

# ALESSIA CARPOCA

# Scenic and Costume Designer

---

Address: 530 Brooks  
Missoula, MT 59801.  
Phone: 406 531 5836  
E-mail: alessia.carpoca@mso.umt.edu

## EDUCATION

Photoshop, one-week intensive class on Photoshop C3. Summer Session, The University of Montana, 2008.

Web Design, one-week intensive class on web site design and development. Programs used include html programming, Dreamweaver, Fireworks and Photoshop, University of Montana, 2006.

MFA in Theatre Design, Northwestern University, 2001-2003.

B.F.A. Academy of Fine Arts of Rome. Top marks and honors 110/110 cum laude, 1989-1993.

## GRANTS/AWARDS

Mini-Sabbatical Grant, The University of Montana. Presenter in two panels for the National Conference of the United States Institute for Theatre and Technology, Houston March 2008.

Vice President for Research and Development Grant, The University of Montana. Awarded grant to travel to Urbana-Champaign, Illinois and assist with the organization, planning and construction of the USA Exhibit for the 2007 Prague Quadrennial and to assist with the load-in in Prague, June 2007.

Merit Award, The University of Montana, 2007.

Faculty Development Professional Grant, One-week intensive workshop in translucent drops. Taught by Rachel Keebler, co-founder and owner of Cobalt Studios, New York, 2006 (30 hrs. practical plus lectures).

National Opera Theatre of Rome, Scholarship for course in Set Design and Scene Painting, 1992.

## ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

### Puppetry

Prague Quadrennial workshop titled "The Tea Pavilion" taught by Watanabe Kazunori and Peter Matasek with the help of Actress/Puppeteer Miyako Kurotani. Two-day intensive workshop focusing on both construction and performance techniques for a Japanese wooden puppet, 2007.

### Teaching

Faculty Professional Development workshops, The University of Montana, 2007.

- *Using teaching Strategies*, session included working with large classes, as well as ways to make classes more interactive
- *Teaching with Technologies*, session included teaching with different types of technology and their uses in the classroom

### Scene Painting

*Cartooning Backdrops for the Theatre*, USITT Professional Development Workshop, Toronto, Canada. Taught by Howard Jones, North Carolina School of the Arts, and Susan Crabtree author of *Scenic Art for the Theatre*, 2005.

### Scene Painting

One-week intensive workshop in historic scene painting, The University of Montana. Taught by Lance Brockman, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, 2004 (16 hrs. practical plus lectures).

### Scene Painting and Construction

Professional Development course in scene painting and scene construction, Archimede Studios Rome, Italy, Certificate awarded, 1994 (240 hrs).

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

### ***Summary***

I am currently employed as Assistant Professor in Set and Costume Design in the Department of Drama/Dance at The University of Montana, Missoula, Montana.

I have worked extensively for both the International Committee and the Conference Committee of the United States Institute for Theatre and Technology (USITT). Last year I was invited by the Vice President for International Activities to be part of the USITT USA team for the Prague Quadrennial 2007 (P.Q. '07). The P.Q., held every four years in Prague, is the only world exhibit of Theatre Design and Architecture. This year sixty-eight countries from all continents participated in the P.Q. I have assisted with the organization, planning and load-in of the USA exhibit and, with two colleagues from the University of Montana, will be in charge of the USA exhibits for the 2011 Prague Quadrennial.

In the last six years I have designed 8 operas for the University of British Columbia School of Music (Vancouver, Canada). Six of these have been co-productions with Mestzke Divadlo in Usti Nad Labem (Czech Republic). All have toured both the Czech Republic and Germany including two productions that were performed in the Stavoske Theatre, Prague Estates Theatre, where Mozart premiered and conducted his opera *Don Giovanni*. In September 2001 I designed the set and costumes for the Czech Republic premiere of *The Crucible*, which was later included in a one-hour special programming on the National Czech Television.

