# TRACY GRANT LORD DESIGNER

Summary of recent work at January 2013

Tracy Grant Lord is a leading stage designer of theatre, opera and ballet. She has worked as a freelance designer with the major performance companies throughout Australasia including Opera Australia, The Australian Ballet, Singapore Dance Theatre, the Sydney Theatre Company, the Melbourne Theatre Company, the Auckland Theatre Company and The Royal New Zealand Ballet.

Tracy is a Winston Churchill Fellow, has a Bachelor of Spatial Design from Auckland University of Technology and her work has been chosen to represent performance design in New Zealand, at the Prague Quadrennial (Czech Republic) in 1991, 1995, 1999, 2003, 2007, 2009 and 2011. She was also selected to present her work at the World Stage Design exhibition in Toronto (Canada) in 2005. Highlights of her work include the acclaimed Royal New Zealand Ballet's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary production of ROMEO AND JULIET premiering at Sadlers Wells in London in 2004 and then receiving an Olivier Award nomination for Best New Dance Production in the UK. Tracy has also received two Helpmann Award Nominations for the STC production of IN THE NEXT ROOM (2011) and the MTC production of THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST (2012).

Recent projects have included the set and costume design for Sydney Theatre Company's SEX WITH STRANGERS (2012) and QUEEN LEAR and HIS GIRL FRIDAY (2012) both for Melbourne Theatre Company. Tracy is currently working on the set and costume design for TRUE MINDS (MTC 2013) and the costume design for Queensland Ballet's new production of CINDERELLA (2013).

'When renowned theatrical designer Kristian Frederickson died in 2005, it seemed that an era of magnificent sets and costumes for the Royal New Zealand Ballet had come to an end. Not so. The mantel has been passed to another Kiwi designer, Tracy Grant Lord. Five major commissions with the ballet have already received critical acclaim, and her extraordinary work in the sell-out Cinderella, a new work by Christopher Hampson, secures her place right up with Frederickson.'

Excerpt from 'Dressed to Thrill' by Francesca Horsley Listener (NZ)



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#### RECENT WORK

Sex with Strangers

His Girl Friday

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The Sleeping Beauty

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Romeo and Juliet

Electric

Ihi FreNZy and The Wedding

The Glass Soldier and High Society

**CURRICULUM VITAE** 

Point of Contact:

Pamela Wright Artist Management 18A Pickens Cres, Mt Albert Auckland 1025, New Zealand T:+64 (0)9 849 4746 M:+64 (0)21 644 746 E:pampwam@ihug.co.nz







**SEX WITH STRANGERS** – Laura Eason *dir. Jocelyn Moorehouse* Sydney Theatre Company *Wharf 1 Sydney* 



















**HIS GIRL FRIDAY** – John Guare *dir. Aidan Fennessey* Melbourne Theatre Company *Playhouse, Arts centre, Melbourne* 









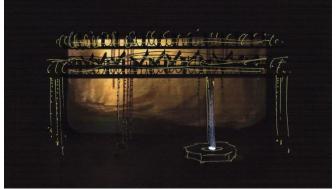












**QUEEN LEAR** – William Shakespeare *dir. Rachel McDonald* Melbourne Theatre Company *Sumner Theatre, Melbourne* 





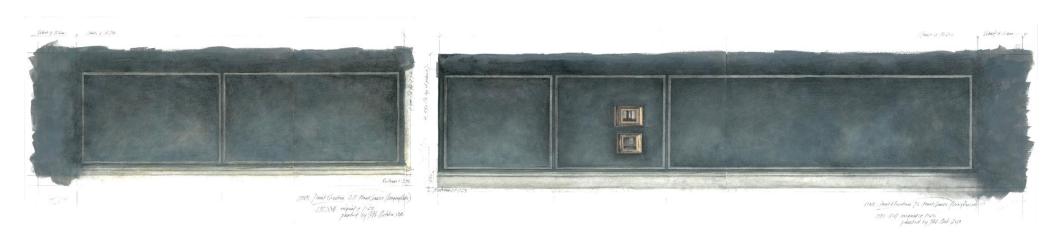


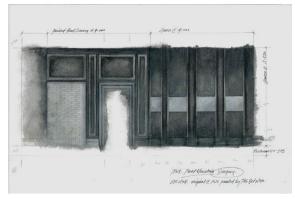


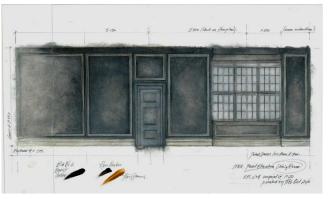




# IN THE NEXT ROOM — Sarah Ruhl dir. Pamela Rabe Sydney Theatre Company Drama Theatre, SOH Sydney and Tour 2011 Helpmann Award Nomination (Australia) 2011 Best Costume Design Nomination SYDNEY THEATRE AWARDS 2011 Best Theatre Design Nomination MELBOURNE GREEN ROOM AWARDS 2011







