

# MARA BLUMENFELD

## COSTUME DESIGNER

312-315-6325

[marablu@me.com](mailto:marablu@me.com)

<https://www.marablumenfeld.com/>

## PROFESSIONAL DESIGN EXPERIENCE

### NEW YORK:

CIRCLE IN THE SQUARE THEATRE Metamorphoses	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2002
BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC Homebody/Kabul Galileo Galilei	Directed by Frank Galati Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2004 2002
LINCOLN CENTER THEATRE The Glorious Ones	Directed by Graciela Daniele	2007
THE METROPOLITAN OPERA Rusalka La Sonnambula Lucia di Lammermoor	Directed by Mary Zimmerman Directed by Mary Zimmerman Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2017 2009 2007
THE NEW VICTORY THEATER Lookingglass Alice	Directed by David Catlin	2007
THE PUBLIC THEATER/DELACORTE Measure for Measure	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2001
SECOND STAGE THEATER The Notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci Metamorphoses	Directed by Mary Zimmerman Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2003 2001
STAGE 42 Trevor: A New Musical	Directed by Marc Bruni	2021

### CHICAGO:

ABOUT FACE THEATRE M. Proust	Directed by Eric Rosen	2006
CHICAGO CHILDREN'S THEATRE The Year I Didn't Go to School Wonderland	Directed by Heidi Stillman Directed by Rachel Rockwell	2017 2015
CHICAGO OPERA THEATER Akhnaten The Grand Duchess	Directed by Mary Zimmerman Directed by Carl Ratner	2000 1997
CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE THEATER Macbeth Red Velvet King Charles III Road Show Sunday in the Park with George A Midsummer Night's Dream As You Like It A Flea in Her Ear A Little Night Music Short Shakespeare: Romeo & Juliet Pacific Overtures	Directed by Aaron Posner & Teller Directed by Gary Griffin Directed by Gary Griffin Directed by Gary Griffin Directed by Gary Griffin Directed by Gary Griffin Directed by Gary Griffin Directed by Gary Griffin Directed by Gary Griffin Directed by Gary Griffin Directed by Gary Griffin	2018 2017 2016 2014 2002/2012 2012 2011 2006 2003 2003 2001

Short Shakespeare: Midsummer	Directed by Gary Griffin	2001
COURT THEATRE		
One Man, Two Guvnors	Directed by Charles Newell	2016
The Secret Garden	Directed by Charles Newell	2015
The Chairs	Directed by Martin Platt	2001
The Learned Ladies	Directed by Charles Newell	2000
Nora	Directed by Charles Newell	1998
The Cherry Orchard	Directed by Charles Newell	1998
GOODMAN THEATRE		
Toni Stone	Directed by Ron OJ Parson	2023
The Notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2022
Sweat	Directed by Ron OJ Parson	2018
Brigadoon	Directed by Rachel Rockwell	2014
The White Snake	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2013
The Jungle Book	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2013
Candide	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2010
Mirror of the Invisible World	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	1997/2007
Oedipus Complex	Directed by Frank Galati	2007
Pericles	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2006
Dollhouse	Directed by Robert Falls	2005
Silk	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2005
Trojan Women	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2003
Galileo Galilei	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2002
House & Garden	Directed by Robert Falls	2001
The Odyssey	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	1999
Oo-Bla-Dee	Directed by Susan Booth/Regina Taylor	1999
Griller	Directed by Robert Falls	1998
HUBBARD STREET DANCE CHICAGO		
Palladio	Choreographed by Jim Vincent	2007
counter/part	Choreographed by Jim Vincent	2002
LOOKINGGLASS THEATRE COMPANY		
Villette	Directed by Tracy Walsh	2022
Act(s) of God	Directed by Heidi Stillman	2019
Plantation!	Directed by David Schwimmer	2018
Hard Times	Directed by Heidi Stillman	2001/2002/2017
Beyond Caring	Directed by Alexander Zeldin	2017
Blood Wedding	Directed by Daniel Ostling	2016
Title & Deed	Directed by Marti Lyons	2015
Lookingglass Alice	Directed by David Catlin	2005-2022
In the Garden	Directed by Jessica Thebus	2014
Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo	Directed by Heidi Stillman	2013
Rick Bayless in Cascabel	Directed by Heidi Stillman	2012/2014
Metamorphoses	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	1998/2012
Eastland: a new musical	Directed by Amanda Dehnert	2012
The Last Act of Lilka Kadison	Directed by David Kersnar	2011
Ethan Frome	Directed by Laura Eason	2011
Trust	Directed by David Schwimmer	2010
The Arabian Nights	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2009
The Brothers Karamazov	Directed by Heidi Stillman	2008
Around the World in 80 Days	Directed by Laura Eason	2008
The Wooden Breeks	Directed by Heidi Stillman	2007
The Old Curiosity Shop	Directed by Tracy Walsh	2006
Hillbilly Antigone	Directed by Heidi Stillman	2005
1984	Directed by Andrew White	2004
The Shaggs: Philosophy of the World	Directed by John Langs	2004
Great Men of Science, Nos. 21 & 22	Directed by Tracy Letts	2004
The Secret in the Wings	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2003
Race	Directed by David Schwimmer	2003
Summertime	Directed by Joy Gregory	2002
Kafka's Metamorphosis	Directed by David Catlin	2000
Eleven Rooms of Proust	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2000

