

Dahlia Al-Habieli

Scenic Designer & Educator

Email: dalhabie@gmail.com Phone: 01 717-419-7130 Work: www.eloquentaction.com

Special Visiting Faculty in Scenic Design, Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama 2022-23

Assistant Professor of Theatre, Albright College Theatre, 2020-2022

Visiting Faculty in Scenic Design, Albright College Theatre, 2019-2020

Teaching Fellow in Design, Wake Forest University Department of Theatre and Dance, 2016-2019

EDUCATION

Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama	Master of Fine Arts, Scenic Design	2016
Wellesley College	Bachelor of Arts, Theatre Studies	2007
O'Neill National Theater Institute	Semester Intensive	2005

AWARDS AND GRANTS

Albright Creative Research Experience Grant, *An Exploration of Collaborative Models for Communal Storytelling*, 2021

Distinguished Scenic Design, Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival Region II, 2020

George Kimberly Award for Set Design, Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama, 2016

GuSh Research Grant, *European vs. American Scenographic Collaborative Practices*, CMU/Prague Quadrennial, 2015

Outstanding Production by a Small Company, Elliot Norton Award, 2010

Best Scenic Design Award, Independent Reviewers of New England, 2008

SERVICE TO THE FIELD

Academic Program Review, Gallaudet University Theater and Dance, 2023

United States Institute for Theatre Technology, Prague Quadrennial Juror, 2022

aWaken International Design Competition, Adjudicator, 2022

Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Adjudicator, Design/Tech Expo, 2021

United States Institute for Theater Technology Southeast Adjudicator, Master Class Design/Tech Expo, 2020

Southeastern Theater Teaching Collaborative Webinar Panelist: Teaching Theatre Design Online, 2020

TEACHING

Special Visiting Faculty in Scenic Design

Fall '22 – Spring '23

Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama Pittsburgh, PA

Founded in 1914, Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama is the first degree-granting drama institution in the United States of America. This rigorous conservatory program prioritizes experiential learning for BFA and MFA candidates in performance, production, directing, and design.

Teach advanced design courses to graduate and undergraduate scenic design, costume design, and directing students; create and teach foundation-level coursework in architectural and interior design history. Mentor student designers on production assignments, collaborating closely with faculty and staff. Advise MFA candidates in the conception and execution of capstone research projects.

Courses

- History of Architecture and Décor I
First course in an introductory two-semester sequence that provides students with research tools, critical analysis skills, and foundational knowledge to be able to meaningfully engage with architectural and interior design history.
- History of Architecture and Décor II
A seminar-style, project-based, student-driven exploration of selected movements in global architecture and interior design.
- Scenography
Advanced graduate and undergraduate scenic design, costume design, and direction students create theoretical production designs. The course encourages students to cross traditional boundaries in their own work and to focus on collaborative world building.
- Scenic Design: Design for Spaces
Team-taught, two-part course focusing on both design for live performance and design for the screen. Projects include new works, existing texts, television and/or film.
- Scenic Design Forum
A core seminar component of the curriculum for all design students as part of professional preparation for the field.
- Scenic Design MFA Thesis
Three-part project consisting of 1) a theoretical or produced design for a play/opera/musical/film or other approved project work; 2) a written thesis documenting the research and process of that design/project; 3) thesis defense.

Assistant Professor of Theatre

Fall '20 – Spring '22

Visiting Assistant Professor of Scenic Design

Fall '19-Fall '20

Department of Theatre

Albright College

Reading, PA

Albright is a private, coeducational institution founded in 1856. It has an undergraduate enrollment of 1,800 traditional day students, and is ranked as one of the most ethnically and economically diverse schools in the country.

The Albright College Theatre Department is one of the most decorated programs of the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, including Distinguished Scenic Design for *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime* in 2020.

Served as scenic designer and charge scenic artist for four department productions per academic year while developing and teaching courses in design, history, critical study, and professional practice. Empowered students through tailored remedial instruction and one-on-one mentoring. Supervised students in rehearsal, shop, and performance spaces.

Analyzed and evaluated existing design and production curriculum within department and college-wide course offerings, coordinating with faculty and students to build strategies for re-structuring, strengthening, and expanding learning opportunities and outcomes for students. Identified and implemented equitable, inclusive, anti-racist curricular and administrative practices.

