

Tom Burch

Professor and Scenic Designer

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EDUCATION

MFA – STAGE DESIGN Northwestern University, 2003
Scenic (primary)/Costume (secondary)/Puppetry

GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN DRAMA (History) University of Bristol, England, 1995
as a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar
Thesis title: ***In Pursuit of a White Box***: a dramaturgical and scenographic
exploration of 20th century British Productions of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer
Night's Dream*.

BFA – THEATRE: Design and Technology University of Kentucky, 1994
magna cum laude, 4 year - Deans List

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHARLOTTE
Assistant Professor of Scenic Design (tenure track) 2014-present

ITHACA COLLEGE
Assistant Professor of Scenic Design (tenure track) 2012-2014

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
Director of Design: University Theater,
Lecturer: Theatre and Performance Studies 2005-2012

NORTH PARK UNIVERSITY
Adjunct Lecturer and Designer 2003-2005

ACTORS THEATRE OF LOUISVILLE
Assistant Scenic Designer, to resident designer, Paul Owen 1996-2000

GEORGETOWN COLLEGE
Adjunct Instructor and Designer 1996-2000

MARKET HOUSE THEATRE

Designer and Technical Director

1995-1996

PROFESSIONAL SCENIC DESIGN (highlights)

OFF-BROADWAY, New York City, NY

MISTAKES WERE MADE, dir. Dexter Bullard, Barrow St. Theatre. 2010-11

CHILDREN'S THEATRE OF CHARLOTTE, Charlotte, NC

MARY POPPINS, dir. Michael Bobbitt, 2017

THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER, the musical,
dir. Adam Burke, 2016-18

JOURNEY TO OZ, dir. Christopher Parks, 2016

COMMEDIA SNOW WHITE, dir. Carlos Alexis-Cruz, 2016

CORALINE, dir. Mark Sutton, 2015

COMMEDIA PRINCESS AND THE PEA, dir. Carlos Alexis-Cruz, 2015

JACKIE AND ME, dir. Matthew Mazuroski, 2015

The HYPOCRITES, Chicago, IL (and other locales)

HMS PINAFORE, dir. Sean Graney, 2015-2016

(at Actors Theatre Louisville and American Repertory Theatre)

PIRATES OF PENZANCE, dir. Sean Graney, 2009-2016

(most recently at Berkeley Repertory Theatre)

ALL OUR TRAGIC, dir. Sean Graney, 2015

VICTORY GARDENS THEATRE, Chicago, IL

SUCKER PUNCH, dir. Dexter Bullard, 2015

ACTORS THEATRE LOUISVILLE, Louisville, KY

HMS PINAFORE, dir. Sean Graney for The Hypocrites 2015

PIRATES OF PENZANCE, dir. Sean Graney for The Hypocrites 2014

OH GASTRONOMY! and *Ten Minute Plays* – Humana Festival of New
American Plays, dir. various 2013

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY, dir. Jon Jory, 2012

(remount from NORTHLIGHT THEATRE, 2010, and subsequently
staged at REPERTORY THEATRE OF ST. LOUIS, 2013)

NIXON'S NIXON, dir. Michael Dixon 1999

GOODMAN THEATRE, Chicago, IL

THE HAIRY APE, dir. by Sean Graney (co-prod with The Hypocrites) as
part of the Eugene O'Neill Festival, 2009

ESPERANZA RISING, dir. by Henry Godinez (co-prod. with Chicago
Children's Theatre)

GAS FOR LESS, directed by Dexter Bullard, 2008

THE HORTON FOOTE FESTIVAL, 2008

TALKING PICTURES, directed by Henry Wishcamper, 2008

Other Chicago credits include shows at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Court Theatre, Northlight Theatre, Victory Gardens, House Theatre, Lifeline, Timeline, Strawdog, Piven Theatre Workshop, Light Opera Works, Next Theatre and many others.

Regional Design credits include shows at Actors Theatre of Louisville, American Repertory Theatre, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Arizona Theatre Company, Cleveland Play House, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Milwaukee Repertory, Stage One, Childsplay, Children's Theatre of Charlotte, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, among others.