The Baron in the Trees	Directed by Larry di Stasi	1999
The Idiot	Directed by David Catlin	1998
28	Directed by Laura Eason	1997
The Vanishing Twin	Directed by Bruce Norris	1996
S/M	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	1995
Dreaming Lucia	Directed by Joy Gregory/Laura Eason	1995
LOOKINGGLASS THEATRE IN ASSOCIATION WITH CHICAGO CHILDREN'S CHOIR		
Sita Ram (w/Natya Dance Theatre)	Directed by David Kersnar	2006
Brundibar	Directed by David Kersnar	2000
LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO		
Oklahoma!	Directed by Gary Griffin	2013
The Merry Widow	Directed by Gary Griffin	2009
PARAMOUNT THEATRE (Aurora, IL)		
The Secret of My Success	Directed by Gordon Greenberg	2020
STEPHENWOLF THEATRE COMPANY		
The Children	Directed by Jonathan Berry	2019
East of Eden	Directed by Terry Kinney	2015
A Parallelogram	Directed by Anna D. Shapiro	2010
Up	Directed by Anna D. Shapiro	2009
Kafka on the Shore	Directed by Frank Galati	2008
After the Quake	Directed by Frank Galati	2005
Man from Nebraska	Directed by Anna D. Shapiro	2003
Homebody/Kabul	Directed by Frank Galati	2003
The Violet Hour	Directed by Terry Kinney	2003
The Royal Family	Directed by Frank Galati	2002
The Berlin Circle	Directed by Tina Landau	1998
Space	Directed by Tina Landau	1997
Skylight	Directed by Mike Nussbaum	1997
Time to Burn	Directed by Tina Landau	1997
The Viewing Room	Directed by Anna D. Shapiro	1996
The Cryptogram	Directed by Scott Zigler	1996
New Plays Lab	Directed by Anna D. Shapiro	1995
THEATRE WIT		
Hurricane Diane (co-design with Maddy Low)	Directed by Jeremy Wechsler	2022
Mr. Burns: a post-electric play (co-design with Mieka van der Ploeg)	Directed by Jeremy Wechsler	2014/2021
VICTORY GARDENS THEATRE		
Indecent	Directed by Gary Griffin	2018
WRITERS THEATRE		
Into the Woods	Directed by Gary Griffin	2019
Twelfth Night	Directed by Michael Halberstam	2018
The Importance of Being Earnest	Directed by Michael Halberstam	2017
Trevor, a new musical	Directed by Marc Bruni	2017
Parade	Directed by Gary Griffin	2017
Julius Caesar	Directed by Michael Halberstam	2016
<b>REGIONAL:</b>		
ACTOR'S THEATRE OF LOUISVILLE, Louisville, KY		
Lookingglass Alice	Directed by David Catlin	2009
ADRIENNE ARSHT CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, Miami, FL		
Lookingglass Alice	Directed by David Catlin	2015
ALLEY THEATRE, Houston, TX		
Our Lady of 121 <sup>st</sup> Street	Directed by James Black	2004

