

Intimate Scenography: exploring the drama of the costume fitting as a micro performance by creating a rationale for rethinking costume manufacture and teaching.

Interview data from 'KH' (Khloe Hope) the anonymised participant in the research project

13th April 2022

KH Interview/ IS project 13th April 2022

WEBVTT

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00:00:02.550 --> 00:00:14.610

Rebecca Pride: So, this is the interview with Khloe Hope: costume supervisor for *Much Ado* for the *Intimate Scenography* project. Okay Khloe...so...Hello lovely to see you.

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00:00:16.350 --> 00:00:20.460

Rebecca Pride: And I'm just... I've got about 13 questions I'm going to ask you.

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00:00:21.480 --> 00:00:25.980

Rebecca Pride: And I'm doing kind of interview technique which is called non standardized.

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00:00:26.580 --> 00:00:40.890

Rebecca Pride: And so, I can go off the beaten track if I need to. So just so you know... if you have questions for me halfway through, then just don't...yeah...feel free to just ask okay!

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00:00:41.790 --> 00:00:50.940

Rebecca Pride: So, I've got a question about the past Q.1: I wonder if you can remember the first time that you became aware of costumes as a thing?

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00:00:52.350 --> 00:00:58.350

Rebecca Pride: And within maybe within theatre or film and whether that sort of triggers any memories, for you?

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00:00:59.490 --> 00:01:03.900

Khloe Hope: That's interesting, that's an interesting question and I would say.

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00:01:05.100 --> 00:01:05.700

Khloe Hope: I would say.

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00:01:06.780 --> 00:01:14.040

Khloe Hope: I feel like I was aware of it, but never saw it as a profession, if that makes sense, so when I'd go and watch a film...

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00:01:14.790 --> 00:01:21.180

Khloe Hope: ...I would be aware that they're wearing clothes, but not so much the idea that it was a 'costume' if that makes sense and then.

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00:01:21.990 --> 00:01:24.420

Khloe Hope: When I was younger, I went to a theatre school.

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00:01:25.020 --> 00:01:41.400

Khloe Hope: And, and we performed at Her Majesty's and I saw the costumes backstage and I think that is when I was like 'Oh', when you see them, not on people and you're like this is a costume is not just what they're wearing and that was in about 2013 so probably about 13 yeah.

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00:01:41.730 --> 00:01:43.530

Rebecca Pride: So, you were performing in that show?

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00:01:43.830 --> 00:01:50.430

Khloe Hope: Yeah, it was it was a summer school and then the last day we performed at Her Majesty's to just like friends and family.

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00:01:52.050 --> 00:01:55.260

Khloe Hope: And yeah, it's where *Phantom of the Opera* is so it was amazing.

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00:01:55.380 --> 00:01:55.740

Rebecca Pride: yeah.

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00:01:56.310 --> 00:01:58.080

Rebecca Pride: Backstage, yes.

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00:01:58.290 --> 00:02:02.820

Rebecca Pride: So, did you like, the environment or was it the costumes backstage...or all of it really?

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00:02:03.270 --> 00:02:08.460

Khloe Hope: They had all the masquerades scene costumes hanging up backstage.

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00:02:10.470 --> 00:02:17.490

Khloe Hope: All the prop costumes were on like fake mannequins and then we used some of the dressing rooms and they had the ballet girls' tutus in there as well.

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00:02:18.990 --> 00:02:25.080

Khloe Hope: Yeah it was amazing, it was really cool um so I say then that's when I realized 'Oh, this is the thing'.

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00:02:25.920 --> 00:02:26.760

Rebecca Pride: It was a thing that you could do.

KH: Yeah

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00:02:26.940 --> 00:02:31.650

Rebecca Pride: and did you decide you're going to try and do that for a job, then?

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00:02:31.890 --> 00:02:45.570

Khloe Hope: I not so much then, and then I then went back to school and then years down the line we started to think about career options, and I was leaning towards fashion, because I did textiles A level.

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00:02:46.740 --> 00:02:53.040

Khloe Hope: And then, because I did a lot of drama at school..it was actually our careers tutor that suggested costume.

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00:02:54.360 --> 00:02:58.170

Khloe Hope: As a profession and then that kind of like sparked in my head again 'oh yeah that is a thing'.

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00:02:59.460 --> 00:03:10.920

Rebecca Pride: Brilliant that's good so um, Q2: How did you feel about your role as the costume supervisor within the team?

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00:03:12.450 --> 00:03:16.890

Khloe Hope: And in terms of how I feel I performed in that role...how it?

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00:03:16.980 --> 00:03:20.790

Rebecca Pride: Well...what you think about the role of costume supervisor as a thing?

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00:03:21.330 --> 00:03:29.880

Khloe Hope: As a costume supervisor I'd say I really enjoy it for starters, because I feel like it's a lot of...

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00:03:30.780 --> 00:03:47.190

Khloe Hope: ...project management and leading people and something...I did design previously and something I missed...I always felt like I wanted to be closer to the costumes if that makes sense and be more hands on with everything.

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00:03:48.180 --> 00:03:57.120

Khloe Hope: So I feel like it's a lot of project management holding everything together and just being very immersed in the whole department and the whole...just everything about it.

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00:03:58.590 --> 00:03:59.100

Rebecca Pride: Yeah.

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00:04:00.870 --> 00:04:07.230

Rebecca Pride: And Q3: How do you think you, you and your job role is perceived within the group?, so the group do you working in?

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00:04:08.730 --> 00:04:20.430

Khloe Hope: I think, well, I think...Fia we understood each other's roles really well and I think sometimes there can be a miscommunication as to what...

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00:04:20.910 --> 00:04:31.350

Khloe Hope: A supervisor actually does, because we still get questions like 'What do you actually do?'... but Fiona understood that she was working on her Grad film as well, where she was also playing in that role, obviously...

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00:04:31.380 --> 00:04:34.590

Rebecca Pride: You get that question from designers?

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00:04:34.620 --> 00:04:36.270

Khloe Hope: Yeah, we do yeah.

