

RANA ESFANDIARY

Assistant Professor · Department of Theatre & Dance · University of Kansas
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. (with honors) in Theatre Studies	University of Kansas	2018
MFA (with honors) in Scenography	University of Kansas	2013
BA in Playwriting	Art University of Tehran, Iran	2009

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor	University of Kansas	2019–present
Visiting Assistant Professor	University of Kansas	2017–2019

TEACHING

Graduate Courses	University of Kansas	2017–present
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- › Direct Reading in Scenography, THR 703, Spring 2021, Fall 2018
- › Theatre & Visual Culture, THR 702, Fall 2020
- › Scenography and Musical Theatre, THR 618, Spring 2020, Fall 2017
- › Scenography and Modern Scripts, THR 518, Fall 2019

Undergraduate Courses	University of Kansas	2017–present
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- › Theatre & Visual Culture, THR 302, Fall 2020
- › Scenographic Techniques, THR 116, Fall 2020
- › Approaching Design, THR 215, Fall 2019, Spring 2019, Fall 2017
- › Scenography as Cultural Narrative, THR 703, Spring 2019
- › Beginning of Costume Design, THR 703, Spring 2018

DESIGN EXPERIENCE: THEATRE

<i>UDC 2021</i>	Costume+Scenic	Dir. James Moreno	University of Kansas	2021
<i>Family Side Show</i> <small>(canceled)</small>	Scenic	Dir. Ice Haggins	Melting Pot Theatre	2021
<i>Indecent</i> <small>(Canceled)</small>	Scenic	Dir. Henry Bial	University of Kansas	2020
<i>Water by Spoon</i> <small>(Canceled)</small>	Costume	Dir. TBD	University of Kansas	2020
<i>H.M.S. Pinafore</i> <small>(Canceled)</small>	Costume	Dir. John Stephens	University of Kansas	2020
<i>Urinetown</i> <small>(Canceled)</small>	Costume	Dir. Eric Avery	University of Kansas	2020
<i>The Wolves</i>	Costume	Dir. Susan Kerner	Montclair State University	2020
<i>The Wolves</i>	Costume+Scenic	Dir. Susan Kerner	University of Kansas	2019

<i>Chasing Gods</i>	Scenic	Dir. Markus Potter	Kansas Repertory Theatre	2019
<i>Sycorax</i>	Costume	Dir. Jane Barnette	University of Kansas	2019
<i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time</i>	Scenic	Dir. Harry Parker	University of Kansas	2018
<i>The Legend of Georgia McBride</i>	Lighting	Dir. Peter Zazzali	Kansas Repertory Theatre	2018
<i>La Cage Aux Folles</i>	Lighting	Dir. Missy Koonce	Kansas Repertory Theatre	2018
<i>Mascot</i>	Projection	Dir. Peter Zazzali	LivingRoom Theatre	2018
<i>Dutchman</i>	Scenic	Dir. Nicole Hodges Persley	Melting Pot Theatre	2017
<i>Sunset Baby</i>	Lighting	Dir. Nicole Hodges Persley	Melting Pot Theatre	2017
<i>Adding Machine</i>	Projection	Dir. Mechele Leon	University of Kansas	2013
<i>The Mousetrap</i>	Lighting	Dir. Doug Weaver	Kansas Repertory Theatre	2013
<i>Summer and Smoke</i>	Scenic	Dir. Boone Hopkins	University of Kansas	2012
<i>Dog Sees God</i>	Costume+Scenic	Dir. Danny Devlin	University of Kansas	2012
<i>Noah's Art</i>	Costume	Dir. Alex Espy	University of Kansas	2011

DIRECTING

<i>Ashes to Ashes</i>			University of Kansas	2017
<i>Nathan and Tableth</i>			University of Kansas	2014

RESEARCH

Publications

- ▶ Rana Esfandiary and Et al. "ATHE 2020 Roundtable: Pedagogy and Absence. (will be published in March 2021 Issue of *Theatre Topics*).
- ▶ Upcoming: Rana Esfandiary, "Queering the Iranian Stage: Ali Akbar Alizad's remix of Jean Genet's *The Maids* with Reza Abdoh's profanity of dissidence." (will be published in *Diva: Hip-hop, Feminism and Fierceness*).
- ▶ Rana Esfandiary and Mark Reaney, "An Experiment with Digital Lighting in Adding Machine: A Musical," USITT, TD&T, Fall 2014 (Vol. 50 No. 4).

