

“Ruled by Fear, Fire and the Sword”

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My aspirations of becoming a Fashion Designer began at a young age. My three years of study at Southampton Solent University have made this a reality. The skills learnt on this course will serve me well in my chosen career: pattern cutting, modelling on the stand, creating silhouettes and seeing a garment take shape from initial concepts to complete garments. My greatest attribute is my enthusiasm to succeed with the drive and determination to be involved in and contribute to the fashion industry. I enjoy taking on new challenges and pushing myself to reach my full potential.

During my studies, I actively sought work placement within Trend Forecasting company Mudpie, where I researched and wrote about global trends, designers and Fashion Week collections: my interest in costume design led me to work for Merlin Studios, London—the clothing designers for Madame Tussauds. It was a revelation to see the various stages leading from the initial measurements of a celebrity to rigorous modelling in clay and fitting of bespoke garments on to waxworks. Through the task of sourcing fabrics I became familiar with the clothing neighbourhoods of London, searching for broderie anglaise in Berwick Street market, Soho and finding sources of Black Taffetta from Joel & Sons in Marble Arch.

I have developed as a designer to produce an innovative and creative final collection. I have learnt a lot from studying fashion, recognising and developing my strengths has been fundamental in developing my skills and knowledge of the fashion industry.

My final major collection at Southampton Solent University (June 2009) is based on the Battle of Hastings. Amongst this collection there are two contrasting elements: the hard, structured and restricting metal armour against the soft, unstructured shapes of the 11th Century Medieval Britain. The colour palette is dominated by earth tones and charcoal greys. This is to create a muted and rural appearance, inspired by eroding metal, the land itself and history. The materials include distressed leather with a heavily textured wool and knitted metal to create a raw feel.



Lottie with Eddie Izzard, the Museum's Patron