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00:04:36.660 --> 00:04:38.520

Rebecca Pride: Really? What, well designers on the course?

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00:04:38.730 --> 00:04:45.630

Khloe Hope: Yeah, from both makers as well, I think, because if you if you're not interested in it...

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00:04:46.230 --> 00:04:48.720

Khloe Hope: ...it's something that you don't really look into.

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00:04:51.000 --> 00:05:06.090

Khloe Hope: You are really that middle person that takes the design into the real thing, and I say, we had a good relationship, I understood her designs and what she wanted, and she was very good at knowing.

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00:05:07.980 --> 00:05:13.290

Khloe Hope: What was mine and EJ's role within everything and when actually she needs to she needed to step in...

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00:05:13.950 --> 00:05:27.930

Khloe Hope: ...and help us be more hands on or whether we were like 'No, we can.. we've got this, don't worry, we understand what you want', and I'd say in fittings especially, we were all very vocal with our ideas and let each other speak.

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00:05:29.640 --> 00:05:37.590

Khloe Hope: We weren't very quick to say our opinions. I think we were very understanding of each other and listening to each other in that space.

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00:05:39.030 --> 00:05:41.310

Rebecca Pride: Yeah so not in relation to this production but...

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00:05:42.480 --> 00:05:49.440

Rebecca Pride: You said that makers and designers don't really understand what you're doing as a costume supervisor...

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00:05:50.940 --> 00:05:55.050

Rebecca Pride: Is that do you think that's something in in the BA course that...

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00:05:57.960 --> 00:06:06.030

Rebecca Pride: I guess is a problem? That might be too strong a way of putting it, but do you think there's something that you could we could do to make that better?

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00:06:06.690 --> 00:06:07.500

Khloe Hope: Yeah, yes definitely.

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00:06:08.340 --> 00:06:21.270

Khloe Hope: I mean, I remember... I can't remember what the name of the term is called, but when we first introduced to supervision, it was second year, and just after Christmas.

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00:06:21.750 --> 00:06:32.850

Khloe Hope: Bunny did like a presentation of what you can now go into, what you'll be doing this time if you're a designer, maker, a supervisor. So, it was outlined then...

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00:06:33.570 --> 00:06:40.050

Khloe Hope: ...what a supervisor is and what you'd be doing, but I don't think...I think previous to that it's not really...

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00:06:40.710 --> 00:06:56.700

Khloe Hope: ...taught as one of the pathways because it is just 'design and making' and then it splits off into supervision and so yeah, I think if, but if some people just aren't interested in and they know that's not what they want to do so, they won't want to understand it or learn more about it.

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00:06:58.200 --> 00:07:03.690

Khloe Hope: But I do remember, I would ask third years...' what actually is supervision?'... like what actually is it?

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00:07:04.110 --> 00:07:15.690

Khloe Hope: Because you'd see them in the studio, but if they're not designing and they're not making it's like or what are you actually doing? So, I think yeah, I think it would be a good idea to have it taught earlier on, within the course definitely.

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00:07:17.460 --> 00:07:20.430

Rebecca Pride: Okay that's great I think that unit you know it's called *Advanced Skills*.

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00:07:20.490 --> 00:07:22.050

Khloe Hope: Yes, yeah that was it yeah, yeah.

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00:07:22.590 --> 00:07:23.070

um.

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00:07:24.510 --> 00:07:32.100

Rebecca Pride: Okay, so you feel that your job role was...everything was very smooth on *Much Ado*?

KH: Yeah

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00:07:33.360 --> 00:07:47.430

Rebecca Pride: Yeah, there wasn't any anything too difficult, it seemed like it went really well to me and I want to talk now about this sort of gender imbalance in costume teams and in costume generally.

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00:07:50.400 --> 00:07:52.770

Rebecca Pride: Q4: Do you do you think there is a gender imbalance [within costume production teams?]

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00:07:55.170 --> 00:08:03.210

Khloe Hope: Well, from what I can see being on the course currently is that we are all girls, except for one boy so...

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00:08:04.410 --> 00:08:13.680

Khloe Hope: Through my eyes and where I'm in the industry now is that there is a gender imbalance obviously, I'm yet to go into the industry, but even then...

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00:08:14.070 --> 00:08:24.150

Khloe Hope: When you watch a film it usually is when it comes up with the credits costume designer usually as a female and I don't know I don't know why that is, if it's just a job role...

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00:08:25.980 --> 00:08:30.540

Khloe Hope: ...that tends to attract women more but...

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00:08:31.980 --> 00:08:32.730

Khloe Hope: I don't know.

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00:08:32.850 --> 00:08:34.080

Rebecca Pride: yeah yeah it's.

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00:08:35.430 --> 00:08:35.910

Khloe Hope: yeah.

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00:08:36.600 --> 00:08:37.950

Khloe Hope: it's annoying yeah.

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00:08:39.300 --> 00:08:39.780

Rebecca Pride: ...annoying...and

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00:08:41.790 --> 00:08:45.450

Rebecca Pride: So, you think they were there obviously there is a gender imbalance, right?

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00:08:45.630 --> 00:08:46.050

KH: Yeah.

74

00:08:47.250 --> 00:09:05.970

Rebecca Pride: Q: 5 So, how did you feel this affects the overall perception of costume production teams? As like I call them costume production teams, I mean, how do you think that affects the way you're perceived by the director, actors, wider theatre crew, production manager?

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00:09:06.360 --> 00:09:18.090

Khloe Hope: That is interesting I mean I'd like to think that everyone is being treated equally and that's something they say now. Um...at the start of *Mermaid* [Her previous production] last term and *Much Ado*.

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00:09:18.720 --> 00:09:25.500

Khloe Hope: They read 'The terms of a company' and that everyone is treated equally, which I think is really good, and I know they didn't used to do that before.

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00:09:25.950 --> 00:09:26.460

and

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00:09:27.960 --> 00:09:28.920

Khloe Hope: But.

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00:09:30.210 --> 00:09:33.750

Khloe Hope: it is an interesting question because I feel like personally I haven't...

