

# Stephen Sakowski

Assistant Professor of Theatre - Lighting & Sound Design  
Department of Theatre and Film  
The University of Toledo  
Prepared: Tuesday, August 30th, 2016

## I. Education and Training

<b>The University of California – San Diego</b> , La Jolla, CA M.F.A. in Theatre (with specializations in lighting design) Dissertation title: "The Synergy of Light"	March 2009
<b>Otterbein College</b> , Westerville, OH B.F.A. in Theatre Design & Technology Minor in Art	June 2003

## II. Appointments and Experience

### Appointment Record on this Faculty

Assistant Professor of Theatre – Lighting & Sound Design, The University of Toledo, Dept. of Theatre and Film	August 2015-Present
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### Other Academic Appointments

Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre – Lighting Design, Illinois Wesleyan University School of Theatre Arts	2011-2015
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### Other Professional Experience

Freelance Lighting Designer A theatre lighting designer works with the director, choreographer, set designer, costume designer, and sound designer to create the lighting for a theatrical production. The lighting designer will help shape the atmosphere, provide textual information, as well as help visually convey and support the narrative within a theatrical production in response to the text. While keeping in mind issues of visibility, execution, safety, and cost.	2003-Present
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Design Associate Otis Howard Designs Inc.	2007-Present
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To assist and support Otis Howard in his role as the Lighting Designer/Director. Responsibilities include preproduction support, such as technical drawing, equipment coordination, schedule supervision, production team coordination and design research. On some productions I will serve as the Lighting Designer/Director while on site.

Resident Lighting Designer

2013-Present

Hope Summer Repertory Theatre (HSRT), Holland MI

To design and coordinate two repertory lighting plots, in two theatres, within HSRT's six show repertory season. To also serve as the lighting designer on 2-3 productions with in HSRT's four show main stage season, as well as serve as a design mentor to the lighting designers for the Children's Performance Troupe's two show repertory season. Other responsibilities include assisting with the coordination of the lighting department budget, supervising design execution and feasibility, and maintaining safety standards.

### III. Teaching

**Assistant Professor of Theatre – Lighting and Sound Design, The University of Toledo,**

Department of Theatre and Film

August 2015-Present

#### Undergraduate Teaching

*Introduction to Theatre*, THR 1100: 903

Spring 2016

Credits: 3. Enrollment 26. Introductory survey of the development of theatre and drama from the ancient world to the present day; discussion of representative plays; slides and films complement lectures.

*Stage Lighting and Sound*, THR 1040: 001

Spring 2016

Credits: 3. Enrollment 12. An introduction to theory and practice in stage lighting and sound technology. Students will use lighting and sound tools and equipment in production crews on department productions.

*Stage Lighting Design*, THR 3410: 001

Spring 2016

Credits: 3. Enrollment 4. Principles and theories of lighting design for theatrical productions are explored. Develop skills of script analysis, light study, light plot and related graphics for conceptualization and communication of design ideas.

*Introduction to Theatre*, THR 1100: 901

Fall 2015

Credits: 3. Enrollment 27. Introductory survey of the development of theatre and drama from the ancient world to the present day; discussion of representative plays; slides and films complement lectures.

*Stage Lighting and Sound*, THR 1040: 001

Fall 2015

Credits: 3. Enrollment 6. An introduction to theory and practice in stage lighting and sound technology. Students will use lighting and sound tools and equipment in production crews on department productions.

### **Independent Studies**

*Seminar Topics In Design – Theatre Sound –* THR 4400: 001

Spring 2016

Special Projects – Lighting Design – THR 4990: 007

Spring 2016

### **Other**

*Stagecraft*, THR 1030

Spring 2016

Guest speaker (at the invitation of Prof. Daniel Thobias) for one class period talking about lighting technology used in technical theatre.

*Stagecraft*, THR 1030

Fall 2015

Guest speaker (at the invitation of Prof. Daniel Thobias) for one class period talking about lighting technology used in technical theatre.

*Theatre Management*, THR 3250

Fall 2015

Guest speaker (at the invitation of Lecturer Christopher Montpetit) for one class period talking about the collaborative process between stage managers and lighting designers in theatre.

**Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre – Lighting Design,  
Illinois Wesleyan University,  
School of Theatre Arts**

2011-2015

### **Teaching**

*Lighting and Sound Technology*, THEA 114

Spring 2015 Credits: 1. Enrollment 10.

Spring 2014 Credits: 1. Enrollment 8.

