

# RONALD NAVERSEN

## SCENIC DESIGNER

### Contact Information

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### Education

Ph. D. Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL	1989
M.F.A. Carnegie-Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA	1978
B.A. Miami University, Oxford, OH	1975

### Memberships

United Scenic Artists, Local 829, Scene Design Category (USA)  
United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT) (Board of Directors 1989-91)  
Southeastern Theatre Conference (SETC)  
Phi Kappa Phi (National Scholastic Honor Society) (SIUC Chapter President 1998-99)

### Professional Experience

Freelance Scenic & Lighting Design	1982-03
Le Petit Theatre du Vieux Carre	New Harmony Theater
Theatre Project of St. Louis	The New Theatre Co. St. Louis
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, MI	Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park
Nebraska Repertory Theater	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival
Progressive Repertory Co. Cincinnati, OH	Tulsa Opera
Resident Scenic Designer, Corning Summer Theatre	1985
Resident Scenic & Lighting Designer, Westport Country Playhouse	1984
Associate Art Director, Munny Opera, St. Louis	1983-84
Template Design, Sanders Lighting Templates	1981-88
Assistant Properties, Master, Loretto-Hilton Repertory Co.	1978-79

### Academic Experience

Professor of Scene Design & Head of Design & Production	Southern Illinois University, Carbondale	2005
Guest Artist/Scene Design	Marshall University	1999
Guest Artist/Scene Design	Wichita State University	1998
Guest Artist/Scene Design	Millikin University	1996
Guest Artist/Scene Design	Northwest Louisiana State University	1995
Guest Artist/Scene Design	Rollins College, FL	1993
Guest Artist/Scene & Light Design	University of California-Davis	1989
Assistant Professor/Scene Design	University of Florida	1984-86
Assistant Professor/Theatre Design	University of Tulsa	1983-84
Assistant Professor/Theater Production	Northern Kentucky University	1979-84
Guest Artist/Scene Design	University of Santa Clara, CA	1979

### References

Mark Varns, Chair  
Department of Theater, SIUC  
618-453-7593  
varns@siu.edu

Scott LaFeber, Artistic Director  
New Harmony Theater Company  
snl\_22@yahoo.com

Elizabeth Carlin, Artistic Director  
Vitalist Theatre of Chicago  
309-343-6746  
emetz@knox.edu

## **REPRESENTATIVE LIST OF SCENIC DESIGNS**

### **Comedy/Drama**

<u>Sleuth</u>	New Harmony Theater	dir. Scott LaFeber	2001
<u>The Last Night of Ballyhoo</u>	Nebraska Repertory Theater	dir. Ken McCulough	2000
<u>Steel Magnolias</u>	New Harmony Summer Theater	dir. Scott LaFeber	1999
<u>House of Blue Leaves</u>	Northwest Louisiana State University	dir. James Stacy	1996
<u>Lost in Yonkers</u>	McLeod Summer Playhouse	dir. Christian H. Moe	1995
<u>Dealers in Young Women</u>	Southern Illinois University-Carbondale	dir. Sarah Blackstone	1994
<u>Summer &amp; Smoke</u>	Le Petit Theatre du Vieux Carre	dir. Lawrence Knowles	1993
<u>Come Back . . . Jimmy Dean</u>	Southern Illinois University	dir. Alex Chrestopoulos	1992
<u>Deathtrap</u>	Westport Country Playhouse	dir. John Collum	1983
<u>Clara's Play</u>	Westport Country Playhouse	dir. Bury Fredricks	1983

### **Period & Shakespeare**

<u>A Midsummer's Night Dream</u>	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival	dir. Jack Young	2003
<u>King Lear</u>	Vitalist Theater	dir. Elizabeth Carlin	2003
<u>The Importance of Being Earnest</u>	Southern Illinois University-C	dir. Rebecca Fishel	2000
<u>Othello</u>	Marshall University Theater	dir. Jeff Elwell	1999
<u>The Taming of the Shrew</u>	Northwest Louisiana State University	dir. Jack Wann	1995
<u>Romeo &amp; Juliet</u>	Northwest Louisiana State University	dir. Jack Wann	1994
<u>Tartuffe</u>	Southern Illinois University-C	dir. Mike Morris	1994
<u>The Women of Troy</u>	Southern Illinois University-C	dir. Christian H. Moe	1990
<u>The Merchant of Venice</u>	University of Santa Clara	dir. Fred Tolinni	1979

