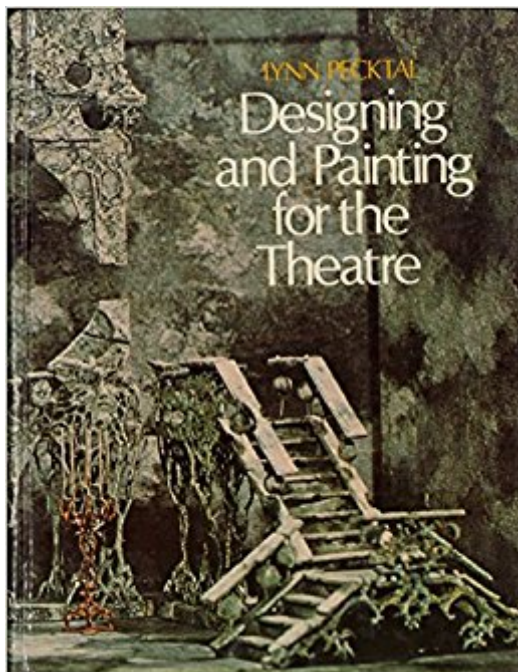


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# Designing And Painting For The Theatre



## Synopsis

Classic textbook on scene design for the theater.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 416 pages

Publisher: Holt, Rinehart and Winston; 3rd Printing edition (September 1975)

Language: English

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

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## Customer Reviews

Classic textbook on scene design for the theater.

A gift to my son.....who thought it was excellent and will be a great asset when he continues to build sets for his daughters ballet shows.

I found enough in this book to be very helpful with the sets I design and paint. Some things never become obsolete, especially in small community theater!

A book I can't do without!!

This classic design book was used, as stated by the vendor, arrived in reasonable time, no complaints

Various other reviewers have commented on the fact that this text was originally published in 1975, and that as such it is less useful than newer texts. I would humbly take issue with such sentiments. First, if the potential reader is involved with 1) community theatre production, 2) high school productions, 3) 'storefront' theatre many (most) of these producing organizations are faced

with budgets that require an inventiveness that can well be supplemented by access to 'old tech methods'. Second, based on a variety of freelance experiences, having 'old school tricks' in your skill set can often make the difference between success and failure. Having read and re-read this text, I would recommend it for any technician/designer's basic bookshelf, along with this text as well: Stage Scenery Its Construction Rigging

Perhaps dated, yes - even twenty years ago, but as a scene painter at that time and for over fifteen years I used this book as a primary resource for a lot of the detailed techniques and guidelines it contains, in order to produce wood-grain, marble, turtle-shell and other scenic and painterly effects.

Unfortunately, this book was first published over twenty years ago; while some of the basic design/painting principles remain standard today, many of the ones detailed in the book are dated. However, it is a good resource for general interest/study of theatrical design and scenic painting, and the set sketches/photos are very diverse. Pecktall's better books are "Designing and Drawing for the Theatre," which is mostly concerned with the design process from start to finish (and skips on all the scene painting techniques), and "Costume Design," which provides interviews with the greatest theatrical designers of modern times.

This book is used for my Scene painting class and my Scene Design I and II class. It is a little bit outdated, but has lots of useful information that could be updated with today's technology and techniques. I especially like the interview with the designers between each chapter.

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