During my final year at Northwestern University I was chosen to design the set for the world premiere of *A Long Gay Book* directed by Frank Galati (winner of two Tony awards for *Grapes of Wrath*) and composed by Stephen Flaherty (1998 Tony award for *Ragtime*). While at Northwestern I designed sets, costumes and lighting for main stage productions and graduate student productions.

In Italy most of my experience has fallen into two categories: set design and painting for television programs on the main national networks, Rai Uno, Channel Five, and set design and lighting for Club Vacanze, a holiday resort management company that has theatrical and cabaret entertainment for guests on location. The television work was commissioned by La Scenografia, the largest private construction and design studio for television work in Italy, with whom I collaborated from 1995 to 1998.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **United States Institute for Theatre and Technology (USITT)**

**Assistant Exhibit Coordinator**, USA National, Student and Architecture Exhibit for the Prague Quadrennial 2011. Responsibilities will include the planning, cataloging, construction, shipping, load-in and strike of the three different USA exhibits.

**Member**, USA team, National, Student and Architecture Exhibit for the Prague Quadrennial 2007. Responsibilities included coordinating the planning, organization and construction of the three different exhibits and load-in at the Prumyslovy Exhibit Hall in Prague, Czech Republic. The Prague Quadrennial is the only world exhibit of Theatre Design and Architecture.

**Recruiting Committee** for the Prague Quadrennial 2007 USA design exhibits. Responsibilities included finding and contacting designers worthy of receiving an invitation to participate in the selection process for the USA National exhibit.

## University of British Columbia

- Set designer**, *The Marriage of Figaro*, W.A.Mozart, director Nancy Hermiston, Chan Centre for the Performing Arts, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, March 2006.
- Set and costume designer**, *Così fan Tutte*, W.A.Mozart, director Nancy Hermiston, Severoceske Divadlo in Usti Nad Labem (previously Mestke Divadlo), Czech Republic touring show. This production toured several cities in the Czech Republic including 2 performances in the Prague Estates Theatre (Stavovske Divadlo or the Mozart Theatre), June 2005.
- Set and costume designer**, *Manon*, J. Massenet, director Nancy Hermiston, Chan Centre for the Performing Arts, Vancouver, Canada, March 2004.
- Set designer**, *The Bartered Bride*, J. Smetana, director Josef Novak, Chan Centre for the Performing Arts, Vancouver, Canada, March 2003.
- Set and costume designer**, *Manon*, J. Massenet, director Nancy Hermiston, Usti nad Labem City Theatre (Czech Republic), June 2002.
- Set and costume designer**, *The Crucible*, R.Ward, director Nancy Hermiston, Chan Centre for the Performing Arts, Vancouver, Canada, March 2001. Co-production with Usti nad Labem City Theatre (Czech Republic premiere) and U.B.C. School of Music, September 2001
- Set and costume designer**, *Die Gartnerin aus Liebe*, W. A. Mozart, director Nancy Hermiston. Co-production with Usti nad Labem City Theatre (Czech Republic) and U.B.C. School of Music. This production toured several cities in the Czech Republic including performances in the Prague Estates Theatre (Staromeske Divadlo or the Mozart Theatre), June 2000.

## L'Acchiappafeste, Via dei Pirenei 10, 00144 Rome, Italy

**Consultant for Art activities**, Jan/May '99. **Director of the Model Building Pavilion** in "Exhibition of Rome." The exhibition featured around 20 architectural models and 10 set models. Responsibilities included conducting seminars in the making of a model and its application in architecture (for the adult audience) and workshops in model building (for the younger audience).

## Club Vacanze, Viale Mentana 150, 00050 Parma, Italy

**Set Designer**, Summer '95, Winter '96/'97; **Art Director**, Summer '97, Winter '97/'98. Responsibilities included designing sets and props for a wide variety of plays, musicals and special events. As Art Director I worked closely with the management office improving the communication between the 12 different theatres the company owns and supervising the individual set designers who worked in them. I created a library of available resources (lighting instruments, scenery, backdrops etc.) to allow the exchange of scenery and lighting between theaters.