ALLIANCE THEATRE, Atlanta, GA Lookingglass Alice	Directed by David Catlin	2010
AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATRE, San Francisco, CA 1776	Directed by Frank Galati	2013
ARENA STAGE, Washington, DC Metamorphoses The Arabian Nights	Directed by Mary Zimmerman Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2013 2011
ARDEN THEATRE, Philadelphia, PA Lookingglass Alice Hard Times	Directed by David Catlin Directed by Heidi Stillman	2007 2004
ASOLO REPERTORY THEATRE, Sarasota, FL Both Your Houses Philadelphia, Here I Come! 1776 My Fair Lady Twelve Angry Men	Directed by Frank Galati Directed by Frank Galati Directed by Frank Galati Directed by Frank Galati Directed by Frank Galati	2015 2014 2012 2011 2010
BALTIMORE CENTER STAGE, Baltimore, MD Around the World in 80 Days	Directed by Laura Eason	2009
BERKELEY REPERTORY THEATRE, Berkeley, CA Metamorphoses The Arabian Nights after the quake The Secret in the Wings The Notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci	Directed by Mary Zimmerman Directed by Mary Zimmerman Directed by Frank Galati Directed by Mary Zimmerman Directed by Mary Zimmerman	1999/2018 2008 2007 2004 2003
BOSTON LYRIC OPERA, Boston, MA Akhnaten	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2000
CHILDREN'S THEATRE COMPANY, Minneapolis, MN Diary of a Wimpy Kid	Directed by Rachel Rockwell	2016
DALLAS THEATRE CENTER, Dallas, TX Moonshine: That Hee Haw Musical	Directed by Gary Griffin	2015
DENVER CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, Denver, CO Lookingglass Alice	Directed by David Catlin	2015
GEVA THEATRE CENTER, Rochester, NY Waiting for Godot	Directed by Roberta Levitow	2000
GUTHRIE THEATRE, Minneapolis, MN Metamorphoses The White Snake	Directed by Mary Zimmerman Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2019 2014
HARTFORD STAGE, Hartford, CT Metamorphoses	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2004
HUNTINGTON THEATRE COMPANY, Boston, MA The Jungle Book Candide A Midsummer Night's Dream	Directed by Mary Zimmerman Directed by Mary Zimmerman Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2013 2011 1999
INDIANA REPERTORY THEATRE The Gentleman from Indiana	Directed by Peter Amster	2006
KANSAS CITY REP, Kansas City, MO Around the World in 80 Days A Flea in Her Ear The Arabian Nights Metamorphoses	Directed by Laura Eason Directed by Gary Griffin Directed by Mary Zimmerman Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2010 2009 2009 2004

KENNEDY CENTER, Washington, DC Guys & Dolls	Directed by Marc Bruni	2022
LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, La Jolla, CA after the quake Oo-Bla-Dee	Directed by Frank Galati Directed by Susan Booth/Regina Taylor	2007 1999
LONG WHARF THEATRE, New Haven, CT after the quake	Directed by Frank Galati	2006
MALTZ JUPITER THEATRE, Jupiter, FL Twelve Angry Men	Directed by Frank Galati	2009
MARK TAPER FORUM, Los Angeles, CA Homebody/Kabul Metamorphoses	Directed by Frank Galati Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2003 1999
McCARTER THEATRE CENTER, Princeton, NJ The White Snake Lookingglass Alice The Secret in the Wings The Odyssey	Directed by Mary Zimmerman Directed by David Catlin Directed by Mary Zimmerman Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2013 2007 2005 2000
MILWAUKEE REP, Milwaukee Rep Art Dracula	Directed by Roberta Levitow Directed by J.R. Sullivan	2000 1999
MILWAUKEE SHAKESPEARE COMPANY, Milwaukee, WI Twelfth Night	Directed by Paula Suozzi	2008
THE MUNY, St. Louis, MO A Funny Thing Happened...Forum Disney's Aladdin	Directed by Gary Griffin Directed by Gary Griffin	2017 2012
OGUNQUIT PLAYHOUSE, Ogunquit, ME The Nutty Professor	Directed by Marc Bruni	2022
THE OLD GLOBE, San Diego, CA The Notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci The White Snake	Directed by Mary Zimmerman Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2023 2015
OREGON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL, Ashland, OR Love's Labor's Lost The Odyssey Timon of Athens Guys & Dolls The White Snake Pride and Prejudice Tartuffe The Importance of Being Earnest Richard III Oedipus Complex Present Laughter Idiot's Delight	Directed by Amanda Dehnert Directed by Mary Zimmerman Directed by Amanda Dehnert Directed by Mary Zimmerman Directed by Mary Zimmerman Directed by Libby Appel Directed by Peter Amster Directed by Peter Amster Directed by Libby Appel Directed by Frank Galati Directed by Peter Amster Directed by Peter Amster	2018 2017 2016 2015 2012 2010 2007 2006 2005 2004 2003 2002
PITTSBURGH PUBLIC THEATRE, Pittsburgh, PA The Glorious Ones	Directed by Graciela Daniele	2007
REPERTORY THEATRE OF ST. LOUIS, St. Louis, MO Metamorphoses	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2003
SEATTLE REPERTORY THEATRE, Seattle, WA The Secret in the Wings The Odyssey Metamorphoses	Directed by Mary Zimmerman Directed by Mary Zimmerman Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2005 2000 1999

