YAKSHI ARORA

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PERSONAL PROFILE

Multidisciplinary artist, designer & maker exploring the intersections of costume, craft, art and fashion. I work with patience, resilience, and precision, using techniques such as corsetry, tailoring, and textile manipulation to transform ideas into narrative-driven pieces. Curious, adaptable, and collaborative, I bring creativity to every project, always seeking new ways to tell stories through material and design.

SKILLS

Adobe CC Suite	Corsetry	German (A2 level)
Procreate	Tailoring	Organised
Problem Solver	Textile Manipulation	Empathetic
Observant	Laser Cutting	Resilient

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Ecstasy of the Virtues - Mahogany Opera
Freelance Costume Maker — **August 2026 - Sept 2026**

- Worked under Costume Designer Polly Simon for *Ecstasy of the Virtues* by Nwando Ebizie, constructing costumes and headpieces using machine and hand sewing, including wrap-around dresses and ruffles to exact performer measurements.
- Pattern cut and constructed garments and headpieces using tulle, cotton and buckram, applying millinery and structural making techniques with precise, clean finishes.
- Sourced fabrics and materials as required, adapting construction techniques to different materials and working to the designer's requirements.

Koo Style
Retail Seamstress — **July 2026 - Present**

- Executed high-quality garment alterations and repairs with strong attention to detail, ensuring precise fit, structural integrity, and clean finishes under tight retail deadlines.
- Maintained rigorous continuity and inventory care by organising, prepping, and developing the garment maintenance discipline.
- Executed bespoke patch customisations across a variety of materials, particularly denim, using precise hand and machine sewing techniques while adapting methods to suit different fabric weights, textures, and garment constructions.

Loanhood
Swap Shop Assistant — **June 2026 - Present**

- Managed fast-paced event inventory by meticulously sorting, quality-checking, and organising garments under tight deadlines during high-volume swap events, drawing 200 to 500 attendees.
- Demonstrated strong collaborative continuity by translating customer requests into styled options on the floor, refining the rapid problem-solving, teamwork, and garment care skills

Bespoke Bridal Project
Freelance Bridal Designer and Maker — **December 2025 - Present**

- Currently designing and developing a bespoke wedding dress tailored to the client's vision, measurement, and cultural requirements.
- Conducting ongoing client consultations, fittings, and design refinements throughout the project.
- Creating patterns, toiles, and garment construction samples using couture sewing and hand-finishing techniques.
- Managing fabric sourcing, fit development, and production timelines from concept to final outcome.

Hobbs, Covent Garden | London
Style Advisor — **November 2025 - January 2026**

- Provided personalised styling advice with a strong focus on fit, silhouette, and fabric.
- Supported customers in building complete looks aligned with the Hobbs aesthetic.
- Maintained high visual and presentation standards across the shop floor.
- Worked confidently in a fast-paced, fashion-led retail environment during peak periods.

Anamika Khanna's AK | OK | London Fashion Week 2025
Dresser & Alterations — **September 2025**

- Assisted the design team and stylist Anna Trevelyan backstage during LFW 2025 for their debut show, supporting styling, fittings, garment maintenance, and model dressing.
- Managed backstage preparations including steaming, garment organisation, quick alterations, and final runway checks to ensure smooth show execution in a fast-paced environment.

XR Network+ and the London College of Fashion **Feb 2025 - March 2025**
UAL Student Costume Maker

- Contributed hand, machine sewing and hand embroidery skills to the Jamini Roy: Dancing Woman project in collaboration with Nissen Richards Studio.
- I supported an MA student's research by realising a costume for a volumetric capture performance, with an informed understanding of the project's cultural significance and the centrality of craft in performance-making.

02 June-FSA **November 2023 - February 2024**
Space Designer

- Designed retail environments, including window displays, highlight zones, and spatial installations.
- Developed visual concepts that enhanced brand storytelling and customer engagement.
- Worked with scale, materiality, and layout to create impactful retail experiences.
- Managed projects from concept to execution, maintaining organisation, precision, and attention to detail.

Handicrafts & Carpet Sector Skill Council of India **January 2022 - April 2022**
Designer

- Worked as a designer with the HCSSC, under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, as part of my BA graduation project focused on wood, bamboo and cane crafts in Nagaland, North-East India.
- Collaborated directly with artisan communities to develop contemporary handcrafted products rooted in traditional technique.
- Contributed to the upskilling of artisans through design development, material exploration, and knowledge-sharing workshop.
- Presented the project at the Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fair 2022, highlighting industry engagement, craft innovation, and artisan upliftment initiatives.

PROJECTS

Birth Canal - Independent Short Film **August 2026**
Costume Maker

- Costume Maker for *The Birth Canal*, an independent collaborative short film directed by Nuala Doak, responsible for the construction of a bespoke corset for the character Jupiter.
- Sourced materials and carried out pattern cutting, fabric cutting, garment construction, hand and machine sewing, and insertion of a corset busk to achieve the required costume design.

EDUCATION

London College of Fashion, University of the Arts London **Sept 2024 - Sept 2025**
Masters in Costume Design for Performance

National Institute of Fashion Technology **Aug 2018 - May 2022**
Bachelors in Fashion & Lifestyle Accessories Design

JD Institute of Fashion Technology **Nov 2022 - April 2023**
Certificate in Pattern Making & Garment Manufacturing Technology

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Volunteered as a Family Crafts Helper at the Royal Ballet and Opera from April 2026 - June 2026. Assisting, supporting and encouraging children aged 3 -10 in making and craft based activities.
- Volunteered at the Nexus Bridal Runway Global 2026 dressing 4 models at a time for quick changes backstage and assisted in pre and post show prep.
- Volunteered with FDCI for the 1st Digital India Couture Week 2020.

Currently on a **Graduate Route UK Visa** valid until 14th November 2027
References available upon request.
GDPR: I consent for this CV to be kept on file and distributed for employment purposes.