

ART/history:

A retrospective exhibit on the career of costume designer Paul Foltz

“Welcome to chaos” – a photo exhibit on the creative process

Designing

With these images in mind, Paul starts sketching. He may do just black and white line drawings to develop the silhouette of the costume, or sometimes renders the sketches in color. He then begins sourcing fabrics and adds swatches to the sketch. Details and embellishments get added and accessories are selected. “I don’t always have a lot of time to create finished drawings,” says Paul. He is always under pressure to get the costumes to production to meet the show schedule. The pages of his sketchbooks give us a glimpse into a collection of costumes as varied as the imagination.



Creating Patterns

Once the small scale sketches are developed, Paul translates these into full size patterns guided by the measurements of the actors and the silhouette Paul is trying to create in his costume.



Cutting Fabric

Once the fabric is sourced, ordered and delivered, Paul begins cutting the fabric into pieces based on the patterns. This is where the artist begins to transform into a craftsman, building the costume piece by piece.

Photos by John Powl, Under The Bridge Productions