#### WHAT THE REVIEWERS SAID:

"Set and costumes (Tracy Grant Lord) are lavish in their attention to period detail. Givings's buzzing machines - heavy on ornate brass and iron - are worthy of the Victoria and Albert Museum...this is theatre of exceptional quality and broad appeal."

The Sydney Morning Herald

"Set in the 1880s, when electricity was still a daring novelty, the play takes place in the fashionably overblown living room and adjoining austere operating theatre of the Givings household (a beautifully thought-out and rendered design by Tracy Grant Lord, with lighting by Hartley TA Kemp)... ... The cast is superb ... ... Marvellous, thoughtful entertainment."

The Australian

"9/10 ...a sumptuously entertaining night in the theatre. Highly recommended."

The Sun Herald













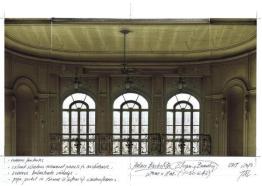


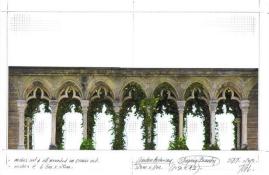


THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST – Oscar Wilde dir. Simon Phillips

Melbourne Theatre Company Sumner Theatre, Melbourne 2011 (Costume Realisation after Tony Tripp) Helpmann Award Nomination (Australia) 2012





























**LE SUD** – Dave Armstrong *dir. Raymond Hawthorne* Auckland Theatre Company *Maidment Theatre, Auckland 2010* 







THE CRUCIBLE — Arthur Miller dir. Colin McColl
Auckland Theatre Company Maidment Theatre, Auckland 2007
Best Set Designer in Metro magazine's 2007 Best of Auckland
Best Local Production, Auckland in the Listener's Best of 2007











#### WHAT THE REVIEWERS SAID:

"Arthur Miller's The Crucible always struck me as a rather unwieldy drama of ideas. Watching Colin McColl's thrilling and deeply emotional production, I'm now convinced of its greatness.... this closed religious community evokes a myriad of eras. The girls are in white plastic raincoats, black tights and tramping sandals; the judges in dark suits; the villagers an amorphous mix of puritan bonnets and contemporary Brethren attire; the jailers like rednecks from the South. And Tracy Grant Lord's set — an abstract framework of a puritan dwelling, with a giant pin stabbed through its centre like the one in Mary Warren's voodoo poppet, while macrocarpa float above it — provides a potent symbol of a grey, sterile society shutting out nature....

All the design elements enhance this intelligent production... Just as pertinent as when it was written, this is a Crucible for our times. "

Natasha Hay New Zealand Listener

"Best set designer. Tracy Grant Lord for The Crucible. Lord created an oppressive, threatening world with ingenious angles and lighting on a seemingly simple set that grew in complexity with the play. Dangling trees became gallows and a slanted support post transformed into an awry crucifix. A spot-on rendering of the psychological through the physical."

Metrolive Best of 2007

"Auckland Theatre Company's production of Arthur Miller's most popular play lands the elusive double of emotionally gripping entertainment combined with meaningful intellectual stimulation." (The Crucible)

Paul Simei-Barton New Zealand Herald





LA SONNAMBULA – Bellini dir. Rachel McDonald (Pitch for Opera Conference 2010) Opera Australia



































CINDERELLA Prokofiev *chor. Christopher Hampson*Royal New Zealand Ballet National Tour 2007 China Tour 2009 NZ Tour 2012
Best Production (Ballet category for Dance) in the New Zealand *Listener's* Best of 2007













#### WHAT THE REVIEWERS HAVE SAID:

"A masterpiece... it combines the quintessential elements of expressive story-telling, lovely choreography and stunning sets... Tracy Grant Lord's set and Nick Schlieper's lighting are outstanding." (Cinderella)

Francesca Horsley New Zealand Listener

"... designer Tracy Grant Lord's costumes and sets are classy and masterful constructions. The lighting by the renowned Nick Schlieper would have graced a Vermeer painting and added both piquancy and poignancy to the production. His magical beams are worth the price of a ticket alone."