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00:09:35.040 --> 00:09:48.360

Khloe Hope: I don't feel like I'm being treated differently to the set department, or the actors, or makeup and because at university we're all on that same playing field.

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00:09:50.850 --> 00:09:56.880

Khloe Hope: But I can see how an industry if you do have a department, full of females there could be a tendency...

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00:09:57.450 --> 00:10:11.940

Khloe Hope: For people, and I think that plays into the whole idea of costume... sometimes we chat about that... sometimes costume isn't seen as important as other departments and... even though without the costumes the actors wouldn't be wearing anything!

83

00:10:13.860 --> 00:10:17.790

Rebecca Pride: So yeah, you think of any examples on *Much Ado*, where...

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00:10:19.560 --> 00:10:24.390

Rebecca Pride: ...anything happened that you think could be related to gender?

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00:10:31.980 --> 00:10:40.290

Khloe Hope: I don't think so... I can't think of anything, or even in production meetings, because we were also an all-female cast as well and...

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00:10:40.350 --> 00:10:42.720

Rebecca Pride: yeah, did that, how...did you think that affected it?

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00:10:43.200 --> 00:10:54.270

Khloe Hope: And yeah well, I really enjoyed having an all-female cast it was in my costume perspective, it was interesting to then dress the female body as male characters.

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00:10:55.980 --> 00:11:00.030

Khloe Hope: But in terms of all of us being in a production meeting all of us in a room.

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00:11:01.110 --> 00:11:06.810

Khloe Hope: You do naturally when you're all with other women, you feel like sometimes you feel stronger because it's like all of you, together.

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00:11:07.140 --> 00:11:07.590

Khloe Hope: Instead of.

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00:11:07.680 --> 00:11:12.480

Khloe Hope: Having that sometimes-male domination, like dominated space, but...

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00:11:13.500 --> 00:11:19.380

Khloe Hope: I can't think of anything that I felt like I was being mistreated or look, there was an imbalance.

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00:11:20.580 --> 00:11:22.680

Rebecca Pride: And do you think you've got information...

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00:11:23.910 --> 00:11:30.690

Rebecca Pride: because sometimes that can show itself as not getting the right information that you need when you need it, but that didn't happen?

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00:11:31.110 --> 00:11:38.580

Khloe Hope: No I'd say on what to do, we were all very open with each other, and I feel like because I done a show last term as well...

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00:11:39.090 --> 00:11:58.260

Khloe Hope: I was more used to the process, whereas probably in my previous show, I was more timid about asking like asking them the director questions, or that like that kind of thing, whereas on *Much Ado*, I was a lot more open. I felt with everyone and the department and a production meetings.

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00:11:58.380 --> 00:12:03.690

Rebecca Pride: Do you think the director treated, you can you say anything about the director?

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00:12:04.050 --> 00:12:08.670

Khloe Hope: Yes, she was great...Ally was really great. I felt like she understood...

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00:12:09.330 --> 00:12:18.570

Khloe Hope: The role that costume plays and she loved it being 1940's as well, like as soon as they put the costumes on as well, she was like amazed, that they were suddenly their characters but...

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00:12:19.560 --> 00:12:37.530

Khloe Hope: I think she was great in valuing costume and...in *Mermaid* my director still valued question as well, but I'd say this time, it definitely felt like it was a bigger part of the production as a whole and bigger part of the story.

101

00:12:39.900 --> 00:12:43.740

Khloe Hope: But yeah I didn't have any bad experiences I have to say yeah.

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00:12:43.830 --> 00:12:49.770

Rebecca Pride: Did you ever engage with her directing process with the Meisner technique? Did that affect you in any way?

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00:12:49.830 --> 00:12:51.270

Khloe Hope: To that yeah.

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00:12:51.750 --> 00:12:55.170

Khloe Hope: Anyway, and we sat in some rehearsals and.

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00:12:56.490 --> 00:13:04.200

Khloe Hope: With the actors and I know they did a lot of....they don't put any expression into the lines, they just say the lines as they are.

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00:13:04.740 --> 00:13:14.820

Khloe Hope: And so, they're not getting any ideas in their head about how they think the character should act, they will come from within, and so that was quite interesting and.

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00:13:15.900 --> 00:13:17.640

Khloe Hope: I'd say the actors were all very.

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00:13:18.690 --> 00:13:23.640

Khloe Hope: They all loved costume as well, which really helped none of them were particularly picky but...

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00:13:25.860 --> 00:13:28.440

Khloe Hope: ...yeah, there's times I feel like there's times when...

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00:13:29.730 --> 00:13:34.530

Khloe Hope: People will expect you to just pick something up out of nothing like...

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00:13:34.590 --> 00:13:35.010

Rebecca Pride: yeah...

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00:13:35.190 --> 00:13:44.010

Khloe Hope: It doesn't fit all other it's sometimes not just an easy case of like 'Oh, we've got something else'... but we've got there... sometimes it takes more time to find things and...

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00:13:44.550 --> 00:13:53.430

Khloe Hope: ...for it to be the right thing and I feel like that, sometimes, is something that isn't quite understood by other people within the department.

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00:13:53.850 --> 00:13:55.890

Rebecca Pride: So, you're expected to be a magician?

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00:13:56.100 --> 00:13:57.120

Khloe Hope: Yeah sometimes you are!

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00:13:58.710 --> 00:14:07.590

Khloe Hope: And sometimes you can be, sometimes you do have something to hand, or you can make something out of something else, and it's not going to take long and other times, it does take longer.

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00:14:09.090 --> 00:14:09.480

Rebecca Pride: yeah.

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00:14:10.170 --> 00:14:11.190

Rebecca Pride: You got to try and....

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00:14:11.640 --> 00:14:15.330

Rebecca Pride: Second guess what is needed before it's needed.

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00:14:16.080 --> 00:14:19.080

Rebecca Pride: Yeah okay so um.

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00:14:21.060 --> 00:14:32.730

Rebecca Pride: So, this is kind of quite an easy question really Q6: Do you think of yourself as an artist or crafts person, so like, do you, are you an artist or craftsperson?

