

Melissa Ficociello

832 Manzanita Ave.
Pasadena CA, 91103

mficociello@hotmail.com
mficociello.com
818-693-5050

Art director and set designer

current July 2019

Universal Studios (2003-2019) Freelance set designer for entertainment and special events
Grinchmas and *Jabberwockee* stage design, with art director Paul Sessa.
Halloween Horror Nights set design with art director Chris Williams and Brandi Creason

Louis Berger/ Ferrari World Abu Dhabi UAE (2017) Field art director; Co-ordinated set design with lighting, mechanical, safety, graphics, retail, special effects and animatronics on immersive experience ride. Provide cost effective, on site design solutions during construction phase. Supervise painting and theming.

Applied Minds Glendale, CA Large scale architectural models from concept sketches.

Interior Design Space planning, furniture design and material selection for various design firms.
Design assistant for Women's Aide Hostel, Cambridge England.

Los Angeles Opera (2003-2018) Technical department: duties include creating bid packages, materials selection, props design, model building. Coordinate built projects with union shops. Set design & project management for educational department. Lead Scenic Artist for opera productions includes *The Ring Cycle*, directed by Achiem Fryer, *Grendel* directed by Julie Taymor, *Il Postino*, *Il Trittico*, *The Magic Flute*, *Gianni Schicchi* directed by Woody Allen, starring Placido Domingo.

Roto Studios Columbus, Ohio (2008) Theme park ride set design

Natural History Museum Cleveland, Ohio Assistant designer for Reinberger Hall of Earth and Planetary Exploration. Designed exhibit layouts and rockwork walls.

Great Lakes Theater Festival Cleveland, Ohio Exhibit design for *Life and The American Musical*. Props master. Productions Include: *The Cherry Orchard*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Bacchae* and *Death of A Salesman* with artistic director Gerald Freedman.

The Joint Workshop Cleveland, Ohio (1993-1999) Founding member of design/build furniture studio specializing in custom designed, modern interior furniture including beds, tables, and lamps.

Production Design/Film/Video Production designer for independent film. *Muted* presented by HBO. Puppet stage design for *Protagonist* with Janie Gieser and director Jessica Yu. Award winning public service announcements for *Caregivers* and *Habit for Humanity*. Full List available.

Theatrical Set Design Includes *Carmen* at Cleveland Opera, *Orpheus Rising* at REDCAT theater Los Angeles, *Gilgamesh* Boston Court Theater. *Grapes of Wrath* A Noise Within. Full list available.

Teaching Experience Includes East Los Angeles College (2009 - current) T *Intro to Design*, *Intro to The Theater* and *Scenic Painting*. Mentor student shop workers, set designers, props masters dramaturgs and students participating in American College Theater Festival. Full list available.

Skills include: Set design, Set dressing, Props design and build, Scenic painting, Furniture design, SketchUp Layout, Photoshop, AutoCAD, Vectorworks, Model building, Hand drafting

Member Art Director Guild Local 800

Education

California Institute of the Arts

Master of Fine Arts in Theatre/Scenic Design

University of Cincinnati, College of Design Art, Architecture and Planning

Bachelor of Science in Design/Interior Design