### **Environmental**

<u>The Three Lives of Lucie Cabrol</u>	Vitalist Theater	dir. Elizabeth Carlin	2003
<u>Our Country's Good</u>	Millikin University	dir. Joe King	1996
<u>The Grapes of Wrath</u>	Southern Illinois University-C	dir. Christian H. Moe	1993
<u>The Elephant Man</u>	Southern Illinois University-C	dir. William Kirksey	1993
<u>Abundance</u>	The New Theatre Company	dir. Agnes Wilcox	1992
<u>Exit the King</u>	Theatre Project Company	dir. John Grassilli	1991

### **Musicals**

<u>Always, Patsy Cline</u>	Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival	dir. Scott LaFeber	2003
<u>Cabaret</u>	Southern Illinois University-C	dir. Bill Kincaid	2002
<u>Jesus Christ Superstar</u>	McLeod Summer Playhouse	dir. Tim Fink	1998
<u>Dames at Sea</u>	New Harmony Summer Theater	dir. Scott LaFeber	1998
<u>Annie Get Your Gun</u>	McLeod Summer Playhouse	dir. Tom Kidd	1998
<u>Sweeney Todd</u>	Marjorie Lawrence Opera Theater	dir. Tim Fink	1998
<u>She Loves Me</u>	New Harmony Theater	dir. Scott LaFeber	1997
<u>West Side Story</u>	McLeod Summer Playhouse	dir. Ed Brazo	1995
<u>Annie</u>	McLeod Summer Playhouse	dir. George Pinney	1995
<u>Grease</u>	Southern Illinois University-C	dir. Lori Merrill-Fink	1991
<u>Drood!</u>	McLeod Summer Playhouse	dir. Alex Chrestopoulos	1991
<u>The Sound of Music</u>	McLeod Summer Playhouse	dir. Elizabeth Carlin	1988
<u>Peter Pan</u>	University of Florida	dir. John Staniunas	1985
<u>A Funny Thing . . . Forum</u>	University of Tulsa	dir. Nancy Vunivich	1984
<u>Kiss Me Kate</u>	Coming Summer Theatre	w/ John Rait	1984
<u>Pump Boys and Dinettes</u>	Coming Summer Theatre	dir. Jim Wann	1984
<u>Man of La Mancha</u>	New Harmony Summer Theater	dir. John David Lutz	1978
<u>The Apple Tree</u>	Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park	dir. Jim Shrader	1976

### **Opera/Operetta**

<u>The Consul</u>	Marjorie Lawrence Opera Theater	dir. Nathan Arnette	2001
<u>Don Pasquale</u>	Wichita State University	dir. Patricia King	1998
<u>Abduction from the Seraglio</u>	Marjorie Lawrence Opera Theater	dir. Alex Chrestopoulos	1991
<u>Die Fledermaus</u>	University of Florida	dir. John Staniunas	1984
<u>The Mikado</u>	New Harmony Summer Theater	dir. Brian Dobney	1978

## **ARTICLES IN PROFESSIONAL JOURNALS**

- “Joseph J. Musil and the Salon of Theaters.” Theatre Design and Technology, Vol. 40: # 2, Spring 2004, 18-21.
- “Learning to Carve Masks in Bali.” Theatre Design and Technology, Vol. 40: # 1. Winter, 2004, 38-41.
- “Designs Without Borders.” Theatre Design and Technology, Vol. 39: # 5. Fall, 2003, 36-37.
- “Germany: Prague Quadrennial 1999 Exhibits.” Theatre Design and Technology, Vol. 35: # 5. Fall, 1999, 52-53.
- “Pulp Fact.” with Jan Johnston. Stage Directions. August, 1997, 12-14.
- “Duality and Droid: A Production Solution.” with Alex Chrestopoulos, Maria Wortham, and Christine Fracaro, Illinois Speech and Theatre Journal. Vol. XLV, 1994, 21-28.
- “The Schools of Scenography Exhibit: PQ 91.” with Carolyn Lancet. Theatre Design and Technology, Fall 1991.
- “Fiberglass Modeling.” Yale Tech Briefs., April 1991.
- “Graduates Checklist.” with Steve Gilliam. Theatre Design and Technology. Spring 1990.
- “Magnetic Vinyl.” Theatre Crafts. April, 1989: 8-9.
- “Alternative Foam Paneling.” Theatre Crafts. 22 March 1988:12.
- “Molding Models out of Flexwax.” Theatre Crafts. Oct. 1987: 104.
- “Bibliography for the Scenic Model.” ATAC Quarterly. 6.4 Spring 1987: 7.
- “New Products: Celuclay + Gesso.” USITT/SE Newsletter. 3.2 Spring/Summer 1987: 4.
- “New Materials: Flexwax.” USITT Alberta Section Newsletter. Spring 1987: 6.
- “New Products: Magnetic Vinyl.” USITT/SE Newsletter. 3.1 Spring 1987: 6.
- “New Products: Lock Screws.” USITT/SE Newsletter. 1.3 Winter 1986: 3.
- “New Products: Celofam.” USITT/SE Newsletter. 2.1 Spring/Summer 1986: 3.
- “Simulating Neon Signs for Arena and Thrust Stages.” Theatre Crafts. Feb. 1986: 102-3.
- “By Prescription Only.” Theatre Crafts. Jan. 1986: 5.
- “New Products: Cutter Cast.” USITT/SE Newsletter. 1.1 May 1985: 5.
- “Portable Vacu-form Machine.” Theatre Crafts. Oct. 1984: 4.
- “Bloody Garrote for Deathtrap.” Theatre Crafts. Aug./Sept. 1984: 3.
- “Foam Casting in Sand.” Theatre Crafts. May 1983: 3.
- “Hot Glue Detailing.” Theatre Crafts. April 1983: 4.
- “A Letter from the Academy.” ATAC Quarterly. 3.3 Fall 1983: 2.
- “Student Light Plots for Romeo and Juliet.” Dramatics Magazine. Sept. 1982: 9.
- “Cobwebs on a Shoestring Budget.” Theatre Crafts. Nov./Dec. 1981: 4.