Martin van Beyen Christchurch Press

"... and a shared triumph of talents. The design of lighting (Nick Schlieper) and of stage sets and costumes (Tracy Grant Lord) are phenomenal. The moving about of huge sections of set, timed to the score, evoking the transformations of renaissance theatre, are breathtakingly beautiful."

Jennifer Shennan Dominion Post

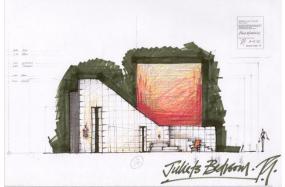
"The star of this Royal New Zealand Ballet Production of Cinderella is the design by Tracy Lord Grant. The chosen palette of each scene, the cut and style of the costumes and their relationship to the choreography and characters are all exquisitely wrought by this artist. Compliments must go to the people who have realized the scenography, particularly the stunning rose tree which grows in silhouette on the cyclorama in various scenes drawing audible gasps from the audience. "

Lynn Pringle Theatreview

"The Royal New Zealand Ballet production of Cinderella attracted 44,000 people, making it the company's most successful production ever."

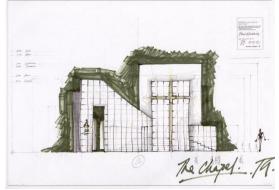
Francesca Horsley New Zealand Listener (NZ)













ROMEO AND JULIET Prokofiev *chor. Christopher Hampson*Royal New Zealand Ballet National Tour 2001/2008 UK Tour 2003
Olivier Award Nomination for Best New Dance Production in the UK in 2005











#### WHAT THE REVIEWERS HAVE SAID:

"A ROMEO AND JULIET TO DIE FOR... If this were the only R&J I ever saw, I'd die happy."

Jenny Gilbert The Independent on Sunday (UK)

#### "'BALLET'S BIRTHDAY SHOW A STUNNER'

This stunning production, commissioned for the Royal New Zealand Ballet in celebration of its 50th birthday is choreographed by British dance's young man-of-the moment, Christopher Hampson. Hampson has created a tightly woven ballet with robust fight sequences. The double wedding device in act two is most inventive, and the dancers' entrance down the staircase at the ball is marvellous. He is aided by the outstanding collaboration between lighting designer, John Rayment, and set and costume designer, Tracy Grant. Rayment's shadowy, mysterious lighting and Grant's sparse, sophisticated set are successful on all levels - functionally, artistically and symbolically." (Romeo and Juliet)

Ann Hunt Sunday Star-Times

"English choreographer Christopher Hampson, commissioned to revitalise Romeo and Juliet in celebration of the Royal New Zealand Ballet's 50th birthday, brings his famed fusion of classical and contemporary vocabularies to the work. And the ballet company proves once more it is fresh, lively and world class. In Tracy Grant's decoratively finished but simple mixed-era mode costumes, on her splendid stepped and smooth-tiled mobile sets (overhung at night by a lower quadrant of a huge pizza-pie moon), with excellent lighting by John Rayment, Hampson's dancers float on the music as if it were their life force and fate."

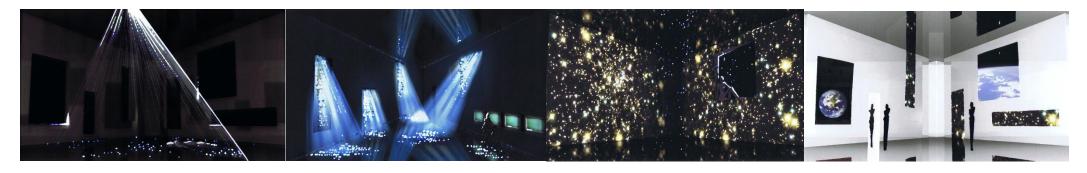
John Smythe National Business Review



# 1. LOVE (Ecstacy)



2. DANCE (Ketomine)



3. MATHS (LSD)

# **ELECTRIC** – Warwick Blair dir. Sara Brodie

Divided into eight musical themes Electric, the opera, follows a man's moral collapse and redemption.

Based on the book 'Electric' by Chad Taylor.