## La Scenografia, Via Affogalasio 52, Rome, Italy

**Scenic Artist and Charge Artist**, 1995 to 1998 freelance. I worked on approximately 25 different television, fashion or advertisement productions. Highlights from this experience are: Danone advertising, official sponsor for World Cup France '98; Per Atlanta sempre dritto, painted for the Italian broadcast show of the Olympic Games in Atlanta and currently part of the permanent exposition in Cinecitta Movie Studios in Rome. As **Charge Artist** I was responsible for the final look of all scenery in production, supervising a crew of 6 to 12 scenic artists.

## Teatro Dei Servi, Vicolo dei Servi 6, 00160 Rome, Italy

**Set Designer**, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, June 1994

## Teatro Vascello, Via del Vascello 40, 00156 Rome, Italy

**Fly and Deck crew**, *Tamerlano the Greatest*, February 1993

## NATIONAL

### **Montana Repertory Theatre**

**Set designer**, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, directed by Greg Johnson, Montana Repertory Theatre January 2008 and National Tour. The Montana Repertory Theatre is a professional company based on the campus of The University of Montana. The Rep productions tour the country each spring.

**Costume designer**, *Return to Ashes*, choreographer Kim Epifano, Guest Artist, Velocity Theatre, Seattle, February 2004; The University of Montana, November 2003.

## REGIONAL/STATE

### **The University of Montana**

**Scene Design and Scenic Artist** for the Garden City Ballet production of *The Nutcracker*, December 2007

**Costume Designer**, *Boy Gets Girl*, directed by Michael Butterworth, Masquer Theatre, September 2007.

**Costume designer**, *LunchBox*, choreographed for the Spring Dance Concert, Montana Theatre, May 2007; American College Dance Festival (ACDF) Conference, March 2007.

**Set designer**, *Big Love*, directed by Noah Tuleja, Masquer Theatre, April 2007.

**Costume designer**, *Miss Julie*, directed by Michael Murphy, Masquer Theatre, February 2007.

**Set designer**, *Still Life with Iris*, directed by Theresa Waldorf, Montana Theatre, September 2006.

**Costume designer**, *Spirale*, choreographed by Kasi Grieblesky, Spring Dance Concert, Montana Theatre, May 2006.

**Set designer**, *The Time of your Life*, directed by Joe Proctor, Masquer Theatre, April 2006.

**Set and Costume designer**, *Peter Pan or the boy who would not grow up*, directed by Noah Tuleja, Montana Theatre, November 2005.

**Set and Costume designer**, *The Shape of Things*, directed by James Kriley, Masquer Theatre, October 2004.

**Costume designer**, *Evita*, directed by Keith Hitchcock, Montana Theatre, April 2004.

**Set designer**, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, director Roger Heddon, Montana Theatre, April 2004.

**Costume designer**, *Return to Ashes*, choreographer Kim Epifano, Guest Artist, Montana Theatre November 2003; Seattle, February 2004.

**Costume designer**, Mo-Trans dance concert, *Three and Still*, by Chio Chi Chang, Guest Artist, *Corsage, What if and then ...and Power Plays*, by Amy Ragsdale, November 2003.

**Costume coordinator**, Mo-Trans dance concert, *The secret life of coats and Improv*, Montana Theatre, November 2003.

### **Northwestern University**

**Set designer**, *The Long Gay Book*, world premiere of a chamber musical based on the writings of Gertrude Stein, director Frank Galati (1990 Tony award for *Grapes of Wrath*), composer Stephen Flaherty (1998 Tony award for *Ragtime*), Ethel Barber Theatre, May 2003.

**Set designer**, *The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus*, adaptation of Marlowe, director and writer Adam Burke, February 2003.