CURRENT AND UPCOMING DESIGN PROJECTS

THE HYPOCRITES, Chicago, IL
THE ARISTOPHANEATHON, dir. Sean Graney April 2018

MAGIK THEATRE, San Antonio, TX
MADAGASCAR, the musical, dir. Heather Currie June 2018

OLNEY THEATRE CENTER, Olney, MD (Washington, DC market)
***The Hypocrites'* HMS PINAFORE and PIRATES OF PENZANCE**
dir. Sean Graney July 2018

STRAWDOG THEATRE CO, Chicago, IL
MASQUE MACABRE, dir. Anderson Lawfer, Janet Howe and Eli Newell
Oct 2018

CHILDREN'S THEATRE OF CHARLOTTE
THREE LITTLE BIRDS, dir. Shondrika Moss Feb 2019

PUBLICATIONS

TD&T - Quarterly Magazine for US Institute of Theatre Technology
Young Americans in Prague, the student experience of the 2015 Prague Quadrennial of Stage Design and Space – Fall 2015

Project Researcher and Copywriter for **World Scenography (vol 2) 1990-2005**
edited by Eric Fielding and Peter MacKinnon (published Fall 2014)

Book review of *Vectorworks for Entertainment Design* by Kevin Lee Adams
– Winter 2016

Book review of *An Introduction to Theatre Design* by Stephen diBenedetto -
Winter 2013

Book review of *Designer Drafting and Visualization for the Entertainment Industry* by Patricia Woodbridge and Hal Tiné – Summer 2013

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2016 USITT National Convention, Salt Lake City, UT March 2016
TITLE: Reflections on Prague (PQ2015 and the student experience)
- 2015 ASSOCIATION OF THEATRE IN HIGHER EDUCATION,
Montreal, Quebec, CA – August 2015
TITLE: *Great Spaces and Greater Ideas*: Designing in non-traditional formats and spaces
- 2015 MID-AMERICA THEATRE CONFERENCE, Kansas City, MO – March 2015
TITLE: *With a Pirate Head and a Pirate Heart*: Evolving Design for Audience Autonomy with The Hypocrites' **PIRATES OF PENZANCE**
TITLE: Inspiration and Trans-Historical Space in *All Our Tragic*"
- 2014 USITT National Convention, Ft. Worth TX March 2014
TITLE: Collaboration and the Design Classroom, methodologies and pedagogies of teaching students how to collaborate

RESEARCH FUNDING (2015-2016)

- 2018-2019 UNCC Faculty Research Grant** (Successfully funded)
TITLE: Continuing Research in Immersive Design for Theatre
- 2015-2016 UNCC Faculty Research Grant** (Successfully funded)
TITLE: Emerging Trends in Scenic Design for Contemporary Non-Traditional Theatrical Performance
- 2015 ASC Regional Artists Project Grant** (Successfully funded)
TITLE: Projection and Digital Media Arts and Theatre Integration

AWARDS

- 2017 HELEN HAYES AWARD NOMINATION** for BEST GUEST PRODUCTION
The Hypocrites' THE MIKADO, Olney Theatre Center
- 2016 JEFF AWARD NOMINATION** for OUTSTANDING SCENIC DESIGN
SUCKER PUNCH, Victory Gardens Theatre, dir. Dexter Bullard
- 2015 JEFF AWARD** for OUTSTANDING MID-SIZE THEATRE PRODUCTION
ALL OUR TRAGIC, by The Hypocrites, dir. Sean Graney
(for which I designed the set)
- 2011 JEFF AWARD NOMINATION** for OUTSTANDING SCENIC DESIGN
NO EXIT for The Hypocrites
- 2010 JEFF AWARD NOMINATION** for OUTSTANDING SCENIC DESIGN
UNCLE VANYA, Strawdog Theatre
- 2007 AFTER DARK AWARD** for Overall Design
ISLAND OF DR MOREAU Lifeline Theatre

2007 JEFF AWARD NOMINATION for OUTSTANDING SCENIC DESIGN
ISLAND OF DR. MOREAU for Lifeline Theatre
2005 Michael Maggio EMERGING DESIGNER AWARD (Chicago) from the
Michael Merritt Endowment
2005 AFTER DARK AWARD for Overall Design
RED HERRING, Northlight Theatre
2004 AFTER DARK AWARD for Best Scenic Design
STRONG POISON Lifeline Theatre
2004 JEFF AWARD for OUSTANDING SCENIC DESIGN
MISERY, by Pyewacket Theatre, dir. David Zak