(Pitch for Festival – NZ and Australia 2010) YMB Ltd



4. JAZZ (Cocaine) 5. SEX (Amphetomine) 6. DRUGS (Morphine)





7. DEATH (Alcohol) 8. TRUTH (Sleep)

#### **ELECTRIC DESIGN BRIEF** from Warwick Blair (Composer) to Design Team:

"... It's got to be modern, we can define what that is, but essentially it is not a traditional work and in a way quite revolutionary. It is about beauty/poetry and universal truths and the music, this is where we should start, not from the angle of 'narrative' sense. It's an emotional journey not a story. Daily existence contains a chatter of narrative... the 'themes' obliterate narrative so that we become 'in the moment'... the concept of 'electric' is transcendence, so there should be no narrative sense ... Make it simple... communicate through very simple images some very complex ideas.

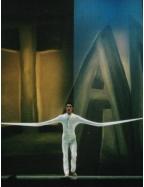
We do need to work on an overall shape, but there is no literal meaning as such, although it is 'meaningful'. It should be minimal and simple just as the music is, just as the 'themes' are. It might be more helpful to think of it more in terms of dance. We are describing spaces. The shape of the work will be determined by the placement of the 8 thematic 'blocks'. These blocks can be sculpted or edited by the design team working together on the material.

The relevance of place and time ... is actually not that relevant as this is a global work that talks about universality and should be more free floating. It could almost be a series of tableaus, but those places and time could be 'alluded' to, let's celebrate things not being immediately obvious.... In a funny way it is not actually about 'electric' the novel at all, but 'electric' the spiritual energy, where people are attempting to escape/transcend their mundane existence. We don't need to find a story or a 'way in', just stick to the 'themes'. As was mentioned in 'electric' meeting no 1, maybe the 'libretto' could be based on a selection of visual interpretations of the universal 'themes' too. The novel functions as a kind of attention point around which our theatre can revolve, without necessarily becoming the primary subject. This freedom will give our work an extension and richness.

It all comes back to the 8 truths, that in itself will shape the work, we don't need overt association with the different characters, the book only acts as a guide/map.

Robert Wilson says... "what should I do next?" Answer... "what is the wrong thing to do/what should I not do... then do that"... So let the 'electric' team have the confidence to create a new stunning NZ work and put it out to the 'world'.









**ihi FreNZy** — Split Enz *chor. Mark Baldwin*Royal New Zealand Ballet National Tour 2001 New Zealand

"In Frenzy (music by Split Enz) choreographer Mark Baldwin has caught the effervescent, off-beat humour aligned to that "bottom-of-the world" feeling which is peculiar to Split Enz and Aotearoa. His fleet-footed, quirky dances are beautifully enhanced by Tracy Grant's sophisticated design and the evocative; misty lighting by the masterly John Rayment. Both hint at memory and innocence lost, or perhaps misplaced."

Anne Hunt Sunday Star Times



**THE WEDDING** Farr *chor. Mark Baldwin*Royal New Zealand Ballet National Tour 2006 New Zealand

#### WHAT THE REVIEWERS HAVE SAID:

"BIG BOUQUET FOR WEDDING OF THE SEASON... Brave new work marries classical and modern in flamboyant fashion. The Wedding is a winner... how could it not be with all that creative nous behind it... It is sumptuously set and dressed by designer Tracy Grant... Grant's set is simple but gorgeously sophisticated... The opening night performance received a genuine standing ovation... It augers well for the future of this big, bold commission by a brave and daring RNZB."

Bernadette Rae New Zealand Herald

#### "A HAPPY MARRIAGE OF TALENTS BRINGS TRUE KIWI TALE TO LIFE.

From the opening bars of Gareth Farr's magical score to the final nuptial tableaux, this production from the Royal New Zealand Ballet is a stunning success... Among a star studded production team of wedding planners, who should get top billing? Choreographer Mark Baldwin, writer Witi Ihimaera, composer Farr, designer Tracy Grant and lighting designer John Rayment all deserve equal credit for their contribution to this metaphorical tale which is at times funny, sensuous, inventive, beautiful and exciting... .. This wedding is a match made in heaven."