This course will familiarize the students with the fundamentals of theatrical lighting and sound technology. Reviewing lighting and sound equipment, accessories, paperwork, computer programs and consoles. Covered the proper terms and techniques for lighting and sound technology, as well as the role of lighting and sound technology in a theatrical production.

*Lighting Design, THEA 423*

Spring 2015 Credits: 1. Enrollment 11.

Spring 2013 Credits: 1. Enrollment 6.

This course will familiarize the students with the fundamentals and craft of theatrical lighting design. Reviewing lighting equipment, accessories, paperwork, computer programs and lighting consoles. Covered the proper terms and techniques for lighting design, as well as the role of the lighting designer in a theatrical production.

*Fundamentals of Design, THEA 220: 02*

Fall 2014 Credits: 1. Enrollment 15.

Fall 2013 Credits: 1. Enrollment 25.

Fall 2012 Credits: 1. Enrollment 23.

An introduction to visual communications, styles and techniques. It also includes a thorough exploration of basic aesthetic theory as it applies to all elements of theatre design. This course explores designing for the theatre as a means of communication, artistic expression and the organization of design information. Visual, inspirational and historic research methods, group discussions, group and individual design projects in sets, lighting and costumes figures prominently in class. Lectures, demonstrations and projects in collage, sketching, drawing, painting and scenic modeling and costume rendering are included in the studio work.

*Sound Design, THEA 370*

Fall 2014

Credits: 1. Enrollment 7. This course will familiarize the students with the fundamentals and craft of theatrical sound design. Reviewing sound equipment, accessories, paperwork, computer programs and sound consoles. Covered the proper terms and techniques for sound design, as well as the role of the sound designer in a theatrical production.

*Performance in Production, THEA 391*

May 2014 Credits: 1. Enrollment 15.

May 2013 Credits: 1. Enrollment 12.

May 2012 Credits: 1. Enrollment 15.

This course is designed to give students a sense of what theater artists actually do with their hands, bodies, and voices in the creation of art, and to engage students in an in-depth exploration of the significance of a particular work of theatre. Students make artistic choices in relation to this contemporary artistic context; with an eye to the affect they want these choices to have on audience members. Focus is placed, through this process, on the impact artists want this particular work to have on society. Students "close the loop" on this learning process by producing performances for these live, local audiences. Through this, they experience and make sense of how real audiences receive and interpret their work.

Following the completion of performances, students explicitly articulate these insights through a post-mortem feedback process.

*Technical Drawing*, THEA 310

Spring 2014 Credits: 1. Enrollment 7.

Spring 2012 Credits: 1. Enrollment 7.

This course will familiarize the students with the fundamentals of theatrical hand drafting, computer drafting and technical drawing. Reviewing equipment, techniques and professional standards. This course covered the proper terms and techniques for drafting and technical drawing, as well as the role of drafting and technical drawing in a theatrical production.

*Stage Management*, THEA 219

Fall 2013

Credits: 1. Enrollment 6. This course will familiarize the students with the fundamentals of theatrical stage management. Reviewing the proper terms and techniques for all pieces and parts of Stage Management, as well as the role of the Stage Manager and Assistant Stage Manager in a theatrical production. This course will cover how to work with and create the basic paperwork associated with Stage Management, as well as introduce basic use of some computer programs to help such as Microsoft Word and Excel.

*Lighting and Sound Technology*, THEA 175

Fall 2012

Credits: 1. Enrollment 15. This course will familiarize the students with the fundamentals of theatrical lighting and sound technology. Reviewing lighting and sound equipment, accessories, paperwork, computer programs and consoles. Covered the proper terms and techniques for lighting and sound technology, as well as the role of lighting and sound technology in a theatrical production.

**Independent Studies**

Special Projects – Lighting Design THEA 499

Spring 2015

Degree Project – THEA 491

Spring 2015

Degree Project – THEA 491

Spring 2015

Degree Project – THEA 490

Spring 2015

Degree Project – THEA 290

Spring 2015

Degree Project – THEA 490

Fall 2014

Special Projects – Photoshop THEA 499	Fall 2014
Degree Project – THEA 491	Spring 2014
Degree Project – THEA 491	Spring 2014
Degree Project – THEA 490	Spring 2014
Degree Project – THEA 290	Spring 2014
Degree Project – THEA 290	Spring 2014
Special Projects – Technical Drawing THEA 499	Spring 2014
Degree Project – THEA 490	Fall 2013
Degree Project – THEA 490	Fall 2013
Degree Project – THEA 491	Fall 2012
Degree Project – THEA 490	Spring 2012