**Lighting designer**, *Drums of the Dam*, by Helene Anxious, director Craig Kinzer, Louis Theatre, December 2002.

**Set and costume designer**, *Salt and Pepper*, by Jose Cruz Gonzales, director Rives Collins, Ethel Barber Theatre, April 2002. Children's touring show.

**Set designer**, *The Changeling*, by T. Middleton, director Adam Burke, Wallis Theatre, February 2001.

**Set designer**, *Danny and the deep blue sea*, by John Patrick Shanley, director Adam Burke, Wallis Theatre, May 2000.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Courses taught:**

#### **UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA**

##### **2007 SPRING**

DRAM 535 Problems in Scene Design (1 Graduate students)  
DRAM 334-2 Scene Design 2 (6 Undergraduate)  
DRAM 495 Advanced Scene Painting (2 Undergraduate students)  
DRAM 395-05 Model Building (2 Undergraduate students)  
DRAM 535 Problems in Costume Design (1 Graduate student)

##### **2006 FALL**

DRAM 103 Section 01-02 Introduction to Theatre Design (General Education, BA and BFA students total of 65 students)  
DRAM 333 Scene Painting (Undergraduate 10 students)  
DRAM 346 Costume Design I (Undergraduate and BFA students 10 students)  
DRAM 396 Independent Studies Scenic Painting (1 Undergraduate Student)

##### **2006 SPRING**

DRAM 535 Problems in Scene Design (1 Graduate students)  
DRAM 334-2 Scene Design 2 (3 Undergraduate)  
DRAM 495 Advanced Scene Painting (4 Undergraduate students)  
DRAM 446 Costume Design 2 (3 Undergraduate students)  
DRAM 535 Problems in Costume Design (1 Graduate student)

##### **2005 FALL**

DRAM 103 Section 01-02 Introduction to Theatre Design (General Education, BA and BFA students total of 70 students)  
DRAM 333 Scene Painting (Undergraduate 8 students)  
DRAM 346 Costume Design I (Undergraduate and BFA students 10 students)  
DRAM 396 Independent Studies Scenic Painting (1 Undergraduate Student)  
DRAMA 496 Independent Studies in Costume Design (1 Undergraduate Student)  
DRAM 535 Graduate Costume Design (1 Graduate student)

##### **2004 FALL**

DRAM 103 Section 01-02 Introduction to Theatre Design (General Education and BFA students total of 75 students)  
DRAM 333 Scene Painting (Undergraduate)  
DRAM 346 Costume Design I (Undergraduate and BFA students)  
DRAM 398 Coop Education Experience

##### **2005 SPRING**

DRAM 535 Problems in Scene Design (Graduate students)  
DRAM 495 Advanced Scene Painting (Undergraduate)  
DRAM 103A Section 01 Introduction to Theatre Design (General Education and BFA students)

##### **2003 FALL**

DRAM 103 Section 01-02 Introduction to Theatre Design (General Education and BFA students total of 72 students)  
DRAM 333 Scene Painting (Undergraduate and Graduate students)  
DRAM 346 Costume Design I (Undergraduate and BFA students)

## **2004 SPRING**

DRAM 335 Scene Design II (Undergraduate and Graduate students)

DRAM 395 Rendering for the Theatre Designer (Undergraduate and Graduate students, projects in abstract and representational art)

## **NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY**

### **2003 WINTER**

THEATRE 241-1 Scenic Design I (Undergraduates)

### **2002 WINTER**

THEATRE 241-1 Scenic Design I, Teaching Assistant (Undergraduates)

### **2001 FALL**

THEATRE 241-2 Costume Design 1, Teaching Assistant (Undergraduates).

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Northwestern University, Department of Theatre. In this position I was responsible for teaching my own class and for training and supervising freshman crews as they worked on scene painting and props making for N.U. main stage productions. I also assisted professors with all aspects of teaching undergraduate students and lectured and demonstrated to my assigned sections.

**Research Assistant**, Northwestern University, Department of Theatre. In this position I was responsible for research and development of detailed drafting of Cahn Auditorium in Evanston. Conducted onsite measurements and created Vectorworks drawings.

