Costume Designs

The School for Scandal

Playwright: Richard Brinsley Sheridan
Rose Downing, School of Theatre
Stephen F. Austin State University
Faculty Sponsor: Angela Bacarisse

The School for Scandal was our final project in Costume Design. All semester we learned how to document, research, and design plays; this project summed up all we learned in the class.

This play is a comedy of manners. It makes fun of the upper class society of the 1770's, when it was written. There is a group that essentially messes with the other characters, causing problems. It is because of this that I decided I could move the play's time to be set in the 1920's. Charles Surface, who is a gambler and drinker in the original, was turned into a mobster. Lady Teazle, who is the frivolous young wife of Sir Peter, fits perfectly into the image of the flapper.

My research covered all of the 1920's. I made sure I had at least two reference images and one color palette image for each character. This allowed me to have a unique outfit for every character even the men who are wearing suits. All of my colors are bright and fairly saturated since it is a comedy work. I wanted all the outfits to express each person's feelings and intensions through the era of the twenties.

Bibliography