Courses Taught

- Special Topics: Case Studies in Contemporary Scenography
Writing and discussion-intensive course investigating the intersections of body, space, image and text in contemporary global performance, considering works in their broader socio-political contexts.
- Senior Seminar
Capstone course exploring today's national theatrical landscape. Students help each other develop action plans and professional materials to realize their individual professional, personal, and artistic goals.
- Design Fundamentals
Project-based course introducing students to visual analysis, script analysis, research methods, design development, the collaborative process, and presentation methods.
- Great Ages of Theatre I
Student-centered, highly collaborative survey course introduces the history, critical theory, and literature of the major eras of Western theatre in the ancient, medieval, and early modern periods.
- The Creative Process
Foundations course introducing students of all disciplines to different types of creative expression, collaborative problem-solving, constructive critique, and self-assessment.
- Theatre Department Common Hour
Weekly experiential learning session requirement for all department majors/co-majors and all students enrolled in department courses.
- Independent Studies: Playwrighting, Dramaturgy, Scenic Design

Service

- Director/Producer of Spring 2021 Theatre Department production of *Romeo and Juliet*, an audio-visual adaptation rehearsed and performed by Albright student actors and illustrated by Albright & greater communities.
- Drafted, collaboratively refined, and implemented transparent, equitable, and inclusive season-planning practices with department faculty and students, prioritizing student learning outcomes and diverse content.
- Programmed newly implemented Theatre Department Common Hour, a weekly requirement for all theatre students.
- Worked alongside Production Manager to create season calendars and production schedules for all department stage productions.
- Created and implemented Writing Style Guide for all department courses.
- Collaborated with faculty and students to develop new professional preparation and annual student evaluation practices for majors and co-majors.
- Spearheaded Senior Showcase section on Department website to highlight accomplishments of graduating class and illustrate learning outcomes of the Albright program.
- Oversaw 2020-21 Theatre Department Season publicity designs in collaboration with Communications division.
- Created improved Albright College Library's Information Literacy Survey design for more efficient and useful data collection and for expanded use as a teaching and evaluation tool.
- President's Council for an Inclusive, Thriving, and Equitable Community (CITE-C) 2020-2021
 - Created Community Learning Database for Books, Articles, and Multi-media resources on equity and inclusion
 - Co-Producer of three-part Experience Event series *The African Roots of Western Culture*
 - Presenter/Discussion Leader: *The African Roots of Western Culture, Part 1: Origins*
- Curriculum Development Committee (CDC) 2020-2021
- Active Learning Classroom Design Committee 2019

Postgraduate Teaching Fellow
Department of Theatre & Dance
Wake Forest University
Winston-Salem, NC
Fall 2016-Summer 2019

WFU is private, coeducational institution founded in 1834. It has a total undergraduate enrollment of 5,000 students, and is nationally ranked #12: Best Undergraduate Teaching.

The WFU Department of Theatre and Dance has a robust design and production program. Faculty and student works have received national and international design awards from the Prague Quadrennial, World Stage Design, the Southeastern Theater Conference, the United States Institute for Theatre Technology, and many others.

Service

University Committees & Focus Groups

- Scales Fine Arts Center Re-Envisioning- Focus groups with external consultants; Arts web re-structuring liaison
- Undergraduate Divisional Requirements Curriculum Review

Department Committees & Service

- Season Planning Rubric Review Committee
- Coordinator: Theatre & Dance Publicity Materials 2018
- Travelling and on-campus student recruitment
- Puppet Design and Construction, *She Kills Monsters*, Fall 2017
- Dramaturg and Assistant Director, *Macbeth*, Spring 2016

Community & Student Engagement

- Producer/Director: DACA community play reading and discussion
- Manage professional and department student design assistantships
- Connect students with local and national theatre opportunities

Design Mentor
Young Playwrights Conference
Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center
Waterford, CT
2008-2021

Develop and teach courses as part of a holistic liberal arts education. Mentor students in the theory, history, and practice of theatre inside and outside the classroom. Design two department productions per academic year, integrating student-centered learning into the design and production process. Supervise students in scene shop, studios, and performance spaces.

