

SENSE & SENSIBILITY

PlayMakers Repertory Company: 2017

Ray Dooley as Mrs. Jennings Dress

Designer: Olivera Gajic
Position: Draper



Photos from HuthPhotography



Olivera pulled many of her ideas from the historical image on the left. Things she wanted to keep from the image were the chevron look at the back and the large collar. The stripe she picked was bigger than the original so position of the stripes was important to consider.



First Fitting

In the first fitting we made the skirt cartridge pleats instead of pleats and made adjustments to the engagements' lengths. Due to the change in the skirt construction I had to rethink the way it connected to the center back bodice and ended up deciding to separate the pieces completely. Image on right close up of mock-up.



Second Fitting

In the second fitting it was important to confirm the base and finalize the collar fabric. When looking at the neck ruffle Olivera wanted to take it back a bit to show off the collar.

In the final fitting Olivera was able to see all the pieces together. The neck ruffle is controlled by the base and folds over onto the collar hiding the edges.



Final Fitting

Olivera wanted to see what could be done by chevrons the stripe in two directions center back and then wrapping around to the front.

The front panel is a stretch velvet that is stitched to a taffeta layer every 4 inches to keep it from stretching. The front panel wraps under to open on the left and then main skirt closes center front. It is attached to the main bodice that opens center front with hooks and eyes.

It was important to Olivera that the pleats on the skirt be controlled so there is a stabilizing band along the inside of the pleats.

