

Daniel Czepinski

Assistant Professor of Theatre
California State University, Los Angeles
College of Arts & Letters | Department of Theatre & Dance

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Professor of Technical Theatre with 16+ years combined education, advanced training, and experience in technical direction and professional performing arts management; Driven to inspire students to pursue academic and personal excellence; Consistently strives to create a safe and engaging environment in which students are able to explore and share new ideas and perspectives while advancing their design and production prowess.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Fine Arts

California Institute of the Arts | Valencia, CA 2002

- Technical Direction
- Thesis Project: *Heart of Darkness*, Technical Director

Master of Arts

California State University, Los Angeles | Los Angeles, CA 2004

- Theatre Arts & Dance
- Thesis Project: *The Dead Class*, Direction, Scenic Design, Technical Direction
- Graduate Dissertation: "The Dead Class: A study of Tadeusz Kantor and Post World War II Polish Theatre"

Post Graduate Studies - Coursework Completed

University of California, Los Angeles | Los Angeles, CA

- Shakespearean Studies: School of Theatre, Film, & Television/English Department 2006
- Marketing Coursework Completed: Anderson School of Management 2012

Drama Therapy Certification - Coursework Completed

The Drama Therapy Institute of Los Angeles | Santa Monica, CA 2016 - present

- Drama Therapy for Personal Growth, Narradrama Introduction, Sociodrama and Advanced Psychodramatic Techniques

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor of Theatre

California State University, Los Angeles | Los Angeles, CA 2019 - present

- Under the direction of the Academic Department Chair, develops and manages class syllabi, ensuring that courses taught meet department and college requirements.
- Responsible for selecting and compiling tests, assignments and/or discussion exercises that permit measurement of performance relative to standardized learning objectives.
- Serves as faculty technical director for all department productions.
- Currently teaches TA-1310: Introduction to Stagecraft & Properties; TA-1301: Stagecraft & Properties Lab Support; and TA-3000: Production Participation; and TA-4990 - Undergraduate Directed Study (Welding)
- Provides thesis advisement for graduate students upon request.

Adjunct Professor of Technical Theatre

2016 - 2019

California State University, Los Angeles | Los Angeles, CA

- Under the direction of the Academic Department Chair, develops and manages class syllabi, ensuring that courses taught meet department and college requirements.
- Responsible for selecting and compiling tests, assignments and/or discussion exercises that permit measurement of performance relative to standardized learning objectives.
- Evaluates and assigns grades for students based on participation, performance in class, as well as on assignments and examinations
- Courses Taught: TA-1300: Production Participation; TA-1310: Introduction to Stagecraft & Properties; TA-1320: Introduction to Lighting & Sound; TA-1610: Drafting for the Theatre; TA-4540P: Selected Topics in Theatre - Advanced Stagecraft; TA-4990 - Undergraduate Directed Study (Welding)
- Participates as an elected Senator for the Academic Senate.

Scenic Carpenter, Overhire

2016 - present

Center Theatre Group | Los Angeles, CA

- Under the direction of the Technical Direction Staff, assists in problem solving and determining construction and engineering to facilitate the completion of all scenery, keeping in mind production deadlines, safety, and designer's desired results.
- Responsibilities include scenic carpentry, metal working, rigging, load-ins, and load-outs.

Sole Proprietor

2015 - present

Ghostlight Entertainment Design & Construction | San Dimas, CA

- Provides scenic design, construction, and technical support, including lighting, sound, rigging, and production staff to performing arts organizations throughout the Southern California region.

Performing Arts Technician III (Technical Director)

2015 - 2016

California State Polytechnic University, Pomona | Pomona, CA

- Created, constructed, and modified scenery and/or properties based on design specifications.
- Facilitated and supervised students, ensuring timely completion of scenic elements.
- Established and maintained a construction schedule for all department shows.
- Instructed students on current industry methods and safety procedures.
- Maintained scene shop tools, supplies, and inventory.
- Assisted in evaluating technical drawings for accuracy and feasibility, and generated supplemental construction drawings as necessary.

