

# Heather J. Kent

Chemainus, B.C.

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## Set and Costume Design

Set, Costumes and Puppetry design; *Juggle Me Not!* Directed by Susan Bertoia for Axis Theatre, July 2021

Set design; *Jekyll*, Directed by Madelyn Osborne for Douglas College, Vancouver, March 2020

Set and Puppetry design; *Cinderella Waltz*, Directed by Claire Fogal for Douglas College, Vancouver, March 2019.

Set and Costume design; *The Day of the Locust*. Directed by Karin Randoja for Humber College, Toronto, March 2018.

Set design for Theatre for Young Audience project; *The Fight*. Directed by Marie-Beath Badian for Humber College, Toronto, April 2014

Set design for Humber College 1<sup>st</sup> Year Project; *Poe*. Directed by Tatiana Jennings for Humber College, Toronto, April 2012

Set and Costume design for *Year 25 Vigil*. Directed by Karin Randoja and Raymond Bobgan for Humber College, Theatre Passe Muraille, Toronto, March 2011.

Set and costumes designs for *The Orchard*. Directed by Ker Wells and Karin Randoja for Humber College, Toronto, Ontario, 2005.

Set and costumes for *Savage in Love*. Directed by Cheryl Matheson for Douglas College, Vancouver, B.C., 1994.

Costumes for *Les Belle Souers*. Directed by Catherine Caines for Douglas College, Vancouver, B.C., 1993.

Scenery and costumes for *Murmel, Murmel, Mortimer, Munch*. Directed by Duval Lang for Quest Theatre Company, Betty Mitchell Theatre, Calgary, Alberta, and The Globe Theatre, Regina, Saskatchewan 1990.

Scenery and costumes for *Firebird*. Directed by Alexandria Patience, Victor Mitchell Theatre, Maenad Productions, Calgary, Alberta, 1990.

Scenery, lights and costumes for *Rat in the Skull*, directed by Peter Smith, Secret Theatre, Alberta Theatre Projects, Calgary, Alberta, 1990.

Scenery for *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune*. Directed by Michelle Fansette, The Secret Theatre, Live Arts Theatre Alberta, Calgary, Alberta, 1990.

## Properties Construction

#### Head of Properties

Sheridan College, Oakville, Ontario, August 1995 – August 2003

- managed a staff of 1-3 and a student crew of 7-9
- managed an annual materials budget of \$30,000 and annual staffing budget of \$40,000
- maintained shop operations, equipment, Health and Safety requirements, stock inventory and rentals.
- Program Coordinator – Debra MacKay

#### Prop Builder

Provenance - Ronnie Burkett's Theatre of Marionettes, Toronto, Ont., 2003.

- Metal work, props and head gears.

#### Head of Properties

Bard on the Beach, Vancouver, B.C., 1993 & 1994 seasons

- responsible for all building, buying and rentals of properties
- managed a budget of \$3,000 per season
- Production Manager - Marilyn Navarro-Leiton

#### Head of Properties

University of Calgary, Alberta, August 1990 – May 1991

- responsible for all building, buying and rentals of properties
- managed an annual budget of \$8,000
- managed student volunteers
- maintained shop operations, equipment, Health and Safety requirements, stock inventory and rentals.
- Production Manager – James Anderson

Freelance Properties Builder, Calgary, Alberta, 1989 - 1990

- contract prop builder for The Banff Centre, Alberta Theatre Projects, Theatre Calgary, and F&D Scene Shop.

## Teaching Experience

### **Humber College; Toronto, Ont.**

August 2003 – August 2017

Full time faculty position in the School of Creative and Performing Arts, Theatre Production Program, serving as Academic Coordinator for the Theatre Production Program from August 2015 to August 2017.

#### ***Curriculum Development and Delivery:***

*Introduction to Set Design:* redeveloped curriculum in 2013 to focus on a broader interpretation of scenic design, through the lenses of relationships between designer and director, narrative, audience and space. This course is taught in 2<sup>nd</sup> year Theatre Production.

*Production Applications:* Delivered from 2003 to April 2017. Production Applications provides students with applied experience in all aspects of theatre production through hands-on responsibilities in department productions. As well as the role of instruction

in the scenic paint and properties departments, on going curriculum development includes:

- Development of Job Shadow program
- Development of journal techniques that place emphasis on self-guided learning and meta-cognition
- Development of Leadership modules in 2<sup>nd</sup> year
- Development of evaluation rubrics

*Introduction to Puppetry:* developed as a new course in the Theatre Production and Performance departments in January 2009. The focus of this course is on the collaborative nature of the ensemble creation through the art of puppetry. The students learn how to design, build, manipulate, and create original performances in puppetry and performing objects, in an open environment of exploration. This course is taught to both 2<sup>nd</sup> year performance and production students.

*Introduction to Theatre:* redevelopment of curriculum in 2006. Delivery from 2006 to 2013. This course introduces beginning performance and production students to the theory and practice of theatre within the landscape of contemporary Canadian arts and culture, with an emphasis on the exploration and understanding of collaborative and creative processes as they apply to the performing arts.