## **CHAPTERS IN PROFESSIONAL BOOKS**

- Illustrations for Creating Outdoor Drama by Christian H. Moe, SIU Press, 2004.
- “Liquefied Automotive Body Putty.” The Technical Brief Collection Vol. II, Focal Press, 2002.
- “Scenographic Distance” Tradition and Innovation in Theater Design, “Federation of Theater Research: Dramatic Institute of the Jagiellonian University of Poland. 2001. 133-148
- “Giovanni Niccolo Servandonni” The International Dictionary of Theatre. Ed. Mark Hawkins-Dady, London, St. James Press, 1996.
- “Pulp Fact.” Theatre Technology Exhibition Catalog: 1995. New York: USITT, 1995.
- “Scotchcast Casting Tape, Theatre Technology Exhibition Catalog: 1993. “New York: USITT, 1993.
- “Repeating Carved Ornamentation,” Theatre Technology Exhibition Catalog: 1991. New York: USITT, 1991.
- “Bibliography for the Scenic Model.” Bibliography and Source Book for Scenic Modelers”. Ed. Elbin L. Cleveland New York: USITT, 1990.
- How To. “Creating Cobwebs.” Vol. 2. New York: Theatre Crafts Books, 1989, 37.
- “Bloody Garrote.” Vol. 2. New York, Theatre Crafts Books, 1989, 79.
- “Portable Vacuum-Form.” Vol. 2. New York, Theatre Crafts Books, 1989, 70.
- “Simulating Neon.” Vol. 2. New York, Theatre Crafts Books, 1989,146.
- How To. “Foam Casting in Sand.” Vol. 1. New York, Theatre Crafts Books, 1984.
- “Hot Glue Detailing.” Vol. 1. New York, Theatre Crafts Books, 1984.