## IV. Research and Scholarship

### Conference Attendance:

- USITT 2014
- SETC 2014
- SETC 2013
- SETC 2012

### Creative and Design Activities:

## Lighting Design (Selected)

<i>Vanya &amp; Sonia &amp; Masha &amp; Spike</i>	Hope Summer Repertory Theatre, Park Theatre, Hol I and MI	Jeff Steitzer
<i>Hair spray!</i>	Hope Summer Repertory Theatre, Park Theatre, Hol I and MI	Fred Tessler
<i>Little Shop of Horrors</i>	Univ. of Toledo, Dept of Theatre & Film Center Theatre, Toledo OH	Edmund Ligan
<i>The Laramie Project</i>	Univ. of Toledo, Dept of Theatre & Film Center Theatre, Toledo OH	Pete Cross & Mark Leason
<i>Henry V</i>	Univ. of Toledo, Dept of Theatre & Film Center Theatre, Toledo OH	Irene Alby
<b>Smokey Joe's Café</b>	Hope Summer Repertory Theatre, Park Theatre, Hol I and MI	Fred Tessler
<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>	Hope Summer Repertory Theatre, Dewitt Theatre, Hol I and MI	John Tammi
<i>Les Misérables</i>	Hope Summer Repertory Theatre, Dewitt Theatre, Hol I and MI	David Colacci
<i>Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown</i>	Illinois Wesleyan University, McPherson Theatre, Bloomington IL	Andy Parks
<i>A Lie of the Mind</i>	Illinois Wesleyan University, McPherson Theatre, Bloomington IL	Tomas Quinn
<i>Hot Mikado!</i>	Hope Summer Repertory Theatre, Park Theatre, Hol I and MI	Fred Tessler
<i>The Sound of Music</i>	Hope Summer Repertory Theatre, Dewitt Theatre, Hol I and MI	David Colacci
<i>A Class Act</i>	Illinois Wesleyan University, McPherson Theatre, Bloomington IL	Jean Kerr
<i>Romeo &amp; Juliet*</i>	Hope Summer Repertory Theatre, Dewitt Theatre, Hol I and MI	Curt Tof tel and
*20013-14 Michigan Wil de Awards: Best of the Bard (Best Shakespeare Production)		
<i>All Shook Up</i>	Hope Summer Repertory Theatre, Dewitt Theatre, Hol I and MI	David Colacci
<i>I am Women</i>	Hope Summer Repertory Theatre, Park Theatre, Hol I and MI	Fred Tessler
<i>As You Like It</i>	Illinois Wesleyan University, McPherson Theatre, Bloomington IL	Tomas Quinn
<i>9 to 5 The Musical!</i>	Illinois Wesleyan University, McPherson Theatre, Bloomington IL	Scott Susong
<i>A Shayna Maidel</i>	Illinois Wesleyan University, McPherson Theatre, Bloomington IL	Nancy B. Liotz
<i>Pride and Prejudice</i>	Hope Summer Repertory Theatre, Dewitt Theatre, Hol I and MI	Louis Rackoff
<i>Chaps!</i>	Hope Summer Repertory Theatre, Knickerbocker Theatre, Hol I and MI	Jahna Beecham
<i>Pr omenade</i>	Illinois Wesleyan University, McPherson Theatre, Bloomington IL	Jean Kerr
<i>Hel lo Again</i>	Illinois Wesleyan University, McPherson Theatre, Bloomington IL	Scott Susong
<i>BET - Up Front 2011</i>	BET Network, The Best Buy Theatre, NYC	Otis Howard
<i>The Mo'Nique Show (Lighting Director)</i>	BET Network, Turner Studios, Atlanta GA	Otis Howard
<i>BET Town Hall 2011</i>	BET Network, BET Studios, Washington DC	Otis Howard
<i>Jester's Dead (Scenic &amp; Lighting Design)</i>	The Outfit, The Latvian Society, Philadelphia PA	Suzanna Berger
<i>Joseph &amp; The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat</i>	The Playgroup Theatre, White Plains NY	David Alpert
<i>Hamlet</i>	The Gal lery Play ers, NYC	Taibi Ann Magar
<i>Waiting For Godot</i>	X Repertory Theatre, Los Angeles CA	Joel Gel amn
<i>Hoover Comes Alive!</i>	The La Jol l a Playhouse, Forum Theatre La Jol l a CA	Alex Timbers
<i>Twist</i>	Diver sionary Theatre, San Diego CA	James Vasques
<i>Dant on's Death</i>	UC-San Diego, Mandel l Weiss Theatre, La Jol l a CA	Dominique Serr and
<i>The Night Watcher</i>	The La Jol l a Playhouse, Forum Theatre La Jol l a CA	Robert Egan
<i>Norman's Ark</i>	The Ford Amphitheatre, Los Angeles CA	Peter Schneider
<i>Tango</i>	UC-San Diego, Forum Theatre, La Jol l a CA	Gabor Tompa
<i>Per icles, Prince of Tyr e</i>	UC-San Diego, Forum Studio Theatre, La Jol l a CA	Andrei Belgr ader
<i>The Breakup Notebook</i>	Diver sionary Theatre, San Diego CA	Peter Schneider
<i>The Near east</i>	Baldwin New Play Festival, UC-San Diego	Gerardo Jose Ruiz
<i>42nd Street*</i>	Otterbein College Theatre, Cowan Hall, Westerville OH	Randy Skinner
*2005-06 Theatre Critics Award: Best Design		
<i>Haymarket</i>	Alchem y Theatre Company, Beckett Theatre, Theatre Row, NYC	Bob Saxner
<i>Hazard County</i>	The Wellfleet Harbor Actor's Theatre, Wellfleet MA	Daisy Walker
<i>Hamlet / MACHINE</i>	The Blue Rose Theatre Company, J. Houseman Studio, NYC	Taibi Ann Magar