*Drafting:* Delivered from 2003 to 2008. This course is an introduction to the basic techniques of accurately representing sets and objects graphically for construction in a theatre workshop, while also developing skills in reading and understanding working drawings.

*Visual Communications:* Delivered from 2010 to 2013. This course builds on the skills learned in Drafting and focuses on the means of expressing ideas in graphic and visual forms that are relevant to theatrical design and production purposes. Students learn advanced drafting techniques, perspective drawing, colour rendering, and sketching techniques.

*Scenic Paint 1:* Delivered from 2003 to 2012. This course is an introduction to the basic techniques of scenery painting through practical application. Students learn basic colour theory, basic brush techniques and a variety of applications, i.e. bricks, field stones, marble, granite, wood grain, highlights and shadows.

*Properties 1:* Developed curriculum and delivered from 2003 to 2017. This course is an introduction to the many considerations and demands necessary for properties construction. Through hands-on experimentation, the student is introduced to the basic knowledge and experience of working with some of the materials and methods used in the construction of theatrical props. Through group discussions the student learns to evaluate the criteria for building successful stage properties.

*Properties 2:* Expanded curriculum from Properties 1 in 2005. Delivered from 2005 to 2017. Building upon the basics learned in Properties 1, this course allows the student to further explore the materials and methods of theatrical properties building, as well as develop skills and knowledge pertaining to time and material budgeting, while building practical projects for portfolio presentation.

***Other Department and School Activities:***

Contributed to the 2007 Program Review Report presented to external advisory committee.

Served as Production Manager from September 2003 – August 2007, managing the following responsibilities:

- ADC Designer contracts, Equity Stage Manager contracts and Guest Artist contracts.
- annual materials budget of \$45,000 and annual staffing budget of \$30,000
- shop operations, equipment, Health and Safety requirements, and supplies.

### **Ryerson University**

September 2007-December 2007

Program Chair: Perry Schneiderman

Position: Part-time faculty in the School of Professional Communications teaching Ryerson Theatre School Production students.

Developed new curriculum in Creative Research delivered to 2<sup>nd</sup> year Theatre Production students.

### **Sheridan College; Toronto, Ont.**

August 1995-August 2003

Academic Coordinator: Debra McKay

- Part-time faculty teaching Properties Building 1 & 2, Theatre Production 1 & 2
- Head of Properties department
- Served as Academic Coordinator for the fall 1999 semester
- Project leader for new program development – Performing Arts Preparatory Program, January 2002 – June 2003.
  - Worked with both Theatre Performance and Production departments to develop a cross discipline Preparatory program.
  - Steered ad-hoc Professional Advisory committee towards program and curriculum development.
  - Worked with the Academic Initiative department to create a program proposal for the Ministry of Education that was successfully approved in record time.

### **Douglas College; New Westminister, B.C.**

September 1991-July 1995

Academic Coordinator: Drew Young

- Part-time faculty from 1993-1995 teaching Properties Building & Theatre Production
- Contributed to the report for a Program Review Committee at Douglas College
- teacher's assistant to Ross Nichol for Scenic Paint from 1991 to 1993
- teacher's assistant to Ron Fedoric for Scenic Paint and Properties Building 1991-1995

### ***Other Department and School Activities:***

Head of Properties and Production Manager, managing the following responsibilities:

- managed a student crew of 6-7
- managed an annual Properties materials budget of \$9,000
- maintained shop operations, equipment, Health and Safety requirements, stock inventory and rentals
- assumed Production Manager duties for two years
- worked occasional theatre bookings, operating lighting and/or sound.

## **Other Workshops and Instruction**

Workshop Presenter for North Cowichan Municipality; November-December 2022, Exercising your Creative Muscles; February 2023, Faces and Masks (ages 6-12), March 2023, Spring Break Puppet Camp (ages 6 -12).

Workshop Presenter Art's Umbrella; February 2022 Parade Puppets

Curriculum Consultant and Developer for Art's Umbrella, November 2021 - March 2022. Developed the curriculum and installation plan for the new Stage Craft Program at Art's Umbrella Granville Island.

Workshop Presenter for Cowichan Valley Arts Council; June 2021; delivering 2 workshops on Parade Puppets

Workshop Presenter for the Association of BC Drama Educators; October 2019, May 2019; delivering workshops in Puppetry, Properties, and Set Design

Workshop Presenter for Chemainus Art Group; December 2018 to April 2019, Conducted a workshop series *Spark Gym; Finding and Keeping your Creative Spark*.

Coordinator of the Humber College Puppetry Intensive and Master Classes – Development and coordination of a 12 day intensive training course in Puppetry, for industry professionals and educators, as well as a series of Master Classes in Puppetry, taught with four professional puppeteers. June 2013 to June 2016.

Presenter at the NISOD conference in Austin, Texas, June 2012 - *Building collaborative teams*: an innovative creative project, industry-specific with transferable skills to prepare theatre students for self-generated careers.