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00:14:35.040 --> 00:14:35.970

Khloe Hope: interesting.

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00:14:38.760 --> 00:14:45.840

Khloe Hope: I... in my head, when I think of artists, and it is just first comes to me... I think of a painter.

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00:14:46.410 --> 00:15:02.760

Khloe Hope: Yeah, I think of, so in that respect I'd say a craftsperson, because I feel like I'm more hands on in that supervision role, compared to a designer. I see that role as like an artist, but that's just the way that I think of it.

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00:15:03.930 --> 00:15:05.220

Khloe Hope: Yeah, that's what I would say.

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00:15:05.970 --> 00:15:08.670

Rebecca Pride: Do you think is the overall production is a piece of art, though?

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00:15:10.020 --> 00:15:16.860

Khloe Hope: Yeah, it is because it's something that you've created, and I see that as art – it's a creation, so yeah.

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00:15:17.130 --> 00:15:19.500

Rebecca Pride: So, you were a cog in the wheel of that?

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00:15:20.040 --> 00:15:20.700

Rebecca Pride: I guess.

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00:15:20.910 --> 00:15:21.240

yeah.

131

00:15:23.610 --> 00:15:31.950

Rebecca Pride: So, so I want you to think now about your education and it could be before you came to the university, or it could be when you're at the university.

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00:15:32.550 --> 00:15:51.420

Rebecca Pride: And Q7: Do you think of any education experiences that helped you in your creative practice and significantly moved you on in that process educationally so was there a moment where you felt you really learned something that was quite deep about your costume practice?

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00:15:54.210 --> 00:16:02.280

Khloe Hope: I would say at the end of second year I was specializing in supervision, but we were just doing hypothetical projects.

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00:16:03.060 --> 00:16:22.050

Khloe Hope: And, and then Adele actually came to me with an opportunity to supervise for a real project, and that was kind of scary at first, because it's like making that jumping step - it was called 'Costume for Change', and it was very me - it was all sort of sustainable fabrics and creating...

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00:16:22.620 --> 00:16:32.640

Khloe Hope: Yeah natural dyeing and everything and I feel like that opportunity is what really like push me I think doing something for real and learning.

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00:16:33.690 --> 00:16:34.890

Khloe Hope: You know just learning it.

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00:16:35.250 --> 00:16:37.110

Rebecca Pride: Learning experientially.

138

00:16:37.410 --> 00:16:43.920

Khloe Hope: Yeah, instead of just doing a hypothetical project and, for me, actually like stepping into that role.

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00:16:45.450 --> 00:16:48.870

Khloe Hope: pushed me...being given those opportunities.

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00:16:49.080 --> 00:16:53.190

Rebecca Pride: So, and you were making and preparing costumes for a real...

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00:16:54.540 --> 00:16:55.440

Rebecca Pride: performance.

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00:16:55.470 --> 00:17:00.450

Khloe Hope: Yeah it was, for it was to be for the Inside Out Festival so yeah it was great.

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00:17:00.750 --> 00:17:03.930

Khloe Hope: I'd never done anything like that, before.

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00:17:05.790 --> 00:17:11.730

Khloe Hope: So, yeah, I feel like being given opportunities for me is a big thing that like pushes me.

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00:17:12.000 --> 00:17:13.740

Rebecca Pride: Helps you to...

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00:17:13.920 --> 00:17:14.790

yeah definitely.

147

00:17:15.810 --> 00:17:17.490

Rebecca Pride: Okay, so um.

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00:17:19.320 --> 00:17:34.920

Rebecca Pride: So I'm now going to talk about fittings okay so I've got a few questions about fittings so um Q8: When you do a fitting, Do you feel you have to 'inverted commas' 'perform' in in any way?

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00:17:37.050 --> 00:17:48.720

Khloe Hope: Slightly yes, because, and I, I feel like part of it is you know that you have tutors in the room, and that it's also part of your like... is part of your assessment and part of your hand in.

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00:17:49.140 --> 00:18:03.030

Khloe Hope: So that that's I do see slightly as a performance but then it's also how I naturally am and I know that if the tutors weren't in the room, I would also be acting in the same way, because that's.

151

00:18:04.950 --> 00:18:08.820

Rebecca Pride: Can you imagine yourself, not with tutors in the room...if you were doing this for a job...

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00:18:09.090 --> 00:18:12.810

Rebecca Pride: Yeah, and what would your mindset be as you go into that fitting?

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00:18:14.070 --> 00:18:29.340

Khloe Hope: And I'd still have, I still have the same mindset and it's you know, you want to be approachable, engaging, make others feel comfortable... I'd still go through all those things in my head and.

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00:18:30.630 --> 00:18:41.010

Khloe Hope: And I guess in that, in that sense, you are still performing in a way, because you're performing the role of the supervisor... like it's your it's your job.

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00:18:41.040 --> 00:18:45.120

Rebecca Pride: I suppose that's what we do all the time now isn't it? Like that all the time?

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00:18:45.480 --> 00:18:47.190

Khloe Hope: Yeah and.

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00:18:47.430 --> 00:18:51.120

Khloe Hope: I feel, acting completely the same way...I'd say it's a different type of...

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00:18:51.270 --> 00:19:04.440

Khloe Hope: Performance because I'd still, as I said, I still go through my head and be thinking... right, be approachable, friendly, make me feel comfortable, what do we want to get out of the fitting and that kind of thing.

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00:19:05.220 --> 00:19:13.950

Rebecca Pride: yeah that's brilliant thanks um so Q9: what makes you feel comfortable when you're in a fitting space, what do you have to do to feel comfortable?

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00:19:15.030 --> 00:19:18.810

Khloe Hope: It makes me feel comfortable when.

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00:19:20.370 --> 00:19:23.250

Khloe Hope: And I guess, this is part of performance as well as when.

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00:19:24.750 --> 00:19:26.670

Khloe Hope: you're setting a tone in a room.

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00:19:28.080 --> 00:19:29.370

Khloe Hope: that's important so.