**Preparing Future Faculty program**. PFF is a year-long course which focuses on the Academic Profession to help graduate students to improve their teaching skills and understand all aspects of an academic career.

## **SERVICE**

### **Off-Campus**

**Tour Leader**, USITT Professional Study Tour 2009, Italy

**Trouble Shooter and Conference Committee Member**, USITT National Conference, Phoenix, Arizona, March 2007

**Panel Presenter**, USITT National Conference, Phoenix, Arizona

**Member, Recruiting Committee**, 2007 Prague Quadrennial

**Member**, USA team, 2007 Prague Quadrennial United States Institute for Theatre Technology

**Trouble Shooter and Conference Committee Member**, USITT National Conference in Louisville, Kentucky, March 2006

**Transportation Coordinator and Conference Committee Member**, USITT National Conference, Toronto, Canada, March 2005.

**Presenter**, MEA-MFT Educators, Missoula, Montana, November 2005

**Presenter**, MEA-MFT Educators, Helena, Montana, November 2004 (2 scene-painting lectures)

### **Campus**

#### **Department of Drama/Dance, The University of Montana**

**Director**, Thespian Festival Committee, 2004 to present.

**Chair, Search Committee**, Costume Shop Manager, 2006/2007

**Charge Artist**, ACDF 2007 American College Dance Festival

**Charge Artist**, Opera Theatre, Department of Music

**Scenic Artist and Costume Crafts**, *Richard III*, December 2006

**Scenic Artist**, *The Room*, 2006

**Lecturer** DRAMA 101 Theatre Appreciation, 2005, 2006

**Scenery Coordinator/Scenic Artist**, *The Debutant Ball*, March 2006  
**Charge Artist**, *Peter Pan*, November 2005  
**Member Faculty Evaluation Committee**, 2004 – 2005  
**Member, Search Committee**, Acting/Directing Movement, 2004-2005  
**Member, Search Committee**, Design/Tech Costume Technology, 2004-2005  
**Scenic Artist**, Floor, *Much Ado about Nothing*, February 2005  
**Charge Artist**, *A Christmas Carol*, December 2004  
**Member, Search Committee**, Technical Director, 2003-2004  
**Member, Thespian Festival Committee**, 2003-2004  
**Scenic Artist**, floor and bar, *Present Laughter*, December 2003

### School of Fine Arts

**Charge Artist**, *Opera Workshop*, April 2006  
**Scenic Artist**, *Odyssey of the Stars 2006*, School of Fine Arts Fundraiser  
**Scenic Artist**, *Opera Workshop*, November 2004  
**Scenic Artist**, *Opera Workshop*, November 2003

### University

**Member Faculty Development Grant Committee**, 2005 to present.  
**Member University Research and Creative Committee**, 2005  
**Presenter**, HOBY Conference (Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership), UM Enrollment and Admissions Services  
**Lecturer**, MPACT Program, University of Montana Recruitment Tour in Billings, Enrollment and Admissions Services  
**Participant/Host**, International UM Days, International Programs  
**Consultant**, International Festival Decorations Committee, Foreign Students and Scholar Services

### Advising and Academic Service

#### UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

Academic advisor, graduate and undergraduate students, 2003 – present  
 Chair, Thesis Committee, Meaghan Wills MFA Costume Design, 2007  
 Member, Thesis Committee, Karen Slobod MFA Art, 2006  
 Member, Thesis Committee, Renae Nelson MFA Scenic Design, 2005  
 Member, Thesis Committee, Denise Massman MFA Costume Design, 2004  
 Senior Project Advisor, Nora Gustoson BFA Costume Design  
 Senior Project Advisor, Amber Mason BFA Costume Design  
 Senior Project Advisor, Rebecca Cass BA  
 Junior Project Advisor, Alana Wight BFA Costume Design  
 Junior Project Advisor, Ellen Magart BFA Costume Design

