

# Tamara Marie Kucheran

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Set & Costume Designer | Artist Educator | Mentor

## Education

**University of Victoria** | 1997

- Bachelor of Fine Arts (Theatre) with Distinction

**The National Theatre School of Canada** | 2000

- Three-year professional program
- Certificate of Scenography

**The Royal Conservatory** | 2011

- Artist-Educator Foundations Certificate

## Theatre Design Experience

**Set and Costume Designer** | 1995-Present

Please see Professional Design Resumé

## Academic Appointments

**University of Winnipeg – Department of Theatre and Film** | 2020-21

**Sessional Instructor**

THFM-2406-050 / HIST-2192-050: History of Fashion and Dress

An introduction to the history of fashion and dress in western European culture from ancient civilizations to the 21st Century.

**The National Theatre School of Canada** | 2020, 2021

**Teaching Artist, Mentor**

Costume Design 1: Period Costume Design Project

**Off the Wall Stratford Artists Alliance** | 2014, 2016-19

**Artist Instructor, Costume Design**

Week long Introductory Costume Design Intensive: "What is Costume?"

Subjects: Elements and Principles of Design, Script Analysis, Research and Organization, Character Concept, Communication (Director and Designer meetings), Costume Rendering and Presentation techniques, Fabric Choice, Working with the Cutter/Shops, Incorporating Stock Costumes, Professional Practices (in rehearsal and the fitting room).

**University of Victoria – Theatre Department** | 2015

**Sessional Instructor**

THEA 361: Costume Design II

The further study and development of the art, craft and practice needed in the design of costumes.

THEA 363: History of Fashion and Body Modification II

A survey of costume and fashion in the 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Historical analysis and a detailed study of how clothing/costume signals and defines culture.

THEA 365: Assisting the Costume Designer. Overseeing and evaluating students performance assisting the costume designer of a major production.

THEA 397: Directed Studies in Costume Design

### **Stratford Festival of Canada**

**| 2011-2013**

#### **Artist Instructor, Guest Lecturer**

Day workshops offered by the Stratford Festival of Canada Education Department for Specialized High Skills Majors (grades 11 and 12 - as designated by the Ontario Ministry of Education).

Subjects include: "From the Page to the Stage" - The Design Process, Design and Scale - How the elements and principles of design differ from stage to stage and from screen to stage, Costume Design and the Art of Stage Makeup.

### **Michigan State University – Theatre Department**

**| 2009, 2011, 2013**

#### **Visiting Artist in Residence, Guest Lecturer**

Week long Master Classes sponsored by the Stratford Festival of Canada: Character Analysis Workshop, Costume Rendering, Interpreting Historic Research for the Theatre (using primary resources), Scenic Painting Workshop - *Working with the Designer*, Student Portfolio Reviews (BFA and MFA)

### **Stratford Chefs School**

**| 2007-2014**

**Instructor, Course Facilitator.** Restaurant Design - A Level 2 second semester course dedicated to the learning of design principles and styles and how they relate to the restaurant industry; preparing entrepreneurial chefs to open their own restaurant businesses. Subjects include: Interior Design, Elements and Principles of Design, Colour Theory, Texture, Understanding Scale, How to Read and Understand a Ground Plan and Architectural Drawings, Lighting, Music, Graphics, Professional Clothing / Uniforms - Style and Function, Understanding Your Consumer.

**Assistant Instructor:** Gastronomy – A Level 1 two-semester class dedicated to giving the student chef a wider understanding of modern cookery by studying the major developments in cooking throughout history. Responsibilities included: reviewing group projects and offering advice prior to presentations, marking group presentations, attending lectures and offering insight to the different time periods from a design (architecture, textiles, furniture, dishware, etc) and sociological perspective

**Guest Artist Instructor:** "Shoe Box Project" – A workshop designed to teach first year Chef School students fundamental design principles in preparation for their restaurant design project in second year.

### **University of Victoria – Theatre Department**

**| 2004-2005**

**Sessional Instructor:** THEA 261: Introduction to Costume Design; THEA 361: Costume Design.

The study and development of the art, craft and practice needed in the design of costumes.

**Sessional Instructor.** THEA 362: Costume History I; THEA 363: Costume History II.

A survey of costume and fashion from ancient civilizations to the 20th Century. Historical analysis and a detailed study of how clothing/costume signals and defines culture.

**Guest Lecturer.** 2005 Orion Lecturer in Fine Arts – University of Victoria – *The Suspension of Disbelief*

## **Governance Experience**

### **Off the Wall Stratford Artists Alliance**

**| 2013-2017**

#### **Member of the Board of Directors, Chair of the Education Committee.**

Volunteer position. OTW is a theatre production arts training organization and registered charity working tirelessly to ensure community engagement in the arts. The organization is run by a volunteer working Board. Responsibilities while on the Board included curriculum building and education program

management, program promotion, governance review and policy creation, website content, promotional video content, instructor contracts, fundraising. [www.stratfordoffthewall.com](http://www.stratfordoffthewall.com)

## **Skills**

- Lesson planning and course delivery
- Academic and applied research
- Public speaking
- Active Listening
- Critical Thinking
- Constructive Criticism
- Budget management
- Archive management
- Outstanding team work and committee work skills
- Excellent organizational and problem-solving skills
- Interpersonal communication skills
- Proficiency with Microsoft Word, Microsoft Office Excel, PowerPoint
- Drawing, Drafting, Model Building
- Community outreach and partnership building
- Event planning and management
- Marketing strategy and tactics
- Managing and creating content for social media accounts (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter)
- Writing skills for various audiences
- Sponsorship and fundraising