



# Scene Design and Stage Lighting

By *W. Oren Parker, R. Craig Wolf, Dick Block*

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**Scene Design and Stage Lighting** By *W. Oren Parker, R. Craig Wolf, Dick Block*

Packed with professional information and cutting-edge technologies, **SCENE DESIGN AND STAGE LIGHTING**, Ninth Edition, equips you with the most up-to-date coverage available on scenery, lighting, sound, and technology. Completely current, the exciting new ninth edition mirrors the best of real-world practices. Vibrant color production photographs support the text and spotlight examples of contemporary work. Scenery design and technology coverage includes a strong emphasis on modern technology, while changes in the lighting section reflect the latest practices. Coverage of sound for the theatre reflects the digital age in which we live and work. The text also includes an expanded section on television design, as well as greater emphasis on health and safety issues. The authors emphasize collaboration in all sections of the new text, and they provide insight via interviews with professional lighting and scenery designers in two features: "Working Professionals" and "Designers at Work." Reflecting current professional practice, **SCENE DESIGN AND STAGE LIGHTING**, Ninth Edition, offers in-depth coverage of a broad range of topics, making it the most detailed and comprehensive text available in the scenic and lighting design and technology fields.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"The strengths of SCENE DESIGN AND STAGE LIGHTING, 8th edition are the extensive material and presentation on the technology associated with stage lighting, structuring chapters to relate this technology to the controllable properties of light (distribution, color, and intensity), and the black and white graphic illustrations that aid the understanding of equipment."

"...if the Stage Lighting section of SCENE DESIGN AND STAGE LIGHTING were a stand-alone book, I would seriously consider it for two different classes. The author's presentation is more complete and readable than other books covering a comparable subject. For the non-design oriented student, who makes up 90% of our introductory class, it presents many subjects in an understandable fashion."

"Overall this book is a wonderful text and reference book for Design and Theatrical Production students. Most of the chapters are incredibly comprehensive."

"I find the clear, detailed and specific explanations in this book helpful."

"Yes, so far this is the best, most readable, and most inclusive text on these topics I have found. I intend to keep using it."

#### About the Author

W. Oren Parker inspired hundreds of designers over his very long and successful teaching career. His absolute love of architecture and furniture was obvious to anyone who took his History of Architecture and Decor class (affectionately known as "Pots and Pans," which he no doubt thought was hilarious) if only from the sheer volume of information and detail involved. His dedication to teaching was unbeatable. Parker was born and raised in Michigan, where he met his wife, Thelma (known as Teschie). He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan and his master's degree from Yale University in 1940. He joined the faculty of Yale and remained there until becoming professor of drama at Carnegie Mellon University (then Carnegie Tech) in 1963. He retired in 1976. His book, SCENIC TECHNIQUES, was the first to standardize drafting for theatre, and SCENE DESIGN AND STAGE LIGHTING, written in collaboration with Harvey Smith in 1963 and now in its ninth edition, was the definitive text for designers planning to enter the profession. Parker joined the United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT) in 1963 and was elected a fellow in 1986, the same year he received one of the Institute's highest honors--the USITT Award--for his work as designer, educator, and author. In 2001, the USITT created the W. Oren Parker Scene Design Award. Sponsored by Stage Decoration & Supplies, Inc., the award is given annually to an individual who has demonstrated excellence or outstanding potential in the area of scenic design in the performing arts while pursuing an undergraduate degree. It was the first of USITT's Awards for Young Designers & Technicians in the Performing Arts aimed at undergraduate students.

R. Craig Wolf is a professional lighting designer as well as an educator. Mr. Wolf's designs have been seen nationwide, including productions for San Diego's Old Globe Theatre, San Diego Repertory Theatre, Dance Theatre Workshop in New York, Virginia Shakespeare, Richmond Ballet Company, Theatre Artaud in San Francisco, and Japan America Center and Odyssey Theatre Ensemble of Los Angeles. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT) and is vice chair of their Publications Committee and, for five years, he was lighting commissioner. He became a lighting associate

member of the United Scenic Artists Design Union in 1977. Mr. Wolf has taught at the Universities of Michigan and Virginia and is currently professor of design, MFA graduate adviser, and head of the design program in the School of Theatre, Television, and Film at San Diego State University.

Dick Block has worked as a freelance scene designer and a scenic artist for more than 25 years. He has designed for AMAS, Columbia Artists, and TheatreWorks USA, all in New York, and for the Virginia Stage Company, the Weston Playhouse (Vermont), and the Human Race (Ohio). Additional regional credits include work at the McCarter Theatre in Princeton, the American Repertory Theatre in Cambridge, Center Stage in Baltimore, Opera Theatre of St. Louis, as well as the Pittsburgh Playhouse and the Pittsburgh Public Theatre. Block is also active with United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT), having served as scene design co-commissioner and on the board of directors, and with the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival both regionally and nationally, having served as the first national design chair. He is the recipient of the Kennedy Center Medallion for Distinguished Service. Block received his MFA from Northwestern University. After teaching at the University of Michigan and Cornell, he is currently the associate head of the School of Drama at Carnegie Mellon.

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#### **Violet Shook:**

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