## **PAPERS, PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS**

- “The Clown as Archetype”, United States Institute for Theater Technology (USITT) Asian Study Tour, 2005-06.
- “Masks of Culture”, United States Institute for Theater Technology (USITT) Greece Study Tour, 2005.
- “Developing the Design Idea” Professional Development Workshop with Ming Cho Lee, Ursula Beldon, Nick Ularu. United States Institute for Theater Technology (USITT), National Conference, Toronto, March 2005.
- “Developing the Design Idea II” Presenter with Ming Cho Lee, Ursula Beldon, Nick Ularu. (USITT), National Conference, Long Beach, March 2004.
- “Balinese Mask Carving.” Co-Presenter, (USITT), National Conference, Long Beach, March, 2004.
- “Prop a Minute.” Panelist, USITT, National Conference, Long Beach, March 2004.
- “Masks and Mask Makers of Bali.” Co-Presenter, Southeastern Theater Conference (SETC), Chattanooga, March 2004.
- “Art Masks of Bali.” Presenter, Focus on Southeast Asia Symposium, Rend Lake College, April 2004.
- “Balinese Mask Carving.” Poster Session, Research Day, SIUC, March 2004.
- “Mask Carving.” Presenter, Makanda Vulture Fest, IL, October, 2003.
- “Masks of Culture.” Poster Session, Research Day, SIUC, March 2003.
- “Pulling Creativity from a Structured Society: Teaching Theater in Japan.” Presenter, Focus on Asia Seminar, Rend Lake College, April 2002.
- “The Properties Class.” Panel Chair, USITT, New Orleans, March 2002.
- “Masks Myths and More.” Presenter, SETC, Mobile AL, March 2002.
- “Scenographic Distance.” Paper, Federation of Research in Theater (FIRT), Krakow, Poland, June, 2001
- “The Building Blocks of Stage Design” Paper, Illinois Speech and Theater Conference, Springfield, Jan. 2001.
- “Professor Pigmento’s Perfect Paper Plays.” Presenter, National Society for Preservation of Tent, Folk & Repertory Theatre Conference, Mt Pleasant, IA, April 2001.
- “Mordecai Gorelik's Scenic Imagination.” Poster Session, USITT, March 2000.
- “Painting for Period.” Co-Presenter, National Society for Preservation of Tent, Folk & Repertory Theatre Conference, Mt Pleasant, IA, April 2000.
- “Aesthetic Distance as a Factor in Post Modern Scenography.” Paper, Prague Quadrennial 99, Prague, Czech Republic, June 1999.
- “Mordecai Gorelik's Scenic Imagination.” Poster Session, Research Day, SIUC, Mar, 1999.
- “Cut and Assemble Theater Models.” Presenter, Illinois High School Theater Association (ILHSTA), January 1999.
- “Theatrical Model Building Materials.” Co-Presenter, SETC, Birmingham, AL, 1998.
- “Breaking into Hollywood.” Co-Presenter, SETC, Miami, FL, March 1997.
- “New Products and Applications: Emphasis on Model Building.” Panelist, USITT, Ft. Worth, TX, April, 1996.
- “Training Designers around the Pacific Rim.” Panelist, USITT, Ft. Worth, TX, April 1996.
- “Your First Job--The Role of the Assistant Designer.” Panel Chair, SETC, Savannah, GA, March 1994.
- “Model Making.” Panelist, SETC, Savannah, GA, March 1994.
- “Phantom in America: the Associate Designer's Speak.” Chair: USITT, Nashville, TN, March, 1994.
- “Spectacle: The Designer's Contribution.” Presenter, Phi Kappa Phi, Fall Lecture Series, SIUC, October 1993.

“Publish And Perish!” Panel Chair, USITT, Wichita, KS, 1993.

“Should Technician's Act?” Panelist, SETC, Orlando, FL, 1992.

“Thomas Kuhn's Theory of Scientific Revolution and the English Renaissance Stage.”  
Paper, SETC Debut Papers, Winston-Salem, NC, 1991.

“Aesthetic Distance: The Manipulation of Audience Response from a Variety of  
Production Perspectives.” Paper, SETC, Winston-Salem, NC, 1991.

“Production Load: Our Cross to Bear or Theirs?” Panelist, USITT, Boston, 1991.

“Properties Solutions.” Panelist, USITT, Boston, 1991.

“Theatre as a Liberal Art.” Panel Chair, ATHE, Chicago, 1990.

“Design SETC: Scenic Design.” Presenter, SETC, Nashville, TN, 1990.

“The Art and Craft of the Scenic Model.” Presenter, SETC, Nashville, TN, 1990.

“The Graduates' Checklist.” Panel Chair, USITT, Calgary, Canada, 1989.

“Lighting Workshop.” Presenter, Student Theatre Guild Open House, SIUC, 1988.

“Mask Making Workshop.” Presenter, Student Theatre Guild Open House, SIUC, 1988.

“Cut and Assemble Model Furniture.” Presenter, USITT, Minneapolis, MN 1987.

“How to Fly like Peter Pan.” Presenter, University of Florida, High School Day,  
Gainesville, FL, 1984.

“Technical Solutions Fair.” Presenter, USITT, Corpus Christi, TX, 1983.

“Designer/Administrator Relations.” Panel Chair, Ohio Theatre Alliance, Col., OH, 1982.

“Design and Technology Exhibition.” Presenter, Kentucky Theatre Festival, Lex.. KY, 1982.

“Designs South.” Panel Chair, SETC, Louisville, KY, 1982.

“Technical Solutions Panel.” Presenter, USITT, Denver, CO, 1982.

“Shoestring Budget Solutions.” Presenter, Kentucky Theatre Assoc., Horse Cave, KY 1981.

“Tricks of the Trade.” Presenter, Kentucky Theatre Festival, Covington, KY, 1980.

“Basic Stagecraft.” Presenter, American Community Theatre Association, Cincinnati,  
OH, 1980.