

Costume List - 2 productions

We are looking for one /two costume designers to prepare costumes for our August 2018 Edinburgh Fringe productions.

The two productions are (a) *Volpone* and (b) *Casanova Dreaming*. Both of them are period pieces, with *Volpone* set in the late 19th century and *Casanova Dreaming* in the mid eighteenth century. Both productions will suggest the Carnival in Venice and many, perhaps all, the characters will wear Carnival masks at some point in the play. (The producer has a wide range of masks already.)

Volpone is complex. It is two acts long, with 13 actors (m/f) wearing 28 (19th century) costumes. The costumes should look good quality and clearly distinguish the different characters. The major portion of the budget should be spent on this play.

Casanova Dreaming is simpler. It is one act, with 7 actors (m/f) wearing 16 costumes. It is set in the 18th century but only one of the characters (Seingalt) needs a costume that is clearly of the period. The other major actor (Giacomo) will in be in nightclothes. The remaining characters should be clearly defined, but because it is a dream, definition can be in a few accessories rather than the whole attire. This will also help quick changes offstage and the fact that in one scene several actors will have to change character onstage.

We need three costumes (*Volpone*: nightshirt and cap / *Mosca*: maidservant / *Giacomo*: undergarments) to be ready by the end of March; the rest by 15 July for fitting and dress rehearsals.

We have a budget for materials and labour and will negotiate an agreement with the costume designer(s).

If you are interested in taking on this role, please contact the director, Martin Foreman, at info@arberyproductions.co.uk or on 0798 965 5482, either with questions or with a proposed budget. Further information about the plays is available on arberyproductions.co.uk

VOLPONE

Men	Scenes
1. Volpone (40s)	
1) nightshirt and night cap	1, 6, 8, 9
2) mountebank	2, 3
3) officer (same design as officer below)	11, 12
plus probable mask for seduction scene	6
2. Voltore (50+)	
1) old-fashioned advocate (lawyer)	1, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12
plus possible hat & cloak for street scenes	
3. Corvino (30s)	
1) fashionable merchant	1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12
plus possible hat & cloak for street scenes	
4. Sir Politic Would-Be (40+)	
1) eccentric Englishman	2, 7, 10
and Notary (40+)	
2) court official	8, 12
5. Peregrine (young 20s)	
1) fashionable young English tourist	2, 7, 10
and Bonario (young 20s)	
2) fashionable young Italian	5, 6, 8, 12

Although the actor will differentiate the two characters, their clothes must also make clear distinction between them.

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6. Officer (any age)
 1) same design as Volpone above)
The Officer will also be a labourer in Scene 2 and possibly Jester in Scene 10 – see below

Sub-Total 10 male costumes

Women

Scenes

7. Mosca (late 20s)
 1) maidservant 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
 2) young man 2, 3
 3) fashionable lady 11, 12
8. Corbaccia (old)
 1) old-fashioned miser 1, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12
 plus possible cloak for street scenes
9. Lady Would-Be (40s)
 1) overdressed rich English tourist 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
10. Celia (20s)
 1) pious wife 2, 4, 8, 12
 2) well-dressed wife 6
and maidservant (20s)
 3) maidservant 6, 7, 10
very quick costume change required in scene 6

Sub-Total 8 female costumes

Either Sex

Scenes

- 11-13. Judges (30s+)
 1. court judges (slight variations possible) pro, 8, 12, epi
and Jesters (any age)
 2. Venetian carnival costumes 10
and Labourers / Housewives
 3. poor people's clothing 2

Sub-Total 10 either sex costumes (assuming four labourers)

VOLPONE TOTAL: 13 actors (m/f); 28 costumes

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CASANOVA DREAMING

Men

1. Giacomo Casanova (19)
the actor will be half-naked for all or most of the play – very loose white underwear is suggested, with possibly of a night-shirt that he attempts, but fails, to put on at one point
2. Chevalier de Seingalt (73)
an aging aristocrat – clothes should be once-fashionable but now worn
3. the parts played by this actor (30s-50s) are
 1. Bragadin: slightly effeminate Venetian aristocrat
 2. Lorenzo: city jailer (uniform not necessary: working class clothes)
 3. Cesare da Orsara: barber-surgeon (perhaps slightly blood apron)
 4. Sir Wellbore Agar: English aristocrat
 5. Branicki: Polish aristocratThe easiest way of distinguishing the characters might be headwear & wig; possibly also wire-rimmed glasses, gloves etc

Sub-Total 8 male costumes

Women

1. Marquise d'Urfe (40s)
 1. scatty French aristocrat*and* Mrs Cornelys (40s)
 2. superior brothel keeper
2. Anna Maria (29)
 1. nightshift*and* Cecilia (18)
 2. simple, modest dress*both characters appear on stage at one point and we are not sure if there is a way of alternating the costumes onstage*
3. Bellino (16 year old boy)
 1. simple male clothes*the character at first appears male but at some point it becomes clear that she has women's breasts and at another point she reveals (either by opening her clothes or pulling it out) a fake penis**and* Charpillon (18 year old whore)
 2. an elegant young lady*both characters appear on stage at one point: Bellino's female sex is no longer in doubt but the audience must be reminded of her disguise, and then be aware when the actress has changed into Charpillon*
4. Henriette (20s)
 1. a strong, confident woman who just happens to be wearing men's clothes*and* Nun
 2. a strong confident woman whose religious clothing hides a strong erotic drive

Sub-Total 8 female costumes

Total 16 costumes