Presentation

- ▶ Presenter at Rebels and Revels, A Virtual Symposium on the Theatre of the Middle East, held by University of Maryland in collaboration with Reconnect Reconnect Festival. Paper titled, *The (In)convenience of Exoticism*, April 8, 2021.
- ▶ Presenter at Roundtable titled, *Resilient Rehearsal Rooms: Feminist Directors Driving Pedagogical Change*, Black Theatre Association, Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE), Virtual Conference, 2020.
- ▶ Session Coordinator, *Pedagogy and Absence*, Middle Eastern Theatre Focus Group, Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE), Virtual Conference, 2020.
- ▶ *Bewildered They Stood, Like an Empty Oath, Like a Solemn Kurd: Mountain Language and its Plea for Justice*, Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE), Orlando, 2019.
- ▶ *She's Red & Black, Circling Round, I Jumped So Hard, I Died, There, She Was*, Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE), Boston, 2018.

» *Monologues of Resistance*, Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE), Las Vegas, 2017.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- » Commendation Award for Achievement in Costume Design for the production of *Sycorax*, The Kennedy Center of American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF), 2020.
- » Commendation Award for Achievement in Scenic Design for the production of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, The Kennedy Center of American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF), 2019.
- » Kuhlke Humanitarian Award, University of Kansas, 2018.
- » Joseph R. Roach Dissertation Research Award, University of Kansas, 2016–2017.
- » Diversity Leadership Award, Group Category, Interactive Theatre Troupe, University of Kansas, 2016.
- » New Theatre Guild Scholarship, University of Kansas, 2015–2016.
- » Robin J. Huggins Scholarship, University of Kansas, 2012–2011.

SERVICE

National/international

- » Conference Planner, Middle Eastern Theatre Focus Group, Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE), 2019-2021.
- » Founding Member, Middle Eastern Theatre Focus Group, Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE), 2018.

University of Kansas

- » Justice, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, Department of Theatre & Dance, 2020-2021
- » Faculty Senate, University of Kansas, 2020-2023.
- » College Academic Council, University of Kansas, 2020–2023.
- » Literary Management Committee, Department of Theatre & Dance, 2020.
- » Theatre Festival Committee, Department of Theatre & Dance, 2020.
- » Dance Hiring Committee, Department of Theatre & Dance, 2020.
- » Faculty Script Club, Department of Theatre & Dance, 2019.
- » KU Representative for *USITT* Theatre Conference, 2019.
- » Scholarship Committee, Department of Theatre & Dance, 2019–2021.
- » KU Representative for *Kansas Thespian Festival*, 2018.
- » University Theatre Committee, 2016–present.

COMPUTER SKILLS

Proficient in: Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), Corel Painter, Cinema 4D, Vectorworks, Adobe Package (Photoshop, Premier, After Effect, Audition), L^AT_EX.

National/international

- ▶ *The Lawrence Times*, "Catch a sneak peek of KU Dance Company's online spring concert, streaming this weekend," by Mackenzie Clark, April 9, 2021. Featuring "Cubic," a work by James Moreno, scenic and costume design by Rana Esfandiary.

- ▶ Interview with *Lawrence Business Magazine*: "Behind the scene, technical theatre professional are the ones who brings the entire production to life," by Emily Mulligan, 2019-Q2.

- ▶ *The Pitch*, "a new play at KU's Kansas Rep reaches across the aisle," by Deborah Hirsch, July 16, 2019.

- ▶ Live Radio Interview with *KLWN: Lawrence Business Magazine*, hosted by Steven Hertzog, 2019.