Volunteer work in community arts for Jumblies Theatre & Art4All Community program at Pelham Park Davenport Perth Neighbourhood Centre, Fall 2009.

Workshop Presentations for Sears Drama Festival in Properties, Set Design and Creative Exploration, May 2007, 2005 and 2002.

Workshop Presentations for CITT National Conferences – Education Panel, Vancouver 2007, Education Presentation, Toronto 2006, Education Presentation on Creativity, Calgary 2005.

3 week Master Class in mask construction at Sir Wilfred Grenfell College, Memorial University; Corner Brook, Newfoundland. Fall Semester, 2000

## Education

**University of Victoria**, Victoria, B.C. – Masters of Education in Art Education Curriculum and Instruction. June 2007. Graduate project research entitled *Creativity in Post Secondary Education: More than the sum of its parts*.

Abstract:

This project looks specifically at the post secondary college environment in terms of creativity and education, through an examination of its various relationships in art, culture, and society. Chapter one examines the pedagogical challenges that present themselves in the classroom, considering the relationship between the teacher and the organizational structures of the post secondary educational environment, as well as the structures within our cultural industries. Chapter two further investigates the role that creativity plays in the relationship between education and culture. Through this examination, some questions are addressed as to how and why we measure and evaluate, how we organize our educational structures, and the ultimate purpose of art education for our current culture. Chapter three focuses on the role that creativity plays in the relationship between art and culture through an examination of my own creative process. The final chapter examines topics for further research relative to the overall themes of wholeness, value and context, which are woven throughout this thesis. Suggestions are provided for directions of further research in transdisciplinary education.

**Ontario College of Art and Design**, Toronto, Ontario- completed 15 credits towards a diploma in Material Arts and Design, focusing on jewellery design and silversmithing. June 1996 – April 2000.

**U.B.C.**, Vancouver, B.C., 1989 - B.F.A Honors in Theatre Design.

## Exhibitions and Publications

Various Exhibits with the Chemainus Art Group; Chemainus Public Market, October/November 2020, 49th Parallel March-June 2020, Year End Exhibition June 2019 and May 2023

Curio 2015 at the Earl Selkirk gallery, ARTiculations. Toronto, Ontario, December 2015.

Once. A collaborative works with poet Daniel James Wright, created for exhibit for the Octopus Project, Case Goods Warehouse, Distillery District, Toronto, March 2008.

Making Special: Imagination and the storyteller. Article written for British Columbia Art Teachers Association. Vol. 29. No. 2. January 2008.

University of Victoria Solo Graduate Show – Making Special – April 2007.

OCAD & ACAD Galleries – Wunderkammern Exhibition – January 2005

Exhibits of independent artwork at Made You Look Gallery, Toronto, Ont.

Cabbage Town Arts Festival, September 2001

OCAD Gallery-Dress Your Time, Calvin Klein Competition, October 2000

Portfolios Gallery-Time Pieces, January 2000

Sheridan College-Faculty Show, September 1999

Co-creator of [www.thisisthat.com](http://www.thisisthat.com) a web site all about glue (really!)

## **Related Courses and Training**

Currently learning Stop Motion Animation at <https://stopmotionuniversity.com>

Red Cross First Aid, January 2023

Social Media for the Artist, Ontario College of Art and Design, March, 2017.

Certificate in French Language, Humber College Continuing Education, April, 2015.

Puppetmonger's Exploratory Laboratory, Toronto, Ontario, 2010.

Puppets and Storytelling workshop, The Bricoteer Puppetry Project, hosted by Open Doors Designs, Toronto, 2009.

Puppet Intensive workshop, Old Trout Puppet Company, hosted by The Banff Centre, 2008

Coaching for High Performance workshop, Humber College, May 2012.

Student Evaluation and Effective Feedback workshop, Sheridan College, May 2002

Adult Education Certificate Program, Sheridan College, March 2001

WHMIS training

## **Memberships and Awards**

Member of the Chemainus Art Group, volunteer to the board of directors as Communications Director as of August 2020. Duties include management of website on Wix platform, managing YouTube channel, and publication of weekly newsletter on Mailchimp.

Humber College Leadership in Arts Education Award, School of Creative and Performing Arts, May 2016.

Canadian Institute for Theatre Technology – Dieter Penzhorn award received August 2009.

Humber College Distinguished Faculty Award – September 2008

Harold Toronto Theatre Award – May 2007

Humber College Innovators Award – June 2004

Jury committee member for Ontario Arts Council Theatre Creators' Reserve program since 2013.

Elected to the Board of the Ontario Section of UNIMA Canada in June 2013 – November 2016

Board member for Puppetmongers Theatre from April 2012 to June 2017

Founding Board member for Arts4All, an independent community arts organization operating from the Davenport Perth Neighborhood Centre. October 2010 to June 2017

Canadian Institute for Theatre Technology – Ontario Board Executive– 2001-2003 & 2006 – 2008.

Vice President Internal on the Board of Directors for Canadian Institute for Theatre Technology, National office, 2003 – 2006.

## **References**

Upon request