PEER REVIEWED EXHIBITIONS

2017 WORLD STAGE DESIGN (OISTAT) Taipei, Taiwan
One of 15 American designers selected to display work
Displayed ***The Hypocrites'* PIRATES OF PENZANCE** ,at various
venues across the country.
2015 Prague Quadrennial **SHOW AND TELL**
PRESENTATION TITLE: Designing for Non-Traditional Spaces with
Chicago's *The Hypocrites*
(One of 30 scenic designers in the world (one of only four from the USA) to
be selected for public presentation at PQ2015 International Symposium on
Stage Design and Space)

One of 10 Chicago-based designers who displayed work at TCG National
Conference, June 2010

Portfolio Presentation at USITT's YOUNG DESIGNERS FORUM at the 2003
Conference, Minneapolis

Portfolio Presentation at 2003 CLAMBAKE at Lincoln Center, New York City.

STUDENT SUPERVISION (project advisor for undergraduates)

FALL 2014

Beth Killion – costume designer for **MERRY WIVES**

Ozzie Hernandez – scenic designer for **DEAD MAN'S CELL PHONE**

SPRING 2015

Anna Stine – scenic art for **PURPLE FLOWER** and **LAZARI**

FALL 2015

Beth Killion – assistant costume design for **CORALINE**

with Children's Theater of Charlotte

Autumn McLaughlin – assistant scenic design for **CORALINE**
Quincy Esteban and Randy San – asst. scenic for **HAMLETMACHINE**
SPRING 2016
Brittany White – puppetry for **HAMLETMACHINE**
Nate FitzSimmons – properties for **HAMLETMACHINE**
Fall 2016
Matthew Miller – scenic design for **The ALIENS**

TEACHING AT UNC - CHARLOTTE (ALL UNDERGRADUATE COURSES)

SPRING 2016
THEA 4001 – Special Topics: Scenic Painting
THEA 4610 – Advanced Design/Tech/Management

FALL 2015
THEA 3230 – Scenic Design 1
THEA 2200 – Introduction to Design for the Stage
THEA 3600 – Junior Seminar
THEA 4610 – Advanced Design/Tech/Management

SPRING 2015
THEA 4001 – Special Topics: Puppetry
THEA 3600 – Junior Seminar
THEA 4610 – Advanced Design/Tech/Management

FALL 2014
THEA 3230 – Scenic Design 1
THEA 2200 – Introduction to Design for the Stage
THEA 4610 – Advanced Design/Tech/Management

During my two years at UNC-Charlotte, I have developed special topics courses in Puppetry (Spring 2015) and Scenic Painting (Spring 2016), and will do the same for Stage Properties in Spring 2017.

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

UNITED SCENIC ARTISTS, Local 829 professional union for theatrical designers – member since 2006

Individual Member of USITT (US Institute of Theatre Technology), since 1997

Served as Mentor/Co-Director for the American Student Exhibit that was displayed as part of the 2011 and 2015 Prague Quadrennials (Prague, Czech Republic)

Ongoing committee-work with Education and Scenic Design Commissions, as well as International Activities Committee.

Serving as a Production Respondent for the KC/ACTF, Region III, Region II and presently region IV, as applicable (ongoing)

Served as an Independent Professional Reviewer for Theatre at Columbia College, Chicago's Portfolio Center. 2005-2007

INTERNAL SERVICE

UNIVERSITY

Departmental Representative, Faculty Senate 2014-2015, and 2015-2016

DEPARTMENT

COMMITTEES

Member, Theatre Department Chair Search Committee, 2016

Member, Curriculum Committee, 2014-15, and 2015-2016

Member, Costume Design Search Committee, 2014-2015

Member, Ad-Hoc Committee: Department Mission Statement, 2014

DESIGN WORK

Scenic Designer/Scenic Artist, **Hamletmachine**, dir. Robin Witt March 2016

Scenic Artist, **Hamlet**, Gordon Olson – scenic designer November 2015

Scenic Designer, **Coraline**, dir by Mark Sutton (Co-production with Children's Theatre of Charlotte) October 2015

Scenic Designer, **Lazari**, dir. Carlos Alexis Cruz April 2015

Scenic Designer/Scenic Artist, **The Purple Flower**, dir. James Vesce February 2015

Sound Designer/Production Mentor **Dead Man's Cell Phone**, dir. Ryan Fay, November 2014