Technical Director

2014 - 2015

Long Beach Opera | Long Beach, CA

- Facilitated and supervised technical operations, including lighting, sound, as well as scenic design and construction.
- Assisted in the recruiting, training, and direction of volunteer or paid technical production staff.
- Researched venues and conducted site visits for selection of future productions.
- Managed scenic budget.

Production Manager, Technical Director, Facilities Manager

2014

A Noise Within | Pasadena, CA

- Coordinated all facets of production including the design, construction, load-in, implementation, and changeover of all theatrical elements.
- Served as liaison to artistic union representatives and ensured compliance with union contracts.
- Recruited, trained, and supervised production staff.
- Maintained master calendar.
- Reviewed designs and technical drawings for feasibility and cost.
- Established and controlled production budgets; monitored, ordered, and maintained inventory.
- Inspected facility and equipment; coordinated facility maintenance and repairs.

Theatre Operations Coordinator, Technical Director

2007 - 2013

Carlsbad Cultural Arts Center, Carlsbad Unified School District | Carlsbad, CA

- Managed all facility maintenance and operations including event coordination and production, installation and operation of technical systems, and front of house management.
- Cultivated community relations and served as the liaison for public and private vendors, contractors, faculty, and district administration.
- Developed and implemented project and facility budgets; and coordinated the collection of revenue for theatre productions and services.
- Continually integrated new marketing communications, resulting in the significant increase of revenue annually.

Marketing Director, Resident Scenic Designer

2006 - 2007

Cabaret Dinner Theatre & Metro Playhouse | Grand Junction, CO

- Designed scenic elements pertaining to theatrical productions.
- Assisted in the development and preparation of the annual preliminary budget for the Cabaret Theatre and Metro Playhouse.
- Hired and trained designated sales and marketing staff, and assigned employee duties.
- Reviewed and approved all final marketing advertisements and promotions, including the design and layout of the theatre's bi-monthly publication, "Scene Magazine."

HONORS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Scholarship for Artistic Excellence, California Institute of the Arts, 1999 - 2002

Dean's List, California Institute of the Arts, 1998 - 2002

Meritorious Achievement - KCACTF, *Uncommon Women and Others*, CSULA, Set Designer, 2004

Meritorious Achievement - KCACTF, *The American Play*, CSULA, Carpenter, 2004

Critic's Choice - LA Times, *Tartuffe*, *A Noise Within*, Technical Director, 2014

Critic's Choice - LA Times, *Come Back*, *Little Sheba*, *A Noise Within*, Technical Director, 2014

Ovation Award Nomination - Best Production of a Play (Large Play), *Come Back*, *Little Sheba*, *A Noise Within*, Technical Director, 2014

Presenter, "*From Concept to Creation: The collaborative process between technical directors and designers*," Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) - Region 8, 2019

CREATIVE & ARTISTIC ACTIVITIES

Production Manager	Tartuffe	A Noise Within	2014
Production Manager	Macbeth	A Noise Within	2014
Production Manager	Come Back, Little Sheba	A Noise Within	2014
Production Manager	The Importance of Being...	A Noise Within	2014
Production Manager	Dance of Death	A Noise Within	2014
Technical Director	Talk to Me Like the Rain...	Santa Clarita Repertory Theatre	1999
Technical Director	Easter	CalArts	2001
Technical Director	The Experimental Project	CSULA	2003
Technical Director	Thoroughly Modern Millie	Carlsbad High School	2008
Technical Director	Sweeney Todd	Carlsbad High School	2009
Technical Director	The Crucible	Carlsbad High School	2009
Technical Director	Footloose	Carlsbad High School	2010
Technical Director	Annie	North County School of the Arts	2010
Technical Director	Urinetown	Carlsbad High School	2011
Technical Director	Annie Get Your Gun	North County School of the Arts	2011
Technical Director	Les Misérables	ACT San Diego	2011
Technical Director	Oklahoma!	North County School of the Arts	2011
Technical Director	Phantom of the Opera	Carlsbad High School	2012
Technical Director	The Wizard of Oz	North County School of the Arts	2012
Technical Director	Footloose	ACT San Diego	2012
Technical Director	Oliver	North County School of the Arts	2012
Technical Director	Singin' in the Rain	Carlsbad High School	2013
Technical Director	Shrek the Musical	ACT San Diego	2013
Technical Director	Shrek the Musical	North County School of the Arts	2013

