**Sophia James:** I'm Sophia James.

I go to Strathcona Girls' Baptist Grammar School.

And last year I was in Year 11. And this year I'm doing Year 12.

I chose Animal Farm, and the playwright is George Orwell.

So basically in Animal Farm, it's an allegorical play.

So you can read it on a simple level, where there's a beast fable.

And these animals are rebelling against their tyrant.

And they're trying to find communism or, as they call it, animalism.

Or you can read it into the deep level, which is about the Russian Revolution.

And all the events and characters represent events and characters in the Russian Revolution.

I selected this play because I thought it would be really interesting to create an animal instead of a costume for a person.

And I thought it would be really fun to incorporate all the meaning and messages that the play provides.

The character I selected was Major. And he's an old boar.

And he's the idealistic leader for the revolution.

And he represents, in the Russian Revolution, Marx and Lenin, who were also the idealistic leaders.

So Major's monologue appears in the first scene.  
  
The two areas of design that I focused on were costume and make-up.

I've chosen to emphasise the theme of a cruel leader.

And to show this, I've created the bloody brand, which is oversized on the costume.

I've included shackles and also dirt on the body, which shows that they're not being looked after and their downtrodden status.

I've included the theme of communism. And I've done that by having the Communist symbol of the sickle and hammer underneath the bloody brand, which, in the inspirational conclusion, gets removed.

So the theatrical style that drove my inspiration was the Musical Theatre.

There's poles in the pants for him to hold so he can beat a rhythm with his poles.

So, my make-up relates to my costume because the pig mask ties it in with the pig body.

Also because it's a half mask, it gives the chance for his voice to be heard as it’s Musical Theatre.

I looked into researching into the Russian Revolution and also lots of visuals on previous productions of Animal Farm.

For the costume, it's a onesie that I have extended the forearms.

So when it's being worn, all four legs are being on the floor.

I used polyester fabric to extend the sleeves for the onesie.

I used wooden poles, which go inside the extensions.

I've used chains, and chain bolts.

I used a lot of paint. Because the onesie used to be pink.

But then I changed it to white and also Velcro so it can be ripped off and then reapplied.

So to make the mask, I moulded a shape with a cup to give it a pig's nose.

And then I papier mâchéd onto it. And I layered in certain spots more than others to create the shape.

I had to trial a lot to get the polyester fabric and onesie to change colour.

Because they were originally pink and I wanted them white.

So it took me a while to work out how to get the paint to stick on to it.

Because my fabric had a lot of holes in it.

So I ended up dunking it in a bucket and literally washing it in paint, which I found was the easiest solution.

I had to trial to get the right shape of the mask and also the right shape for it to fit on my face.

One issue I had was, because when I painted the onesie, the zip in the front to get into it, closed over, so it couldn't be used.

So I had to create slits on the side. And firstly, I put clips in it to try and get it to stay.

But because it's so heavy, every time I moved it would just unclip.

So then I had to later use buttons.

So some advice I was given was to give myself a lot of time and to start early with making my costume and make-up.

And it did take a lot of time to make.

But it was enjoyable.

It was-- you could watch a TV show while doing it, so--