



# Jim Thurston

## DESIGN FOR THE STAGE

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Jim Thurston is the resident designer of the Department of Theater and Dance at Colby College. He teaches scenography, interactive digital media, and architectural imaging. He holds an MFA from Northwestern University's School of Speech in design for the stage. His specialties include scenic/light/projection design, design visualization, and interactive media for the stage.

**Associate Professor, Resident Designer: Department of Theater and Dance, Colby College. September 2017 to Present.** Teach courses in design and technical production for the performing arts and in Colby's Pre-Architecture Program. Serve as Resident Designer for the department, focusing on scenic, light, and projection design and team lead for research in interactive digital media. Collaborate with colleagues in Computer Science, Music, and Theater and Dance to imagine and realize arts incubators centered on supporting original student-driven work. Chair of the Arts and Innovation Center Working Group.

**Department Chair, Department of Theater and Dance, Colby College. July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2018.** Collaborated with department colleagues to maintain a vibrant, professional theater and dance department and continued to identify innovative and creative initiatives to further strengthen the Humanities Division at Colby. Specific duties included oversight of the curriculum, staff, budget, facilities, production season, and ongoing strategic planning.

**Associate Chair, Department of Theater and Dance, Colby College. July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014.** Assisted department chair with management responsibilities including programming, budget, curriculum, and long-term strategic goals. Responsible for the comprehensive 2014 department Overseers Report.

**Adjunct Associate Professor, Resident Designer: Department of Theater and Dance, Colby College. September 1996 - August 2017.** Taught courses in design and technical production for the performing arts and in Colby's Pre-Architecture Program. Served as Resident Designer for the department, focusing on scenic, light, and projection design.

**Adjunct Assistant Professor, Resident Designer: Department of Theater and Dance, Colby College. September 1988 - August 1996.** Taught courses in design and technical production for the performing arts and Foundations of Studio Art for the Department of Art. Served as Resident Designer for the department, focusing on scenic, light, and projection design.

### Selected Design Credits – Professional

<i>Lost With You</i>	Scenic Design, Design Direction	Dir. Ken Urso	2017
<i>and how to be in two places at once</i>	Light Design	Chor. AGA Collaborative	2014
<i>Light of the Mind</i>	Scenic, Light, Projection Design	Dir. Lynne Conner	2013
<i>Pas de Deux and Solo Variations2</i>	Light Design	Kathleen Breen Combes and Yury Yanowsky (Boston Ballet)	2011
<i>The Water at Whose Edge We Stand</i>	Light Design	Chor. Annie Kloppenberg	2011
<i>Pas de Deux and Solo Variations</i>	Light Design	Kathleen Breen Combes and Yury Yanowsky (Boston Ballet)	2010
<i>Cabaret</i>	Light Design	Dir. Debra Susi	2009
<i>JACK, An Opera About the Life of John F. Kennedy</i>	Scenic, Light, Projection Design	Dir. Will Holt, Lauren Sterling, and Debra Susi	2008
<i>Jesus Christ Superstar</i>	Light Design	Dir. Debra Susi	2008
<i>Ugly Ducklings</i>	Scenic, Light Design	Dir. Cathy Plourde	2005
<i>The Saintliness of Margery Kempe</i>	Light Design	Dir. John Wulp	2003
<i>Talley's Folly</i>	Scenic Design	Dir. Patrica Riggan	2003
<i>The Weir</i>	Scenic Design	Dir. Robert Hitt	2001

**Selected Design Credits – Colby College**

<i>Set in the Living Room of a Small Town American Play</i>	Scenic Design	Dir. Toby Vera Bercovici	2018
<i>The Wonderful World of Dissocia</i>	Scenic Design, Design Direction	Dir. Thomas Oldham	2017
<i>The Master Builder</i>	Scenic Design, Projection Design	Dir. Toby Vera Bercovici	2016
<i>Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson</i>	Scenic, Light, Projection Design	Dir. Todd J. Coulter	2014
<i>CrazyLonelyYellow</i>	Scenic, Light, Projection Design	Chor. Annie Kloppenberg	2013
<i>Lysistrata</i>	Scenic, Light, Projection Design	Dir. Lynne Conner	2012
<i>Putting It Together</i>	Scenic, Light Design	Dir. Lynne Conner	2011
<i>The Long Christmas Ride Home</i>	Scenic, Light Design	Dir. Todd J. Coulter	2011
<i>The Last Days of Judas Iscariot</i>	Scenic, Light Design	Dir. Todd J. Coulter	2010
<i>Metamorphoses</i>	Scenic, Light Design	Dir. Lynne Conner	2009
<i>Halmoni</i>	Light Design	Chor. Tina Wentzel	2009
<i>The House of Bernarda Alba</i>	Scenic, Light Design	Dir. Laura Chakravarty Box	2008
<i>An Enemy of the People</i>	Scenic, Light Design	Dir. Joylynn Wing	2006
<i>Marisol</i>	Scenic, Light Design	Dir. Joylynn Wing	2005
<i>Migration</i>	Light Design	Chor. Tina Wentzel	2004

**Live Performance and Digital Media: Expanding Creative and Pedagogical Opportunities Grant.**

**Principal: 2010-2011.** This grant involved a working group of faculty, staff, and students from Colby, Bates, and Bowdoin colleges centering on a deeper understanding of the role of digital media in live performance. Principal duties included: master classes, information share, administering budgets, and co-producing the *Festival of Live Performance and Digital Media* (September 24-25, 2011) with Roger Bechtel, Chair of Theater and Dance at Bowdoin College. Master classes with Troika Ranch (Mark Coniglio and Dawn Stoppiello).

**Colby College Humanities Grant Funded Research: "Innovation and Aesthetic Change in Scenography for Contemporary Dance." 2010 to 2016.**

The digital age continues to revolutionize technology used in rendering more abstract scenographic visions. This intense technological change in turn radically reshapes choreographic possibility and, ultimately, the aesthetic used in creating dance. This aesthetic change is at the core of my research.

**Waterville Opera House, Waterville, Maine. Board Member. 2006 through 2010.** Collaborated with fellow Board of Directors and the Executive Director to manage the producing organization and oversee the physical plant.

**Waterville Opera House, Waterville, Maine. Renovation Committee. 2006 through 2012.** Collaborated with Board of Directors and Physical Plant Committee members to plan and realize the a four million dollar renovation of this historic cultural asset. The Waterville Opera House was built in 1902 and the renovation updated theatrical systems while maintaining the historic features of the house and lobby.

**Safety Information Sheets Safety Program. Department of Theater and Dance, Colby College.** Co-author with John D. Ervin: 2002 to 2017. An integrated theater and dance safety training program aimed at accident prevention and education through resourced based teaching.

**Education**

Northwestern University School of Speech. Department of Theatre. MFA. USAA Award.  
Ohio Wesleyan University. BA. Theater Major, Art History Minor. Senior Teaching Fellowship.

**Professional Organizations**

United States Institute for Theatre Technology

Conferences Attended:	St. Louis, Missouri	March 2017
	Salt Lake City, Utah	March 2016
	Cincinnati, Ohio	March 2015
	Fort Worth, Texas	March 2014
	Milwaukee, Wisconsin	March 2013
	Charlotte, North Carolina	March/April 2011
	Kansas City, Missouri	March/April 2010