Technical Director	Light Falling Down	Oceanside Theatre Company	2013
Technical Director	Tartuffe	A Noise Within	2014
Technical Director	Macbeth	A Noise Within	2014
Technical Director	Come Back, Little Sheba	A Noise Within	2014
Technical Director	The Importance of Being...	A Noise Within	2014
Technical Director	Thérèse Raquin	Long Beach Opera	2015
Technical Director	Honk	Estancia High School	2015
Technical Director	LA Views	CalPoly Pomona	2015
Technical Director	Re/devised Fairytales	CalPoly Pomona	2015
Technical Director	Spinning Into Butter	CalPoly Pomona	2015
Technical Director	Hamlet	CalPoly Pomona	2015
Technical Director	The American Dream	CalPoly Pomona	2016
Technical Director	Avenue Q	CalPoly Pomona	2016
Technical Director	Dead Man's Cell Phone	CalPoly Pomona	2016
Technical Director	Les Liaisons Dangereuses	CalPoly Pomona	2016
Technical Director	Moving Body Practices	CalPoly Pomona	2016
Technical Director	Dutch Masters	Rogue Machine Theatre	2016
Technical Director	Holy Seductive Dance	CSULA	2017
Technical Director	Fuente Ovejuna	CSULA	2017
Technical Director	The Dead Guy	CSULA	2018
Technical Director	Hamlet	CSULA	2018
Technical Director	John Lions New Plays Festival	CSULA	2018
Technical Director	We the Invisibles	CSULA	2018
Technical Director	Antigone	CSULA	2018
Technical Director	She Kills Monsters	CSULA	2019
Technical Director	The Unseen Hand	CSULA	2019
Assist. Technical Director	What of the Night	CalArts	2000
Assist. Technical Director	Elektra	Long Beach Opera	2001
Assist. Technical Director	Fences	CalArts	2001
Technical Coordinator	Latina	CSULA	2016
Technical Coordinator	Candide	CSULA	2017
Technical Coordinator	Die Fledermaus	CSULA	2017
Technical Coordinator	Tribute, Dance Concert	LA County High School for the Arts	2018
Scenic Designer	Nun crackers	Cabaret Dinner Theatre	2006
Scenic Designer	Moon Over Buffalo	Cabaret Dinner Theatre	2006
Scenic Designer	8-Track: Sounds of the 70s	Cabaret Dinner Theatre	2006
Scenic Designer	The Nerd	Cabaret Dinner Theatre	2007
Scenic Designer	Somethings Afoot	Cabaret Dinner Theatre	2007
Scenic Designer	Honk	Estancia High School	2015
Master Carpenter	Lost in Yonkers	Oceanside Theatre Company	2014
Master Carpenter	Uncle Vanya	Pomona College	2014
Master Carpenter	The Original Show	Estancia High School	2015
Master Carpenter	Honk	Estancia High School	2015
Master Carpenter	Slight Rebellion	Estancia High School	2015
Master Carpenter	A Christmas Carol	ACT San Diego	2015
Master Carpenter	The Meshuga Nutcracker!	American Jewish University	2016
Master Carpenter	Candide	LA County High School for the Arts	2018
Master Carpenter	Once on this Island	LA County High School for the Arts	2018
Master Carpenter	The Addam's Family	Crescenta Valley High School	2019
Master Carpenter	Spring Awakening	LA County High School for the Arts	2019
Stage Technician	Benefit Concert	Luckman Fine Arts Complex	2003
Stage Technician	Sleeping Beauty Dreams	Pepperdine University	2015
	Marionetas de la Esquina		
Carpenter	Beauty and the Beast	Cabaret Dinner Theatre	2006
Carpenter	The Full Monty	Cabaret Dinner Theatre	2006
Carpenter	Chicago	Cabaret Dinner Theatre	2006
Carpenter	Footloose	Cabaret Dinner Theatre	2007
Carpenter	Rudolf Displays, Sea World	Pacific Coast Entertainment	2015
Carpenter	Dutch Masters	Rogue Machine Theatre	2016
Carpenter	Throw Me on the Burnpile...	Center Theatre Group	2016
Carpenter	Vicuña	Center Theatre Group	2016
Carpenter	Big Night	Center Theatre Group	2017
Carpenter	Spamilton	Center Theatre Group	2017