Marianne Shultz Sunday Star Times













THE GLASS SOLDIER – Hannie Rayson dir. Simon Phillips Melbourne Theatre Company 2007 Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne (Costume only)



**HIGH SOCIETY** – adaptation by Carolyn Burns dir. Raymond Hawthorne Auckland Theatre Company 2005 Skycity Theatre, Auckland

#### WHAT THE REVIEWERS HAVE SAID:

"For its final show of the year Auckland Theatre company has pulled out all the stops for an evening of inspired singing and acting with its version of High Society... It is a stylish production with sets and costumes designed by Tracy Grant worthy of grand opera."

John Daly-Peoples The National Business Review

"High Society is a big bold night out.... .. and set and costumes by Tracy Grant that redefine lush."

Gilbert Wong Sunday Star Times

#### **CURRICULUM VITAE**

**DRAMA PRODUCTIONS** (NB \* denotes set and costume design otherwise costume or as stated)

2012 \*QUEEN LEAR - William Shakespeare dir. Rachel MacDonald Melbourne Theatre Company, Sumner Theatre, Melbourne

\*HIS GIRL FRIDAY – John Guare dir. Aidan Fennessey

Melbourne Theatre Company, Playhouse, The Arts Centre, Melbourne

\*SEX WITH STRANGERS - Laura Eason dir .Jocelyn Moorehouse

Sydney Theatre Co, Wharf 1, Sydney

2011 THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST (Costume Realiser after Tony Tripp) – Oscar Wilde dir Simon Phillips

Melbourne Theatre Company, Sumner Theatre, Melbourne

Best Costume Design Nomination HELPMANN AWARDS 2012 (Australia)

\*IN THE NEXT ROOM – Sarah Ruhl dir. Pamela Rabe Sydney Theatre Co Drama Theatre, Sydney Opera House

Best Costume Design Nomination HELPMANN AWARDS 2011 (Australia)
Best Costume Design Nomination SYDNEY THEATRE AWARDS 2011 (Australia)

Best Theatre Design Nomination MELBOURNE GREEN ROOM AWARDS 2011 (Australia)

POOR BOY (Set Design) – Matt Cameron and Tim Finn dir. Raymond Hawthorne

Auckland Theatre Company Maidment Theatre, Auckland

2010 \*LE SUD – Dave Armstrong dir. Raymond Hawthorne

Auckland Theatre Company Maidment Theatre, Auckland

2009 \*FOUR FLAT WHITES IN ITALY - Roger Hall dir. Janice Finn

Auckland Theatre Company Maidment Theatre, Auckland and National Tour

2008 ROCK'N'ROLL - Tom Stoppard dir. Simon Phillips

Melbourne Theatre Company, The Arts Centre, Melbourne

Sydney Theatre Company Sydney Theatre, Sydney

\*FEMALE OF THE SPECIES - Joanna Murray-Smith dir. Colin McColl

Auckland Theatre Company Maidment Theatre, Auckland

2007 \*THE CRUCIBLE – Arthur Miller dir. Colin McColl

Auckland Theatre Company Maidment Theatre, Auckland
Best Set Designer in Metro magazine's 2007 Best of Auckland
Best Local Production, Auckland in the Listener's Best of 2007