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00:19:30.390 --> 00:19:38.280

Khloe Hope: If you are calm and you're talkative with the actors, but not too much to the point where it's a bit...because...

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00:19:38.430 --> 00:19:39.540

Rebecca Pride: Over the top

166

00:19:40.110 --> 00:19:44.370

Khloe Hope: You want to be able to talk, because they have just stepped into a room wearing something...

167

00:19:45.660 --> 00:19:59.640

Khloe Hope: ...that they may or may not like, and that I think that can sometimes show through them in their body language, so I think it's reading that and sensing how you should create that tone in that room.

168

00:20:00.030 --> 00:20:03.000

Rebecca Pride: What do you do to prepare, so you can feel comfortable?

169

00:20:03.990 --> 00:20:10.350

Khloe Hope: I, like, for me, I like to know that I prepared the rail like the night before, if we can.

170

00:20:11.790 --> 00:20:24.930

Khloe Hope: And I've gone through everything...this case Fia and EB went through the rail together, so we all understood what each actor was trying on what our first preference was....

171

00:20:26.370 --> 00:20:37.020

Khloe Hope: and what else we wanted to see them in. That helps me feel prepared just knowing that costumes are there and we are all on the same page with everything.

172

00:20:37.650 --> 00:20:38.490

Khloe Hope: Yeah.

173

00:20:39.300 --> 00:20:48.300

Rebecca Pride: Yeah that's good yeah and Q10: what makes you feel uncomfortable when it happens in a fitting space, can you think of any examples, when you were doing *Much Ado*?

174

00:20:48.330 --> 00:20:49.110

Khloe Hope: [indistinct]

175

00:20:49.500 --> 00:20:54.780

Khloe Hope: It makes me uncomfortable when an actor is not comfortable definitely.

176

00:20:55.950 --> 00:20:57.270

Khloe Hope: There was.

177

00:20:57.420 --> 00:20:58.680

Rebecca Pride: Did that happen on the...

178

00:20:58.950 --> 00:20:59.370

Khloe Hope: Yeah

179

00:20:59.460 --> 00:21:10.410

Khloe Hope: We were trying different uniforms and the first set of uniforms all fit them, really, really lovely but Fiona wasn't em keen on the type of fabric [they were made from] and...

180

00:21:10.920 --> 00:21:22.650

Khloe Hope: It was a bit too coarse, and she wanted the service dress fabric, so we got a second round of uniforms, which obviously the fabric was right, but it didn't fit the actors well.

181

00:21:23.520 --> 00:21:33.150

Khloe Hope: There was one actor I could tell really didn't like it, and she vocalized that and I say I find that really difficult because naturally I'm not very...

182

00:21:34.860 --> 00:21:42.990

Khloe Hope: ...confrontational, which I guess, I guess it's a different thing, but it's then stepping back and just reassuring them like well okay....

183

00:21:43.260 --> 00:21:58.470

Khloe Hope: ...This is not what you're going to be wearing if it doesn't fit, then obviously we're going to find something that does fit you and, but I'd say in that moment, and you sort of get a moment of silence in the room and it's how you then move on from that...I'd say that is...

184

00:21:59.400 --> 00:22:00.630

Rebecca Pride: Did you resolve that Khloe?

185

00:22:01.260 --> 00:22:01.920

Khloe Hope: We...

186

00:22:02.490 --> 00:22:03.420

187

00:22:05.040 --> 00:22:10.950

Khloe Hope: We just spoke as a room... like 'That's Okay', you could tell I think from the tone of our voice as we were like 'Yeah....

188

00:22:11.190 --> 00:22:18.870

Khloe Hope: 'We can see that. That's okay, we'll find something that fits' and then we swapped their jackets with each other, so they felt like they were trying on something new.

189

00:22:19.140 --> 00:22:25.560

Khloe Hope: Already in the room, without it just being like Oh well, don't worry just take it all off like because that wouldn't help us so we...

190

00:22:26.970 --> 00:22:33.060

Khloe Hope: ...ended up swapping their jackets which did fit them better, but then we did find some holes in the costumes.

191

00:22:33.150 --> 00:22:35.160

Rebecca Pride: I think I was there then, wasn't I?

192

00:22:35.400 --> 00:22:37.710

Rebecca Pride: Yes, yeah it felt very...

193

00:22:38.190 --> 00:22:40.050

Rebecca Pride: calm to me as an observer.

194

00:22:40.320 --> 00:22:49.200

Khloe Hope: Yeah, definitely I think, because we all thought or if there's a problem, we're not just going to like shutdown and ignore it... let's try to engage everyone.

195

00:22:50.520 --> 00:23:00.510

Khloe Hope: Then we then got new uniforms from a different company and actually went into their rehearsals space to try them on them.

196

00:23:01.260 --> 00:23:06.270

Rebecca Pride: Oh, so you had to go to another hire company and get a whole load...

197

00:23:07.140 --> 00:23:08.040

Rebecca Pride: ...More sent.

198

00:23:08.130 --> 00:23:08.700

Khloe Hope: Yeah, we did.

199

00:23:11.130 --> 00:23:19.470

Rebecca Pride: And did Fia explain her rationale for why they had to be service dress and not the regular dress?

200

00:23:19.740 --> 00:23:40.350

Khloe Hope: And yes, she did, and she explained that to the actors as well, is that she felt like the coarser fabric and because they were all in blue and then Don John and Borachio were in green, and Don Jon's was that service dress that thinner fabric and she felt that...

201

00:23:41.670 --> 00:23:42.390

Khloe Hope: The blues.

202

00:23:42.450 --> 00:23:47.340

Khloe Hope: The RAF characters didn't look as neat and put together...

203

00:23:48.540 --> 00:23:55.440

Khloe Hope: As Don John... which they're meant to be and more presentable and so she wanted them in service dress as well.

204

00:23:55.470 --> 00:24:01.500

Rebecca Pride: Were the shoes changed? Was there, something that happened with shoes and a brown skirt?

205

00:24:02.070 --> 00:24:04.110

Khloe Hope: Yeah...with shoes and...

