

Heidi McEvoy-Swift

email: heidi@mcevoyswift.com

Tel: 07879 847476

Lives and works in Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk. UK

Education

2022 MA (distinction) Historical Costume, Arts University Bournemouth.

1995 Certificate in Education (PCE), West Suffolk College.

1985 BA(hons) Textile Design, Central St Martins School of Art and Design, London.

Profile

As a freelance artist and designer my work is multidisciplined, moving freely between theatre, education, participatory and fine-art. I am a highly skilled and experienced costume designer/maker having worked primarily for Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds. My work ranges from historical costume to pantomime and includes set design and creation as well as puppet and prop making. I am also an artist educator with skills in tutoring and mentoring.

Exhibitions

August 2026 —*Lady Geraldine's Lost Garden*, Ickworth House, The National Trust.

August 2026 - *Where-Next-The Sea?*, Mannington Nature Prize - Highly commended. Holt Art Projects.

June 2026 —*On Balance* – Anglia Textile Works Summer Exhibition, Handa Gallery, Wells Next the Sea, Norfolk.

April 2026 - Suffolk Craft Society Spring Exhibition. Gallery 21 Snape Maltings, Suffolk

November 2025 - Suffolk Craft Society Winter Exhibition. Guildhall Bury St Edmunds

July 2025 —*Threads* - Wightman Gallery Saffron Waldon

June 2025 —*Continuum* – Anglia Textile Works Summer Exhibition, Salhouse Church, Norfolk.

July 2024 —, *Contemplation* at The Crypt Gallery Norwich, with Anglia Textile Works

June 2024 —, *The Ground Beneath Your Feet*, touring exhibition with Groundwork Gallery.

June 2023 – Commissioned by **Grove Projects** on the theme 'Encroach', the sewn sculpture *Creep* was exhibited on site in Bury St Edmunds during September.

January 2023– Artist participant in *Museum Remix 2023* where my team and I created the audio installation *Heads* at the Museum of Ancient Archaeology, Cambridge.

February 2022 – *Transformations* Art Residency (virtual) with Effat University, Saudi Arabia paired women artists in both countries to work together on an international project for **The British Council**.

July – September 2021 —*I touched the tomb of Mary Tudor* at the Wildwood Gallery Bury St Edmunds as part of **Art Around Town**. A second piece was shown in Prezzo.

Selected Projects

May 2026 – **Costume Designer/maker/researcher** – Project commission to make and document an 1840s shepherd's smock for ArtPopUp, Westings and Maxey Cut Heritage Group, Lincolnshire.

April 2026 – **Costume Supervisor**, *Rampage Through The Iron Age*, Spinning Wheel Theatre.

March 2026 – **Historical Consultant and Costume Maker**, *The Wardrobe*, Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds

October 2025 – **Costume Maker**. *Rapunzel*, Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds

July 2024 – **Workshop lead and contributing artist** – *Ear of The Sea*, collaboration with Groundwork Gallery Network.

May 2024 – **Costume Supervisor and maker**, *Tangles with the Angles* for **Spinningwheel Theatre**, Suffolk

February to April 2024 - **Designer**, Set and costumes for *Second Person Narrative*, and *Kaspar the Wild*, for **Theatre Royal** Bury St Edmunds.

September to December 2023 - **Production Design** *Staged Splendour at Ickworth House*, **National Trust**. Installation of Georgian theatrical themes throughout the house to create a Christmas visitor experience.

December 2023 – **Costume Supervisor**, *Pinnocchio*, **The Garage Theatre**, Norwich.

August 2023 – **Artist In Residence**, *The Ground Beneath Your Feet*, **Groundwork Gallery**, Kings Lynn. Responding to the environment and issues relating to extraction. Small sewn sculptures and other work made and exhibited at Groundwork Gallery from September to December.

June to September 2023 - **Curator** *The Tiny Textile Gallery* exhibited in St Edmundsbury Cathedral Bury St Edmunds. This included making two new textile pieces; *The Pillar of Salt*, and *A Cope for Mabilla* Commissioned by **Tiny Art Around Town**.

February – April 2023 **Designer**, Set and costumes for three plays: *Small Fry*, *Tuesday* and *Changing Rooms* for **Theatre Royal** Bury St Edmunds.

January – June 2023 **Project facilitator** *A Dress for Zahira*. Working with Afghan women refugees to design and make a costume for National refugee day. **Mercury Theatre**, Colchester and **Refugee Action**.

August 2022 – **Curator** *Life after life...after life?* At The Crab Drawing Studio, Arts University Bournemouth. The exhibition presented five installations I created and work in response by invited artists and writers.

November – December 2020 – **Designer** *A Christmas Carol* for **Theatre Royal** Bury St Edmunds.

July 2020 – **Writer and voice artist** for **New Wolsey Theatre**, Ipswich. *Scrubs* produced as animated tribute to NHS workers.

I am a member of Suffolk Craft Society <https://www.suffolkcraftsociety.org/scs-makers-their-work/sculpture/heidi-mcevoy-swift/>

I am a member of Anglia Textile Works <https://www.angliatextileworks.com/>

I am an associate of Groundwork Gallery Network <https://www.groundworkgallery.com/groundwork-network/heidi-mcevoy-swift/>

Employment History

2010 – 2020 Head of Costume, Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds

2002 - 2021 Co-founder and Partner, **RojoArt**, Bury St Edmunds. Delivering multi-disciplinary art workshops to schools, organisations and community groups across East Anglia.

2010 – 2018 Tutor, Realise Futures, Suffolk

1993 – 2002 Lecturer in Textiles, West Suffolk College

1987 – 1993 Garment Graphic Designer, Gustav Daiber GmbH

1985 – 1986 Textile Designer, Texmotif Ltd

1985 - Hosiery Designer, Courtaulds Textiles PLC.