2007 THE GLASS SOLDIER – Hannie Rayson dir. Simon Phillips

Melbourne Theatre Company Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne

2005 \*HIGH SOCIETY – adaptation by Carolyn Burns dir. Raymond Hawthorne

Auckland Theatre Company Skycity Theatre, Auckland

2005 THE MISER – Molière dir. Jean-Pierre Mignon

Sydney Theatre Company *Drama Theatre, Sydney Opera House* 

DRAIVIA PRODUCTIO	NS continued (NB denotes set and costaine design otherwise costaine of
2004	LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES – Christopher Hampton <i>dir. Simon Phillips</i> Melbourne Theatre Company <i>Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne</i>
2003	THE BLUE ROOM – David Hare <i>dir. Simon Phillips</i> Melbourne Theatre Company <i>Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne</i>
	INHERITANCE – Hannie Rayson dir. Simon Phillips Melbourne Theatre Company Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne Sydney Theatre Company Sydney Theatre, Sydney Best Play, HELPMANN AWARDS 2004 (Australia)
	*THE GRADUATE – Terry Johnson <i>dir. Simon Prast</i> Auckland Theatre Company <i>Maidment Theatre, Auckland</i>
2002	*TRAVESTIES – Tom Stoppard <i>dir. Raymond Hawthorne</i> Auckland Theatre Company <i>Maidment Theatre, Auckland</i>
	*TAKE A CHANCE ON ME – Roger Hall <i>dir. Janice Finn</i> Auckland Theatre Company <i>Bruce Mason Centre, Auckland</i>
2001	*TAKE A CHANCE ON ME – Roger Hall <i>dir. Janice Finn</i> Auckland Theatre Company <i>Maidment Theatre, Auckland</i>
2001	*A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE – Tennessee Williams dir. Simon Prast Auckland Theatre Company Maidment Theatre, Auckland
2000	*THE JUDAS KISS – David Hare <i>dir. Simon Prast</i> Auckland Theatre Company <i>Maidment Theatre, Auckland</i>
	*WIT – Margaret Edson <i>dir. Simon Prast</i> Auckland Theatre Company <i>Maidment Theatre, Auckland</i>
	MEASURE FOR MEASURE – William Shakespeare dir. Simon Phillips Melbourne Theatre Company Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne
	*COLLECTED STORIES – Donald Margulies dir. Miranda Harcourt Auckland Theatre Company Herald Theatre, Auckland
1999	*LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES – Christopher Hampton Unitec School of Performing Arts Graduation Production
1998	*VITA AND VIRGINIA - Eileen Aitkins dir. Sarah Peirse Auckland Theatre Company Maidment Theatre, Auckland
	*THE HERBAL BED - Peter Whelan <i>dir. Raymond Hawthorne</i> Auckland Theatre Company <i>Maidment Theatre, Auckland</i>
	THE HERBAL BED - Peter Whelan dir. Simon Phillips Melbourne Theatre Company Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne

**DRAMA PRODUCTIONS continued** (NB \* denotes set and costume design otherwise costume or as stated)

#### **DRAMA PRODUCTIONS continued** (NB \* denotes set and costume design otherwise costume or as stated)

1997 \*MASTERCLASS - Terence McNally dir. Sarah Peirse
Auckland Theatre Company Herald Theatre, Auckland

\*ARCADIA - Tom Stoppard dir. Simon Phillips

Auckland Theatre Company Maidment Theatre, Auckland

1995 \*DANCING AT LUGHNASA - Brian Friel dir. Sarah Peirse

Auckland Theatre Company Herald Theatre, Auckland

ARCADIA - Tom Stoppard dir. Simon Phillips

Melbourne Theatre Company Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne

1994 HYSTERIA - Terry Johnson dir. Simon Phillips

Melbourne Theatre Company Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne

\*BY DEGREES - Roger Hall dir. Alison Quigan

Auckland Theatre Company Herald Theatre, Auckland

1993 \*THINK OF A GARDEN - John Knubuhl dir. Nathanial Lees

July Productions Watershed Theatre, Auckland

#### All following drama productions at Mercury Theatre Auckland

1991 \*LADIES NIGHT - Sinclair/ McCarten dir. Paul Minifie 1990 CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF - Williams dir. Jan Prettejohns \*HAMLET- Shakespeare dir. Raymond Hawthorne

1988 \*LADIES NIGHT - Sinclair/ McCarten dir. David Coddington (World Premiere)

1987 \*ROMEO AND JULIET - Shakespeare dir. Paul Minifie

\*SQUATTER - Stuart Hoare dir. Sarah Peirse (World Premiere)

1986 \*THE NORMAL HEART - Larry Kramer

1985 \*CAMILLE - Pam Gems

1984

\*THE WIDOWING OF MRS HOLROYD - DH Lawrence

\*WILD HONEY- Anton Chekhov \*HAYFEVER - Noel Coward \*LOVING WOMEN -Pam Gems

\*SUMMIT CONFERENCE - R McDonald

\*SUMMER - Edward Bond

\*NIGHT MOTHER - Marsha Norman

#### **BALLET PRODUCTIONS** (NB \* denotes set and costume design otherwise costume only)

2012 \*THE SLEEPING BEAUTY

(return season) Singapore Dance Theatre

\*CINDERELLA chor. Christopher Hampson (NZ Tour return season) Royal New Zealand Ballet

2010 \*THE SLEEPING BEAUTY

Singapore Dance Theatre

\*ROMEO AND JULIET chor. Christopher Hampson (Australian Tour) Royal New Zealand Ballet

2009 \*CINDERELLA chor. Christopher Hampson

(China Tour) Royal New Zealand Ballet

<b>BALLET PRODUCTIONS continued</b>	(NR	* denotes sei	t and costume	desian i	otherwise	costume or	ı/v)

2008 \*ABHISHEKA chor. Adrian Burnett

(return season) Royal New Zealand Ballet

\*ROMEO AND JULIET chor. Christopher Hampson

(return season) Royal New Zealand Ballet

2007 \*CINDERELLA chor. Christopher Hampson

Royal New Zealand Ballet

Best Production (Ballet category for Dance) in the New Zealand Listener's Best of 2007.