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

Member, California State University, Los Angeles Alumni Association, 2004 - present
Member, Laborers' International Union of North America Local 777, 2007 - 2013
Member, Drama Teachers Association of Southern California, 2008 - present
Member, North American Drama Therapy Association, 2016 - present
Member, United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT), 2019 - present
Member, Educational Theatre Association, 2019 - present

VOLUNTEER SERVICE & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Volunteer, CalArts Community Arts Partnership, 1998 - 2002
Volunteer Technician, Southland Theatre Artists Goodwill Events (S.T.A.G.E.), 2003
Member, Horizon Sunrise Rotary Club of Grand Junction, 2006 - 2007
Member, Rotary Club of Carlsbad, 2007 - 2008
Volunteer Installer, Walker Art Museum, Minneapolis, 2008
Coach, Drama Teachers Association of Southern California, 2008 - 2013
Adjudicator, Drama Teachers Association of Southern California, 2010 - 2012
Mentor, Actors Collaborating with Technicians, CalPoly Pomona, 2015 - 2016
Volunteer Carpenter, The Living Nativity, Horizon Christian Fellowship, 2016
Volunteer Carpenter, Stage Expansion, Sunrise Christian School, 2017
Volunteer Technical Support, Los Angeles County High School for the Arts Graduation, 2017
Technical Coordinator, Rosser Hall Building Dedication & Sign Reveal, CSULA, 2017
Technical Coordinator, Xu College Inauguration & Sign Reveal, CSULA, 2017
Volunteer Carpenter, The Living Nativity, Horizon Christian Fellowship, 2017
Volunteer Carpenter, "Annie," Sunrise Christian School, 2018
Technical Coordinator, Patricia Chin School of Nursing Building Dedication & Sign Reveal, CSULA, 2018
Volunteer Contractor, Sanctuary Renovation, Horizon Christian Fellowship, 2018
Volunteer Production Staff, Horizon Christian Fellowship, 2018
Technical Support, "12th Night," Los Angeles County High School for the Arts, 2018
Technical Support, "Rigoletto," Los Angeles County High School for the Arts, 2018
Participant/Contributor, Arts & Letters Vision Planning Meetings, CSULA, 2018
Technical Support, "The Marvel Project," Los Angeles County High School for the Arts, 2019
Senator, Theatre Arts & Dance, Academic Senate, CSULA, 2018 - 2019
Volunteer, Helping Hands, Pasadena, CA, 2019

RELATED SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS

- 15+ years in professional performing arts management and technical direction
- Advanced training and experience in carpentry, fabrication, drafting (architectural drafting & computer aided drafting), electrics, and rigging
- Knowledge and use of lighting, sound, and audio/video equipment
- Experience in coordination and scheduling of diverse programs and special events
- Experience recruiting and supervising personnel in multiple departments
- Experience creating and managing complex budgets
- Experience with union contracts; IATSE, AEA, SAG, SDC
- Proficiency in PC and Mac computers, accessories, and mainstream software
- Knowledge of basic fire safety laws, systems, and regulations
- Trained in CPR and first aid
- Basic Spanish language skills