Courses Taught

- Introduction to Theatre
Engage students with wide-ranging fields of study and varying knowledge of theater in critical analysis of plays, performance and production. Classroom emphasis on student-led discussions, with semester culminating in collaborative creative projects.
- Introduction to Design and Production
Equip students with the fundamentals of theatrical design and technology, including script analysis, design development, presentation methods, and practical technical skills.
- Scenic Design
Advanced course balancing rigorous conceptual work and studio skills, including rendering, hand & CAD drafting and model-making.
- Scenic Art
Hands-on introduction to the tools, techniques, and management practices of scenic artists for contemporary stage and film.

Intra-Departmental Guest Lectures and Workshops

- Theatre in the Arab World
- Financial Management as a Working Artist
- Director-Designer Collaboration

Mentor middle school, junior high and high school playwrights in collaboration with professional actors and directors at annual conference hosted by Tony Award-winning theatre. Conduct workshops to introduce young writers to the design process. Hold tailored individual mentoring sessions with playwrights. Create renderings and research packets.

Graduate Teaching Assistant
Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama
Pittsburgh, PA
Fall 2015-Spring 2016

Courses

- Introductory Drafting: Guided freshmen design students in implementing drafting conventions and hand drafting techniques.
- History of Architecture and Décor: Provided grading and feedback for undergraduate and graduate-level coursework.
- Stagecraft: Supervised and mentored students on practical assignments.

INVITED TALKS, GUEST TEACHING & WORKSHOPS

SFK International Art Education	Portfolio Respondent, 2022, 23
University of California-Irvine	Collaboration with Scenic Designers, 2021
University of Pennsylvania	Designer-Technician Collaboration: From Conception to Execution, 2020
College of Charleston	Script Analysis for Designers, 2020
New York University	World-Building for Playwrights, 2020 (Workshop)
University of Texas-Austin	World-Building for Playwrights, 2020 (Workshop)
Binghamton University	Careers in Theatre: Scenic Design, 2019
Wake Forest University	Theatre in the Arab World, 2021, 22, 23
	Working in the Theatre, 2020
	The Real World, Year One: What to Expect and How to Prepare, 2019
	Symposium: Diversity & Gender Bias in US Professional Scenic Design, 2018
	Shakespeare Day Mentor 2018 (High School Program)
Wellesley College	Careers in Theatre: Changing the World While Making Ends Meet, 2017
Booker T. Washington HS for the Performing Arts (Dallas, TX)	Designer-Director Collaboration, 2017 (Workshop)

SELECTED MEDIA APPEARANCES & EXPERT INTERVIEWS

The Focal Press, *The Set Designer's Toolkit* (Forthcoming)
Public Works- Dallas Theater Center, Podcast Guest, 2022
Southeastern Theatre Magazine, *How Online Teaching Innovations Are Transforming Theatre Education*, 2021
Stage Directions Magazine, *Illuminations*, 2018
Howlround Theatre Commons, *Collidescope 3.0: Adventures in Pre and Post-Racial America*, 2017
The Female Gaze, *Profiles in Art*, 2017
The Master of Commedia (Documentary Film, KamenVoStudio-Bulgaria) 2017

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Associate Production Manager Lyric Stage Company of Boston Boston, MA 2010-2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Coordinated with artistic, administrative and technical staff to balance artistic goals and practical constraints for successful productions and events.○ Assisted PM with installation and maintenance of scenery, lighting, sound equipment, and general upkeep of facilities.○ Procured and built scenic and hand props for all productions.
Interim Associate Production Manager Wellesley College Theatre Studies Wellesley, MA 2010-2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Supervised and mentored crews of up to 12 students to accomplish time-sensitive production tasks in scenery, lighting, sound and properties.○ Worked with Production Manager to provide technical/design support and ensure the safety of individuals and organizations using theaters and workshop.○ Facilitated communication between the Theatre Department and other academic and administrative groups.○ Drafted protocols for community use of facilities.
Resident Scenic and Props Designer/Builder/Painter Watertown Children's Theatre Watertown, MA 2008-2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Created scenery and props with an eye for safety, budget constraints, and a family-oriented production process.○ Liaised with multiple programs and organizations in community use of performance spaces.○ Coordinated and supervised parent volunteer committee.
Customer Service Representative Huntington Theatre Company Boston, MA 2007-2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Served patrons of over a dozen theatre companies performing in six spaces at multiple venues, both over the phone and in person.○ Proactively performed administrative tasks.○ Remained conversant in single ticket, subscription, and group-ticketing policies.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT cont.