## Associate & Assistant Lighting Design (Selected)

<i>2016 NBA Draft</i>	Barclays Center, Brooklyn NY	Otis Howard
<i>NBA All-Star Game Halftime Show '16</i>	Air Canada Center, Toronto Canada	Otis Howard
<i>NBA All-Star Game Halftime Show '15</i>	Madison Square Gardens, New York City NY	Otis Howard
<i>NBA All-Star Game Halftime Show '14</i>	New Orleans Arena, New Orleans LA	Otis Howard
<i>NBA All-Star Game Halftime Show '13</i>	The Toyota Center, Houston TX	Otis Howard
<i>NBA All-Star Game Halftime Show '12</i>	The Amway Center, Orlando FL	Otis Howard
<i>Zayed &amp; the Dream</i>	Caracal l a Dance Theatre, The Kennedy Center, Washington DC	Alan Bur rett
<i>Madame Butterfly</i>	Dallas Opera, Dallas TX	Alan Bur rett
<i>Knights of the Moon</i>	Caracal l a Dance Theatre, The Kennedy Center, Washington DC	Alan Bur rett
<i>The Third Story</i>	The La Jol l a Playhouse, Potiker Theatre, La Jol l a CA	Chris Aker l ind
<i>everything Turning Into Beautiful</i>	The New Group, The Acorn Theatre, Theatre Row, NYC	Josh Bradford
<i>the Bald Soprano &amp; The Lesson</i>	The Atlantic Theatre, NYC	Josh Bradford

## V. Grants, Grant Proposals and Contracts

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## **VI. Service**

### **College**

- Lighting Supervisor for CoCA Holiday Showcase (University of Toledo, Fall 2015)  
Contributed to the process of producing CoCA's annual Holiday Showcase at Doermann Theatre.

### **Department**

- Search Committee (University of Toledo, Summer 2016): Contributed to the process that resulted in the hiring of James Stover as the new Visiting Assistant Professor of Acting/Directing.
- Search Committee (University of Toledo, Summer 2016): Contributed to the process that resulted in the hiring of Caitlyn Tella as the new Visiting Assistant Professor of Acting/Voice/Movement.
- Search Committee (University of Toledo, Fall 2015): Contributed to the process that resulted in the hiring of Nate White as the new Lecturer in Technical Direction.
- Season Selection Committee (University of Toledo, 2015-2016). Responsible for selecting plays and musicals for possible production in the Dept. of Theatre and Film's 2016-2017 season, reading scripts selected by other members of the committee, commenting in favor of or against the production of selected scripts, and contributing to decisions regarding season event programming and season themes.
- Attended Faculty Meetings (2015-2016)

### **Other**

- Supervised and coordinated a complete reorganization to the planning, inventory and storage of the University of Toledo, Department of Theatre and Film's lighting and sound equipment.

## **VII. Professional Memberships, Awards and Distinctions**

### **MEMBERSHIPS**

- United Scenic Artists, I.A.T.S.E. Local 829
- U.S.I.T.T.