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE COMPANY, Washington, DC		
The Notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2022
Candide	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2010
Pericles	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2004

SYRACUSE STAGE, Syracuse, NY		
Lookingglass Alice	Directed by David Catlin	2010

WESTON PLAYHOUSE THEATRE COMPANY, Weston, VT		
Fun Home	Directed by Malcolm Ewen	2018
Betrayal	Directed by Malcolm Ewen	2011
The Light in the Piazza	Directed by Steve Stettler	2008
Urinetown: The Musical	Directed by Malcolm Ewen	2006
John & Jen	Directed by Tim Fort	2005
The Drawer Boy	Directed by Malcolm Ewen	2004
Chicago	Directed by Malcolm Ewen	2002
Floyd Collins	Directed by Steve Stettler	2001

#### INTERNATIONAL:

THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET, Melbourne, Australia		2023
Swan Lake	Directed by David Hallberg	

BARBICAN CENTRE, London, UK		
Galileo Galilei	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2002

DONMAR WAREHOUSE, London, UK		
Pacific Overtures	Directed by Gary Griffin	2003

DISNEY SEA, Tokyo, Japan		
Out of Shadowland	Directed by Jim Vincent/Nancy Keystone	2016

K-BALLET, Tokyo, Japan		
Carmen	Choreographed by Tetsuya Kumakawa	2014

MELBOURNE THEATRE COMPANY, Melbourne, Australia		
Metamorphoses	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2003

OPÉRA NATIONAL DU RHIN, Strasbourg, France		
Akhnaten	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2002

TEATRO ALLA SCALA, Milan Italy		
Lucia di Lammermoor	Directed by Mary Zimmerman	2014

STRATFORD SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL, Ontario, Canada		
Camelot	Directed by Gary Griffin	2011
Evita	Directed by Gary Griffin	2010

#### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member of United Scenic Artists, Local 829	1998 - present
Ensemble Member, Lookingglass Theatre Company	2004-present
Artistic Associate, Lookingglass Theatre Company	1998-2004
Founding Company Member, Roadworks Productions	1992-2002

#### AWARDS/HONORS

Joseph Jefferson Award, <i>Brigadoon</i> , Goodman Theatre	2014
Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Award, <i>1776</i> , ACT	2014
IRNE Award (Boston): <i>The Jungle Book</i> , Huntington Theatre Company	2014
Michael Merritt Award for Excellence in Design & Collaboration	2012

IRNE Award (Boston): <i>Candide</i> , Huntington Theatre Company	2012
Joseph Jefferson Award, <i>The Arabian Nights</i> , Lookingglass Theatre	2009
Drama Desk Nomination: <i>The Glorious Ones</i> , Lincoln Center Theatre	2008
Drama Desk Nomination: <i>Lookingglass Alice</i> , New Victory Theater	2007
Joseph Jefferson Award: <i>Mirror of the Invisible World</i> , Goodman Theatre	2007
Joseph Jefferson Award: <i>A Flea in her Ear</i> , Chicago Shakespeare Theater	2006
Helen Hayes Nomination: <i>Pericles</i> , The Shakespeare Theatre, DC	2004
Oliver Nomination: <i>Pacific Overtures</i> , Donmar Warehouse, London	2003
Eddy (Entertainment Design) Award: The Art of Collaboration	2003
Lucille Lortel Nomination: <i>Metamorphoses</i> , Second Stage	2001
Recipient, TCG Career Development Program for Designers	1997-1999

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### After School Matters

Summer 2021

*Course: Introduction to Costume Design*

Summer program for Chicago Public Schools high school students. Students explored the fundamental elements of design through a series of individual and team exercises, culminating in a collaborative final project to produce conceptual designs for a version of the Alice in Wonderland stories (video game, circus, rock musical). Course was taught virtually due to Covid-19 protocols.

