

This is an "Ancient Greek Theater" Unit Project
This is a RWAP Activity (RWAP stand for Research ~
Writing ~ Art ~ Project)
Students are expected to use their Sketchbooks

*"Leon Bakst Costume Designs inspired by
Ancient Greece"*



Project Instructions, Part 1:

Leon Bakst was a prolific costume and set designer who worked in the early 20th century, creating stunning designs for theatrical Plays and Ballets such as "Cleopatra" and "Daphne and Choe".



The Project should cover at least 2 pages of Student's Sketchbook.

Student Project should include 3 parts:

1. Part 1: Colored or B/W copies of Leon Bakst Costume designs for an Ancient Greek Play or Ballet correctly identified (WRAP-Research Part)
2. Part 2: Answers to the Assigned Questions (WRAP-Writing Part)
3. Part 3: Costume Design Sketching (Art Part)

Project Instructions, Part 2:

Questions students are expected to Answer

1. What do you think is unique about Bakst's costume designs? What elements or features make them stand out?
2. How do Bakst's designs reflect the cultural and historical influences of the time period in which he was working? Can you identify any specific cultural or historical references in his designs?
3. How do the colors, textures, and patterns used in Bakst's costume designs contribute to their overall effect? How do these elements help to create a particular mood or atmosphere?

Léon Bakst, 1866-1924, *Costume Design for Madame Moreno as Aethra, for Phèdre*, 1923, Watercolor, metallic paint, and graphite on paper, mounted on board, 32.7x24.4 cm, McNay Art Museum, San Antonio, TX, USA <https://isaw.nyu.edu/exhibitions/ballets-russes/objects/80>



Project Instructions, Part 3: Costume Design Sketching

Costume Design Sketching: Students are asked to select up to three costume designs by Leon Bakst and create detailed sketches of the costumes from different angles, including front, back or side views. Students are encouraged to pay attention to the intricate details, such as the colors, textures, and patterns used.

Léon Bakst, 1866-1924, *Costume Design for a Woman from the Village, for Daphnis et Chloé*, 1912, Watercolor and graphite on paper, 26x21.6 cm, the MET, NY, USA <https://isaw.nyu.edu/exhibitions/ballets-russes/objects/82>





Léon
Bakst,
Costume
designs for
Sophocles'
tragedy,
Oedipus at
Colonus,
(St.
Petersburg,
Alexandrinsky
Theater),
1904,
Watercolor
and Pencil
on Paper,
40 x 25.1
cm,
Bakhrushin
Theater
Museum,
Moscow

<https://www.meisterdrucke.fr/fine-art-prints/Leon-Bakst/428387/Costume-Design-pour-%C3%A0-Colon-par-Sophocle,-1904-%28wc-sur-papier%29.html>



Léon Bakst, 1866–
1924 Costume
designs for
Sophocles'
tragedy, *Oedipus
at Colonus*, (St.
Petersburg,
Alexandrinsky
Theater), 1904,
Watercolor and
Pencil on Paper,
40 x 25.1 cm,
Bakhrushin
Theater Museum,
Moscow

<https://www.art-prints-on-demand.com/a/bakst-leon-nikolajewitsch/kostmentwurfzumtheaterstueckdipusaufkolonosvonsophok.html>

Léon Bakst, 1866-1924
Costume design for Theseus, (Oedipus at Colonus
performance at St. Petersburg, Alexandrinsky Theater),
1904, Watercolor and Pencil on Paper, 28 by 21 cm, Private
Collection

<https://macdougallauction.com/en/catalogue/view?id=5652>





Léon Bakst,
1866-1924
Costume
Design for
Tamara
Karsavina as
Chloé, for
Daphnis et
Chloé, ca.
1912,
Graphite and
tempera
and/or
watercolor on
paper,
28.2x44.7 cm,
Wadsworth
Atheneum
Museum of
Art, Hartford,
CT, USA
<https://isaw.nyu.edu/exhibitions/ballets-russes/objects/72>



Léon Bakst, 1866-1924
 Costume design for
 Narcisse, 1911, St.
 Petersburg State Museum
 of Theatre and Music

<https://poulwebb.blogspot.com/2022/01/leon-bakst-part-3.html>





Léon Bakst, 1866-1924

Costume for a Nymph, from *Narcisse*, 1911,
Silk and paint with repp detail at waist,
Dansmuseet Stockholm, Sweden
<https://isaw.nyu.edu/exhibitions/ballets-russes/objects/75>

Costume for a Female Slave, from *Cléopâtre*,
1913, Wool, silk, lamé, and ribbons,
Dansmuseet—Museum Rolf de Maré
Stockholm, Sweden



Léon Bakst, 1866 - 1924
Costumes for Nymphs for the
Ballets Russes de Serge Diaghilev,
c.1912, National Gallery of
Australia in Canberra

<https://searchthecollection.nga.gov.au/landing#/results?keyword=L%C3%A9on%20Bakst&includeParts>