206

00:24:05.190 --> 00:24:13.530

Khloe Hope: Fiona liked the idea of the WI women wearing their own shoes so female like heels or brogues.

207

00:24:13.710 --> 00:24:30.420

Khloe Hope: Because that is what they would have access to and their husbands' shoes or their brothers' shoes would be too big for them, so her idea was that they would be wearing female shoes, but then Ally ...

208

00:24:32.040 --> 00:24:46.290

Khloe Hope: ...saw that from the fittings or I don't know if she saw it from the fittings, but she heard about that. It was a problem because she feels like the actors get into character, a lot from their shoes which I found really interesting.

209

00:24:46.710 --> 00:24:51.750

Khloe Hope: And if they're playing male characters, they need to be a male shoe, because it helps.

210

00:24:52.770 --> 00:24:56.190

Khloe Hope: The actor feel like they are a man if they're in...

211

00:24:56.250 --> 00:25:05.850

Khloe Hope: We changed that which wasn't a problem we just got and regular Brogue shoes. That was fine!

212

00:25:06.330 --> 00:25:08.430

Rebecca Pride: Yeah, and that and the skirts?

213

00:25:09.480 --> 00:25:13.080

Rebecca Pride: And this similarity with some skirts?

Khloe: I can't recall.

214

00:25:13.500 --> 00:25:15.570

Rebecca Pride: Yeah

215

00:25:15.990 --> 00:25:16.590

KH: I can't quite recall

216

00:25:20.370 --> 00:25:30.870

Khloe Hope: At the pre-show bit at the beginning when they are WI characters and not Much Ado characters...a few of them have brown skirts...but I can't quite recall.

217

00:25:32.280 --> 00:25:33.300

Khloe Hope: If there was any issue with that?

218

00:25:33.300 --> 00:25:35.880

Rebecca Pride: Did you use an apron or something I think you used an apron to break it up a bit?

219

00:25:37.500 --> 00:25:45.600

Khloe Hope: Oh yeah, we did use it Oh, we had Margaret. Margaret was in a pink blouse and a brown skirt and we yeah, we used an apron to kind of...cover it...

220

00:25:45.840 --> 00:25:46.590

Rebecca Pride: break it up.

221

00:25:46.830 --> 00:25:51.630

Rebecca Pride: Yeah, brilliant Okay, so Q11: what aspects of costume design...

222

00:25:56.100 --> 00:26:03.510

Rebecca Pride: What aspects of question to design or make were for actors, do you think challenging so.

223

00:26:07.980 --> 00:26:10.050

Rebecca Pride: I don't think that's relevant to you that question!

224

00:26:12.150 --> 00:26:18.300

Rebecca Pride: I don't seem to understand my own question there!

225

00:26:19.200 --> 00:26:28.830

Rebecca Pride: Okay, yes doesn't really relate to you that's more for makers or the designer or you know when I'm talking to the actors that's more of an actor's question okay.

226

00:26:29.370 --> 00:26:39.540

Rebecca Pride: And Q12: Do you think that the costume as a lot of the overall quality of the performance or production or do you think it gets in the way of the performance sometimes?

227

00:26:41.460 --> 00:26:44.790

Khloe Hope: I think it adds... I think if it's...

228

00:26:45.840 --> 00:26:48.900

Khloe Hope: If it's done well and.

229

00:26:50.460 --> 00:26:54.420

Khloe Hope: It fits with the set colour palette wise or doesn't if it.

230

00:26:54.660 --> 00:26:57.330

Rebecca Pride: If it's meant to clash yeah.

231

00:26:58.470 --> 00:27:08.640

Khloe Hope: I think it definitely does add to, especially when you feel like you've got a costume right: that it reflects that character.

232

00:27:09.030 --> 00:27:11.370

Rebecca Pride: Can you think of an example of that with *Much Ado*.

233

00:27:11.760 --> 00:27:14.340

Khloe Hope: I think with *Hero* yes.

234

00:27:14.970 --> 00:27:15.750

KH: we got that right.

235

00:27:16.050 --> 00:27:21.210

Khloe Hope: Right definitely...she wore a pink...

236

00:27:22.350 --> 00:27:23.490

Khloe Hope: Day dress.

237

00:27:24.600 --> 00:27:30.150

Khloe Hope: With a white collar and belt and I think it...

238

00:27:31.290 --> 00:27:46.290

Khloe Hope: really suited the actor's body, especially just really suited her, and then on stage as the character, I felt like it really worked it was more colourful than all the other costumes, it made her stand out but, but without distracting from...

239

00:27:47.370 --> 00:27:48.360

Rebecca Pride: Yes

240

00:27:48.540 --> 00:27:49.740

Khloe Hope: Yeah definitely.

241

00:27:51.180 --> 00:27:56.940

Rebecca Pride: So, which area, Q13: do you think has the greatest impact on production, the Costume or the Set?

242

00:27:57.990 --> 00:28:01.860

Rebecca Pride: Which is difficult, maybe you can reflect on what happened with not having the set?

243

00:28:02.100 --> 00:28:03.990

Khloe Hope: Yeah, it was interesting actually.

244

00:28:05.400 --> 00:28:10.950

Khloe Hope: Obviously, we then move to the church base with...which That in itself...

245

00:28:12.210 --> 00:28:13.410

Khloe Hope: A churches is such...

246

00:28:14.850 --> 00:28:16.050

Khloe Hope: like an iconic space.

247

00:28:16.380 --> 00:28:17.970

Rebecca Pride: Obviously, very dominant, isn't it?

248

00:28:18.150 --> 00:28:25.860

Khloe Hope: It brings all that feeling of being in church and all the iconography and the glass the stained-glass windows and...

249

00:28:26.580 --> 00:28:28.350

Rebecca Pride: Particularly that church because it's so elaborate...

250

00:28:28.350 --> 00:28:28.950

Rebecca Pride: isn't it?