### Boston University, Lecturer

Spring Semester 2021

*Course: TH276 A1, Costume Design 2*

Undergraduate intro level course in costume design. Students developed paper project designs for two productions. Course focused on elements of design, script analysis, preparing costume paperwork, methods of research, generating research collages, line drawings, and color renderings. Emphasis on peer critique and developing an ability to clearly express design concepts both visually and verbally. Class was taught virtually due to Covid-19 protocols.

### University of Texas at Austin, Guest Lecturer

2019-2020

*Course: TD 388L, Portfolio for Designers (Spring Semester)*

Required course for all third year MFA candidates and selected senior undergraduates. Course focused on preparing students for entering the professional world; developing their resume/CV, bio/artist statement, and professional website/portfolio. Guest speakers were brought in from various aspects of the industry to discuss the business of being a professional artist. Topics included: unions, agents, contracts, taxes.

*Course: TD 388J, Design Concepts for the Stage (Spring Semester)*

Required studio course for all first-year MFA candidates. Students worked individually to develop all design aspects for two productions, then later in teams to develop designs for their specific discipline for a production in collaboration with each other. Course was co-taught with scenic professor William Bloodgood and lighting professor Michelle Habeck.

*Course: TD 388J-1, Costume Studio (Fall and Spring Semester)*

Studio class for all three years of MFA costume design candidates. Fall semester focused on theoretical designs for three projects: contemporary play, period play, and opera while developing design concepts and methods of presenting designs (collage/mood boards, developing a color palette, rendering techniques, fabric swatching). Spring semester focused on digital rendering techniques and exploring other forms of live performance (music, circus, theme parks, puppetry, outdoor spectacle). Additional responsibilities included serving as advisor to MFA students on their production design assignments and thesis projects.

### University of Illinois at Chicago, Guest Lecturer

November 2018

*Inviting faculty: Collette Pollard*

Presented portfolio and discussed career as a professional costume designer. Held Q&A session with undergraduate theatre students.

**Northwestern University, Adjunct Faculty**  
*Course: Theatre 464-3: Advanced Costume Design*

Winter Quarter 2013

Mentored/advised second-year MFA costume design students as they developed a paper project design for a new musical under development in the American Musical Theatre Project (AMTP). Costume design students worked in collaboration with second-year MFA set and lighting design students to develop a complete design concept to present to the guest director, David Bell. Course was co-taught with scenic professor Todd Rosenthal and lighting professor Marcus Doshi.

**University of Massachusetts, Guest Lecturer**  
*Inviting faculty: Kristin Jensen*

September 2013

Presented portfolio and discussed career as a professional costume designer. Held Q&A session with undergraduate and graduate design students.

**Carnegie Mellon University, Guest Lecturer**  
*Inviting faculty: Susan Tsu*

April 2012

Presented portfolio and discussed career as a professional costume designer, with focus on works with Mary Zimmerman and Lookingglass Theatre Company. Reviewed and critiqued portfolios of MFA and undergraduate costume design students.

**Northwestern University, Adjunct Faculty**  
*Course: Theatre 241-2: Design Process: Costume Design I*

Fall Quarter 2006

Instructed undergraduate and MFA scenic and lighting design students. Students developed paper project designs for three plays: contemporary, period, and abstract. Course focused on elements of design, script analysis, preparing costume paperwork, methods of research, generating research collages, line drawings, and color renderings. Emphasis on peer critique and developing an ability to clearly express design concepts both visually and verbally.

**Northwestern University, Guest Lecturer**  
*Inviting faculty: Daniel Ostling and Jennifer Smith*

various dates, 2000-present

Multiple visits to undergraduate Intro to Design and Stage Management classes. Discussed various topics of professional costume design: collaborating with directors and other designers; the process of designing for new work; designing for different sized theatres in Chicago with varying resources; the role of a Stage Manager or Production Manager in relation to Costume Design.

## EDUCATION

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL  
Bachelor of Science in Speech. Major in Theatre.

1992