- Assist. Production Coordinator** Eugene O'Neill Theatre Centre
Waterford, CT
Summer 2007
- o Facilitated the work of hundreds of artists participating in O'Neill conferences by providing administrative and technical support.
 - o Multitasked with both Production Coordinator and Technical Director to prepare spaces while creating and coordinating scheduling.

SELECTED CREATIVE WORK

Exhibition Designer: "Consenses" MASS MOCA (Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art) 2018
Year-long exhibit for cumulative artwork: a national artistic game of "Telephone" using every medium of art as a language.

Scenographer Association for Theater in Higher Education (ATHE) New Play Development Workshop 2017

Selected Professional Scenic Design Credits- Plays

<i>The Refugees</i>	<i>Gulfshore Playhouse</i>	<i>Reginald Douglas</i>	2024
<i>A Merry Little Christmas Carol</i>	Virginia Stage Company	Tom Quaintance	'21-23
<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>	Playmakers Rep	Lavina Jadhvani	2023
<i>Henry V</i>	Virginia Stage Company	Tom Quaintance	2023
<i>House of Joy</i>	The Repertory Theatre of St Louis	Lavina Jadhvani	2022
<i>1001*</i>	California Shakespeare Theater	Evren Odcikin	2021
<i>Endgame*</i>	Second Thought Theatre	Alex Organ	2020
<i>Pride and Prejudice*</i>	Triad Stage	Sarah Hankins	2020
<i>Sweat*</i>	Trinity Rep	Christie Vela	2020
<i>What We Were</i>	Second Thought Theater	Christie Vela	2019
<i>A Christmas Carol</i>	B Street Theatre	Buck Busfield	2018
<i>Steel Magnolias</i>	Dallas Theater Center	Joel Ferrell	2018
<i>Native Gardens</i>	Trinity Repertory Theater	Christie Vela	2018
<i>Gloria</i>	Dallas Theater Center	Christie Vela	2016
<i>Pericles</i>	Actors Shakespeare Project	Allyn Burrows	2013
<i>Chinglish</i>	Lyric Stage Company of Boston	Larry Coen	2012
<i>Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo</i>	Company One	Shawn La Count	2012
<i>Love Person</i>	Company One	M. Bevin O'Gara	2012
<i>Calvin's Monster</i>	Boston Children's Theatre	Burgess Clark	2012
<i>A Christmas Story</i>	New Repertory Theatre	Diego Arciniegas	2011
<i>Or,</i>	Lyric Stage Company of Boston	Daniel Gidron	2011
<i>Matt and Ben</i>	Central Square Theatre	M. Bevin O'Gara	2011
<i>The Real Inspector Hound</i>	Publick Theatre Boston	Diego Arciniegas	2010
<i>Betrayal</i>	Another Country Productions	Lyalen Kaye	2010
<i>Macbeth</i>	New Repertory Theatre on Tour	Ross MacDonald	2010
<i>Entertaining Mr. Sloane</i>	Publick Theatre Boston	Eric Engel	2010
<i>Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?</i>	Publick Theatre Boston	Diego Arciniegas	2009
<i>Humble Boy</i>	Publick Theatre Boston	Diego Arciniegas	2009
<i>The Phantom of the Opera</i>	Watertown Children's Theatre	Jennifer Salvucci	2009
<i>James and the Giant Peach</i>	Watertown Children's Theatre	Jennifer Salvucci	2009
<i>The Seagull/Hayfever</i>	Publick Theatre Boston	Diego Arciniegas	2008