251

00:28:29.580 --> 00:28:43.140

Khloe Hope: Really beautiful and it definitely to begin with, it felt like...oh...it might sort of overpower, because it is obviously a bigger space than what it was meant to be performed in.

252

00:28:43.980 --> 00:28:52.380

Khloe Hope: And it is so elaborate that we were like 'oh it's quite intense' but it did really work in the space, especially...

253

00:28:52.890 --> 00:29:08.700

Khloe Hope: Because in the play there are weddings and so at those moments it seemed very appropriate and they engaged us as audience members handing out petals for us, or for the wedding. So, I feel like everyone adapted and I do think the costumes worked in the space as well.

254

00:29:08.970 --> 00:29:10.290

Rebecca Pride: Yeah, they did, they looked good.

255

00:29:10.590 --> 00:29:16.830

Khloe Hope: Yeah, it did...nothing looked out of place because again they changed the storyline that they couldn't perform in the...

256

00:29:17.880 --> 00:29:25.740

Khloe Hope: ...garden because they found a bomb as they had to move into the Church, so I, and I feel like it just it worked, because that is something that would happen.

257

00:29:26.040 --> 00:29:26.940

Rebecca Pride: Yeah.

258

00:29:27.420 --> 00:29:30.300

Rebecca Pride: Yeah, all villages have got churches usually haven't they?

259

00:29:30.780 --> 00:29:31.650

Khloe Hope: Yeah exactly.

260

00:29:33.360 --> 00:29:40.050

Rebecca Pride: So, do you think, the costume adds the most or do you think was set?

261

00:29:42.330 --> 00:29:43.290

Khloe Hope: So tricky.

262

00:29:43.620 --> 00:29:47.550

Rebecca Pride: I suppose you can't really answer it on this production can you, because we didn't have the set?

263

00:29:47.670 --> 00:29:49.710

Khloe Hope: Yeah, it is tricky. I feel like...

264

00:29:51.090 --> 00:29:56.820

Khloe Hope: it's always going to be a balance; I think it depends on the nature of the production.

265

00:29:59.220 --> 00:30:02.040

Rebecca Pride: And like you said actors can't go on stage without costumes.

266

00:30:02.310 --> 00:30:03.720

Khloe Hope: I feel like...

267

00:30:03.870 --> 00:30:08.100

Khloe Hope: costume adds so much to the character.

268

00:30:09.480 --> 00:30:16.680

Khloe Hope: But the set obviously adds to the story in the space and how the audience feel when they're in the room.

269

00:30:17.220 --> 00:30:21.450

Khloe Hope: Specifically, I feel like they sort of play different roles in a way.

270

00:30:21.540 --> 00:30:21.960

Rebecca Pride: Yeah.

271

00:30:22.200 --> 00:30:23.430

Khloe Hope: yeah, yeah, yeah.

272

00:30:24.390 --> 00:30:25.590

Rebecca Pride: So um.

273

00:30:29.730 --> 00:30:42.090

Rebecca Pride: Q14: So, if you were to add anything about your experience with taking part in much ado, what would you add anything that you'd like to say that you've never thought about having thought about it again.

274

00:30:43.980 --> 00:30:45.360

Khloe Hope: As in is there anything that I.

275

00:30:45.750 --> 00:30:47.160

Rebecca Pride: Do you'd add really..

276

00:30:48.210 --> 00:30:51.210

Rebecca Pride: about your experience with doing the costume supervision and...

277

00:30:53.430 --> 00:30:56.040

Khloe Hope: I don't think I would add anything as such, I think it.

278

00:30:58.080 --> 00:31:09.570

Khloe Hope: For me, it was such a great show to work on, because I love the 1940s costumes any way. I love 40s fashion, and I think all of us did. I'd say if I was going to add anything.

279

00:31:10.680 --> 00:31:15.480

Khloe Hope: Something that I would do more, is be in the rehearsal space more.

280

00:31:16.530 --> 00:31:27.480

Khloe Hope: I think I tend to think if there's stuff that we need to be getting on within the studios that we will do that, whereas I do think it's important actually to be in the rehearsal space more.

281

00:31:27.840 --> 00:31:29.640

Khloe Hope: As you see how it is developing a lot more.

282

00:31:30.840 --> 00:31:33.630

Khloe Hope: Yeah, I'd say that's something that I would like to add to my contribution.

283

00:31:33.750 --> 00:31:34.410

Khloe Hope: Yeah.

284

00:31:34.440 --> 00:31:39.300

Rebecca Pride: In particular with Ally because she has such an interesting process.

285

00:31:40.320 --> 00:31:53.880

Rebecca Pride: So I've got one last thing to ask you, which I will have asked the others about as well, is because you had to deal with so much Covid stuff. What did you think about that and how was that, in terms of...

286

00:31:54.960 --> 00:31:56.580

Rebecca Pride: ...the disappointments or...

287

00:31:57.240 --> 00:31:59.070

Rebecca Pride:...did it made you feel anxious or anything?

288

00:31:59.340 --> 00:32:01.470

Khloe Hope: Yeah it was interesting because...

289

00:32:02.760 --> 00:32:12.540

Khloe Hope: It sort of didn't really seem like a thing, up until that point of the pre assessment, obviously in fittings we'd still have to do a covid testing and wear masks.

290

00:32:13.080 --> 00:32:14.100

Rebecca Pride: And, but.

291

00:32:14.160 --> 00:32:15.900

Khloe Hope: midway through rehearsals.

292

00:32:17.040 --> 00:32:19.140

Khloe Hope: The actors didn't have to test anymore.

RP: Right

293

00:32:19.740 --> 00:32:25.560

Khloe Hope: We were still testing, but I didn't even really feel like it was going to impact anything anymore.

294

00:32:25.830 --> 00:32:29.970

Khloe Hope: Yeah so when it then got pre-assessment and we...

295

00:32:31.860 --> 00:32:36.540

Khloe Hope: put all the costumes on mannequins instead. It was from that point, I was like oh god, oh no...

296

00:32:39.570 --> 00:32:48.330

Khloe Hope: It did feel disappointing because we heard about the shows in previous years, that either got cancelled or were put onto Zoom.

