

Matt Kizer

Director of Theatre at Plymouth State University Professor of Theatre Design and Technology Independent Performing Arts Scenographer Web Resource Developer https://scenicandlighting.com

Designer

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Profile

Kizer is a life-long contributor to design & technology for performing arts as a professional and academic. He has designed scenery, lighting, and projections for over 300 shows including national tours, theatres, workshops, and universities in the U.S.A and internationally. He builds online resources that include virtual light labs, fly-throughs of Broadway houses, scenic projection media, videos, and articles used globally by thousands daily.

Mission

Designing is always problem-solving. Surprise, delight and illusion are the preferred language. The mission is to empower institutions, companies, and artists to tell stories by means of the visual and organizational tools available.

Academic Stewardship

1996 - Present: Plymouth State University Plymouth, New Hampshire, USA

Overseen programs for 26+ years, including the design and technology program while rotating as chair of performing arts, director of theatre, transitional leadership for Arts & Technologies, and leadership roles for innumerous committees and projects. Full Professor since 2012.

Other Institutions: Visiting Professor, Randolph Macon Woman's College; Teaching Associate, The Ohio State University

Business Achievements

- Created the limited liability corporation Matt Kizer Design with scenicandlighting.com as a domain
- Leveraged social media and SEO so content and products rank page 1 or result #1 on Google consistently.
- Designed, coded, & marketed a line of products for remote learning., including user-friendly, installation-free 3D visualizers.
- Built a clientele of over 3000 paid users and over 300 academic institutions and groups, with over 2000 daily site visitors.
- Established an online store of scenic projection media for rent, used extensively by theatres and schools.

International Work

2019 PQ Studio: Festival Series: *Brilliant Being* for the Prague Quadrennial of Performance and Design.

Interactive digital fantasyscape with original software and tracking methods for live performance.

http://scenicandlighting.com/article/brilliant-being/

2019 USITT 2019 PQ Exhibition at the Prague Quadrennial of Performance and Design.

This work was included as a part of the United States' international installation. http://pq19.usitt.org/professional

2017 World Stage Design 2017 Reconnect

Series of workshops on how physical space interacts with performance and movement in the presence of media and design. Taipei School of the Arts, Taipei City, Taiwan. http://www.wsd2017.com/scenofest/detail/?pid=501

2015 Cyprus Theater Organization and Cyprus Centre of Scenographers, Theatre Architects and Technicians.

Solo presentation: four-day seminar on projections and projection mapping in performing arts.

Funded by the Cyprus Ministry of Culture. http://cyprus-mail.com/2015/11/28/controlling-projection/

2011 Stadt für eine Nacht: Puppets Red III

Projections design for dance project in urban environment/arts festival. A-Fortiori and Alban Elved Dance Company. Schiffbauergasse, Potsdam, Germany. https://scenicandlighting.com/portfolio-show/puppets-red-iii/

2003 - 2004 Operafestival di Roma

Maestro del Luci (lighting designer). Operafestival di Roma with the Orchestra Sinfonica dell' International Chamber Ensemble at Sant'Ivo alla Sapienza in central Rome. Presented in a courtyard adjoining a 13th century baroque cathedral attached to the Italian Parliament, adjacent to Piazza Navona and the Pantheon. *Die Zauberflöte (The Magic Flute)* 2004 and *L'elisir di amore (The Elixir of Love)* 2003. https://scenicandlighting.com/portfolio-show/the-magic-flute/

Web Development

Many web-development projects over the years. A selection of current sites are listed below.

All Tickets Inc. https://allticketsinc.com Broadway group ticketing company and New York group trip organizers. Broadway and Off-Broadway show listings, hotels, restaurants, educational resources, and attractions.

Broadway Scene http://broadwayscene.com Encyclopedic website that features each of the forty-one Broadway Theatre houses in New York City. 41 rotating 3D models, hover seating maps, database ties to current information.

 $\textbf{Broadway Educators} \hspace{0.2cm} \underline{\text{http://broadwayeducators.com}} \hspace{0.2cm} \textbf{Theatre education resource site with advisory board of contributors.}$

Categorized resources for all levels and aspects of performing arts education.

Broadway IQ http://broadwayiq.com Commentary, humor, history, and trivia on the professional theatre.

Scenic and Lighting https://scenicandlighting.com/portfolio/ Virtual labs & education tools; articles & videos; scenic projections for lease; portfolio; individual and group membership interaction with the site.

Production & Event Design

More than 300 designs for events and performances over thirty years.

1995 - 2022 Plymouth State University

130+ productions at the Silver Center for the Arts in three different performance spaces. Musicals, dance, plays, devised works, and opera. Design work includes set design, lighting design, and projection design.

2015 - 2021 PerSeverence Productions (National Tour)

Scenic Design & Projections: *A Christmas Carol*, syndicated by CMI Productions. Fully animated and mapped projection media with original set design, engineered to tour nationally to upwards of twenty-four venues in eighteen states ranging from New Hampshire to New Mexico, Washington state, and Florida.

2014 - 2017 Auburn University Theatre

Scenic design, projection design, and lighting design: six productions in two spaces within Telfair Peet Arts Center.

2007 - 2015 Papermill Theatre/Jean's Playhouse

Professional theatre company in New England that produces during the summer season. Scenic design and projection design for over twenty-five productions in three spaces.

1996 - 2012 Kearsarge Arts Theatre

Large, national-award-winning children's theatre company. Design for sixteen musical productions, including national award winners and selections presented by invitation at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

1997 – 2019 Educational Theatre Collaborative

This company produces once as a collaboration between university and the community. At times it has as many as 120 performers, and applies production values that are comparable to a LORT B theatre. Scenic design, lighting design, and projections for fifteen musicals, including some original scripts and scores.

1986 – 2022 Other Professional Companies, Colleges, and Universities

Upwards of over 120 other designs for dozens of institutions not listed here.

Scenic design, lighting design, and projection design for many other professional companies and institutions including The Ohio State University, The New Hampshire Historical Society, Brown University, and more.

Education

1995 M.F.A. The Ohio State University. Primary studies in Design for Performing Arts.

1992 B.A. Purdue University. Primary studies in Theatre Arts, emphases on design & technology.

Skills

Leadership • Scenography • Project Management • Writing • Producing • Projection Mapping • Workshops & Presentations • SEO Web Development & Coding • Scene Painting • AutoCAD • Conceptualizing • CGI & Video • Mentoring • Making It Happen

Affiliations

- The United States Institute for Theatre Technology (**USITT**)
 Professional Membership | International Activities | Digital Media Commission
- The International Organization of Scenographers, Theatre Architects, and Technicians (OISTAT)