### Mentoring assignments

#### 2007 SPRING

Shane Jurassek	Costume Designer	<i>The Pillowman</i>
Lauren Millman	Assistant Set Designer	<i>Big Love</i>
Shon Tester	Props	<i>Big Love</i>

#### 2006 FALL

Amber Mason	Costume Designer	<i>Still Life with Iris</i>
Alana Wight	Costume Designer	<i>Celebration/The Room</i>
Amanda Paulick	Costume Designer	<i>Opera Theatre</i>
Ashley Breeza	Costume Designer	<i>Opera Theatre</i>

## **2006 SPRING**

Helen Magart	Costume Designer	<i>Dancing at Lughnasa</i>
Amber Mason	Costume Designer	<i>Still Life with Iris</i>
Nanako Arita	Set Designer	<i>Opera Workshop</i>
Lauren Head	Set Designer	<i>Opera Workshop</i>
Amber Cantalope	Costume Designer	<i>Opera Workshop</i>
Eugene Rooks	Costume Designer	<i>Opera Workshop</i>
Shon Tester	Props	<i>Time of Your Life</i>

## **2005 FALL**

Nora Gustuson	Costume Designer	<i>Bat Boy</i>
Jake Zeimet	Props	<i>Peter Pan</i>
Heather Eastlick	Costume Designer	<i>Proof</i>

## **2005 SPRING**

Ranae Nelson	Set Designer	<i>Much Ado about Nothing</i>
Echo Sampson	Costume Designer	<i>Galaxy Video</i>

## **2004 FALL**

Helen Magart	Costume Designer	<i>Opera Workshop</i>
Leslie	Set Designer	<i>Opera Workshop</i>
Sara Nelson	Set Designer	<i>Christmas Carol</i>

## **2003 FALL**

Maeve Hillary	Costume Designer	<i>Opera Workshop</i>
Karly Wygmans	Costume Designer	<i>Opera Workshop</i>
Sara Nelson	Set Designer	<i>Opera Workshop</i>
Amber Felker	Set Designer	<i>Present Laughter</i>

## **2004 SPRING**

Denise Massman	Costume Designer	<i>Uncle Vanya</i>
Kenneth Mogan	Costume Designer	<i>Dance Concert</i>

## **LANGUAGE & COMPUTER SKILLS**

Italian mother tongue, Fluent English, TOEFL score 610 (out of 660), Basic Czech, elementary German, Vectorworks, Photoshop, Dreamweaver, Fireworks, Hyperstudio, Poser, Painter, Carrara, Lightwright, Model Shop and Internet.

## **TECHNICAL THEATRE SKILLS**

Scene Painting (traditional and air brush), Scene Construction, Model Building, Drafting (metric and inches), Styrofoam Sculpting, Mask, Soldering, Costume Construction, Flat Patterning and Draping, Fabric Modification and Dyeing, Costume Crafts, Watercolor, Oil, Acrylic and other painting and drawing mediums.



## REFERENCES:

MIKE MONSOS

Professor of Scene Design and Technology

The University of Montana

Office: 406 243 5138

[mike.monsos@mso.umt.edu](mailto:mike.monsos@mso.umt.edu)

MICHELE ANTONIOLI

Professor of Dance

The University of Montana

Office: 406 243 2875

[michele.antonoli@umontana.edu](mailto:michele.antonoli@umontana.edu)

NANCY HERMISTON

Director

Head Opera Program

University of British Columbia

Office 604 822 8246

[hermisto@interchange.ubc](mailto:hermisto@interchange.ubc)

ROBERT GARDINER

Head Theatre Department

University of British Columbia.

Office: 604-822-3880

[rag3@interchange.ubc](mailto:rag3@interchange.ubc)

CARL JOHNSTON

Scenic Artist/Adjunct Professor

Northwestern University

Home: 847 425 9263

Office: 847 491 2587

[crj038@northwestern.edu](mailto:crj038@northwestern.edu)