297

00:32:49.470 --> 00:32:55.470

Khloe Hope: And we were sort like...gosh it seems so difficult, like how did they even do that, how did they postpone everything?

298

00:32:57.090 --> 00:33:00.630

Khloe Hope: And it did feel like that wasn't going to happen anymore.

299

00:33:01.140 --> 00:33:02.790

Khloe Hope: And, and when it did I.

300

00:33:03.360 --> 00:33:04.890

Khloe Hope: I think all of us didn't really...

301

00:33:06.780 --> 00:33:19.290

Khloe Hope: sort of like process it there and then. We were like 'Oh, we'll be fine...like they'll just push it back a week or it, it might still go ahead', but I think when they definitely said 'No it's not going ahead'. But at least, it was just postponed, it wasn't cancelled.

302

00:33:19.770 --> 00:33:25.800

Rebecca Pride: And then, you had setbacks when it finally was on as well, did you?

303

00:33:28.320 --> 00:33:36.450

Khloe Hope: EJ - Head of Running Wardrobe got covid on the dress rehearsal day so opening night.

304

00:33:37.860 --> 00:33:46.080

Khloe Hope: So, that then threw a spanner in the works, because I had a wedding on the Friday, so I couldn't really step in and so...

305

00:33:47.100 --> 00:33:54.450

Khloe Hope: So, I was sort of backstage with everyone on the Thursday just making sure that everyone was okay doing the roles that they were doing and we just...

306

00:33:54.450 --> 00:34:08.730

Khloe Hope: ...moved one person to the other side of the stage because Lauren felt like she could handle everything on that side of the stage on her own. So, I was just there backstage with her, making sure it was fine, but, it was fine, we sorted it all out and yeah but I...

307

00:34:09.840 --> 00:34:10.230

Khloe Hope: [indistinct]

308

00:34:11.370 --> 00:34:11.610

Khloe Hope: Yeah.

309

00:34:11.700 --> 00:34:14.400

Rebecca Pride: Yeah so you just become resilient to it.

310

00:34:15.150 --> 00:34:15.720

Khloe Hope: We adapted.

311

00:34:16.290 --> 00:34:17.100

Rebecca Pride: Yeah

312

00:34:18.180 --> 00:34:19.560

Rebecca Pride: It must have been disappointing?

313

00:34:20.220 --> 00:34:27.480

Khloe Hope: Yeah it definitely was, and I think I always... we had an initial meeting straight after pre assessment.

314

00:34:27.810 --> 00:34:29.970

Rebecca Pride: hmm

315

00:34:31.290 --> 00:34:38.130

Khloe Hope: The decision was made that they... they weren't going to use the set and because it was built for The Pavilion.

316

00:34:38.250 --> 00:34:38.850

Rebecca Pride: And it was very big.

317

00:34:39.090 --> 00:34:46.500

Khloe Hope: Set, and it needed to be put in that space and they couldn't find another venue and I, I felt like that was really unfair because...

318

00:34:47.370 --> 00:34:56.850

Khloe Hope: ...if it was the other way around, and it was a case of 'We're not going to use the costumes', all that work that we put into it and then not see it actually happen, so I did feel for the set designer.

319

00:34:58.290 --> 00:35:05.310

Rebecca Pride: Really, it's kind of sad... I was really looking forward to seeing how it all worked weren't you?

320

00:35:05.700 --> 00:35:06.030

Khloe Hope: Yeah.

321

00:35:06.090 --> 00:35:13.980

Rebecca Pride: I know that was disappointing, but um how did you see the keep the actors kind of motivated...did they seem to mind at all?

322

00:35:14.310 --> 00:35:20.070

Khloe Hope: Um I think they were disappointed that it wasn't going to be with the set.

323

00:35:21.450 --> 00:35:25.620

Khloe Hope: And I think, because some of them had worked on 'Gut Girls' which...

324

00:35:25.620 --> 00:35:26.010

Rebecca Pride: Was.

325

00:35:26.460 --> 00:35:29.280

Khloe Hope: They did one show of that before Christmas, and then it got cut as well.

326

00:35:29.550 --> 00:35:30.930

Rebecca Pride: That got cut as well?

327

00:35:31.050 --> 00:35:40.290

Khloe Hope: As a good 3 of them were in 'Gut girls', so I think it did feel like 'Oh this is happening again' so...

328

00:35:40.290 --> 00:35:44.850

Khloe Hope: We had a group chat and there was.

329

00:35:45.510 --> 00:35:56.130

Khloe Hope: Not that much chat going on. It was an initial... we sent them photos of the pre-assessment saying 'I hope this cheers you up' and they really enjoyed that and then there was a few days, where no one really said much.

330

00:35:56.880 --> 00:35:59.760

Rebecca Pride: So, so that quiet resignation.

331

00:35:59.940 --> 00:36:00.870

Khloe Hope: yeah definitely.

332

00:36:02.340 --> 00:36:11.670

Khloe Hope: But then when they had found the church and it was up and running again then everyone seemed a lot more excited. I think being in the space and then putting the costumes on in the space...

333

00:36:11.760 --> 00:36:16.260

Khloe Hope: Everyone liked it was still going ahead, and it was still going to be a good production yeah.

334

00:36:16.530 --> 00:36:21.240

Rebecca Pride: You didn't have any setbacks...it did all of his performances didn't it?

335

00:36:21.570 --> 00:36:23.040

Khloe Hope: Yeah, I did all the performances yeah.

336

00:36:23.190 --> 00:36:26.100

Rebecca Pride: And once you've started that everyone had got covid by then?

337

00:36:26.130 --> 00:36:26.670

So, it was like.

338

00:36:31.170 --> 00:36:35.490

Rebecca Pride: Okay well that's brilliant well have you got anything else you'd like to add Khloe?

339

00:36:37.410 --> 00:36:39.900

Khloe Hope: No, I don't think so yeah good.

340

00:36:40.470 --> 00:36:43.470

Rebecca Pride: Good, brilliant - Okay, well, I will stop recording now.