *Costume supervisor and standby*

(February 2026)

For References email:

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(Head of Costume at Bristol Old Vic Theatre School)