Selected Professional Scenic Design Credits- Musicals

<i>Public Works Dallas- The Little Mermaid</i>	<i>Dallas Theater Center</i>	<i>Kevin Moriarty</i>	2024
<i>Public Works Dallas- The Odyssey</i>	Dallas Theater Center	Kevin Moriarty	2022
<i>Public Works Dallas- Twelfth Night*</i>	Dallas Theater Center	Christie Vela	2021
<i>In the Heights</i>	Dallas Theater Center	James Vasquez	2019
<i>Never Far From Home</i>	Central Square Theatre	M. Sandberg-Zakian	2013
<i>Urinetown</i>	Groton Academy	Laurie Sales	2013
<i>Good Man Charlie Brown</i>	Watertown Children's Theatre	Erica Berman	2010
<i>The Wiz</i>	Watertown Children's Theatre	Erica Berman	2010
<i>The King and I</i>	Watertown Children's Theatre	Dillon Kenyon	2008

Selected Educational Scenic Design Credits

<i>Labyrinth of Desire</i>	Muhlenberg College	L. Robles-Moreno & T. Dwyer	2023
<i>Marriage or MADE</i>	Harvard University	Stevie Walker-Webb	2022
<i>Tartuffe</i>	Fordham University	Terrence Mosley	2022
<i>Iphigenia and Other Daughters</i>	Albright College	Makenzie Mettler	2022
<i>The Curious Incident of the Dog</i>	Albright College	Jeffrey Lentz	2019
<i>Caucasian Chalk Circle</i>	Wake Forest University	Cindy Gendrich	2019
<i>Spring Awakening</i>	Wake Forest University	Sharon Andrews	2018
<i>The Wolves</i>	Wake Forest University	J.K. Curry	2017
<i>She Kills Monsters</i>	Wake Forest University	John Friedenberg	2017
<i>Collidescope 3.0</i>	Wake Forest University	Ping Chong	2017
<i>The Plague in Venice</i>	Carnegie Mellon University	Alexander Illiev	2016
<i>Fool For Love</i>	Carnegie Mellon University	Ian-Julian Williams	2014
<i>The Brothers Size</i>	Carnegie Mellon University	P. Garcia-Jacquier	2014

Directing

Professional

<i>The Curator</i>	Boston Theatre Marathon XIII	2011
<i>Pericles</i>	MIT Shakespeare Ensemble	2007

Educational

<i>Romeo & Juliet</i>	Albright College	2021
<i>Just Like Us</i>	Wake Forest University	2017
<i>Macbeth</i> (Assistant Director)	Wake Forest University	2017
<i>Letting Go</i>	Davis Museum and Cultural Center, Wellesley MA	2007
<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	Wellesley College Shakespeare Society	2006
<i>George Olesky</i>	National Theater Institute Directors' Lab	2005
<i>bobrauschenbergamerica</i>	National Theater Institute Directors' Lab	2005
<i>The Vawnya-Traps</i>	SITI Company/National Theater Institute Directors' Lab	2005

Complete production, design, and technical credits available upon request.

*Cancelled or postponed due to Covid-19

ADDITIONAL TRAINING & EXPERTISE

Production

- Carpentry: Experience w/ most shop tools including CNC routers, pneumatics, band, jig and circular saws
- Scenic Art: Techniques ranging from brush & roller work to faux finishing. Drops & scrim. Foam sculpture.
- Lighting: Knowledge of ETC light board programming, electrics, conventional & intelligent fixtures, safe rigging of instrumentation
- Properties: Management, crafting & construction, incl. upholstery.
- Management: General production, Front-of-house, Box Office

Studio

- Perspective, still life & figure drawing
- Acrylic & watercolor painting
- Traditional & Computer-assisted model making, rendering
- Illustration: graphic novel; cinematic & theatrical storyboards
- Software: Vectorworks; AutoCAD; Sketchup; Procreate; Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, Spark

Film Production & Art Direction

- Pre-production: Script breakdowns, shooting breakdowns,
 - Shot lists, daily calls, design packets & breakdowns, storyboards
 - Post-production: Premiere Pro, iMovie
- Training w/ Suttirat Larlarb

Performance

- Shakespeare
 - Viewpoints
 - Suzuki
 - Stage Combat
- Training w/ SITI Company, Michael Cadman

Digital Learning and Management

- Microsoft Office 360
- Microsoft Teams
- G-Suite
- LMS: Canvas, Moodle, Blackboard
- Content creation: Instructional videos, H5P

Language

- Fluent: English
- Elementary Arabic & French