2006 \*THE WEDDING chor. Mark Baldwin

Royal New Zealand Ballet

2005 \*RELIC chor. Adrian Burnett

Australian Ballet

2004 \*ABHISHEKA chor. Adrian Burnett

Royal New Zealand Ballet

2003 \*ROMEO AND JULIET chor. Christopher Hampson

Royal New Zealand Ballet

2001 \*ihi FreNZy – Split Enz chor. Mark Baldwin

Royal New Zealand Ballet National Tour New Zealand

#### **OPERA PRODUCTIONS** (NB \* denotes set and costume design otherwise costume only)

2010 ELECTRIC – Warwick Blair *dir. Sara Brodie* 

(Pitch for Festival) YMB Ltd

2009 \*LA SONNAMBULA – Bellini dir. Rachel McDonald

(Pitch for Opera Conference) Opera Australia

2000 \*DIE FLEDERMAUS – Johann Strauss dir. Jonathan Hardy

NBR NZ Opera St James, Wellington and Aotea Centre, Auckland

1999 \*LA TRAVIATA - Verdi dir. Raymond Hawthorne

Geneve Productions (Alan Smythe Special Events) North Shore Events Stadium, Auckland

1998 \*CARMEN - Bizet dir. Raymond Hawthorne with Sally Burgess

Geneve Productions (Alan Smythe Special Events) North Shore Events Stadium, Auckland

1997 IL TROVATORE - Verdi *dir. Jonathan Alver* 

Opera New Zealand Aotea Centre, Auckland

1996 DON GIOVANNI - Mozart dir. Simon Phillips with Dame Kiri Te Kanawa

IMG/ Opera New Zealand Aotea Centre, Auckland and Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne

1995 - 1997 FALSTAFF - Verdi dir. Simon Phillips

Opera Australia Adelaide, Perth, Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane

#### **OPERA PRODUCTIONS** (NB \* denotes set and costume design otherwise costume only)

\*THE PEARLFISHERS - Bizet dir. Robert Chuter
Victoria State Opera Touring Production

THE MAGIC FLUTE - Mozart dir. Simon Phillips
Auckland Opera Aotea Centre, Auckland and Lyric Theatre, Brisbane (1995)

THE FLYING DUTCHMAN - Wagner dir. Karen Stone with Sir Donald McIntyre
Auckland Opera Aotea Centre, Auckland

\*THE MARRAIGE OF FIGARO - Mozart dir. Raymond Hawthorne
Mercury/ Metropolitan Opera co-production Aotea Centre, Auckland

#### All following productions at Mercury Theatre Auckland and directed by Raymond Hawthorne

1990 \*TURANDOT - Puccini
1989 \*DON GIOVANNI - Mozart
\*FAUST - Gounod
1988 \*LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR - Donizetti

1986 \*LA TRAVIATA - Verdi 1985 CARMEN - Bizet

#### **MUSICAL PRODUCTIONS** (NB \* denotes set and costume design otherwise costume only)

2009 \*OLIVER! – Lionel Bart *dir. Raymond Hawthorne*Auckland Theatre Company *Sky City Theatre, Auckland* 

2005 \*HIGH SOCIETY – adaptation by Carolyn Burns dir. Raymond Hawthorne

Auckland Theatre Company Sky City Theatre, Auckland

1998 \*WIND IN THE WILLOWS - Alan Bennet dir. Raymond Hawthorne

Auckland Theatre Company Sky City Theatre, Auckland

Sydney Theatre Company Drama Theatre, Sydney Opera House

1992 \*MY FAIR LADY - Lerner and Lowe dir. Raymond Hawthorne

Aotea Productions Aotea Centre, Auckland

1991 \*LET'S DO IT - Cole Porter dir. Raymond Hawthorne

Mercury Theatre, Auckland and Downstage Theatre, Wellington (1992)

# All following productions at Mercury Theatre Auckland

1990	*A SLICE OF SATURDAY NIGHT - Heather dir. Paul Minifie
1989	*A MARVELLOUS PARTY - Noel Coward dir. Paul Minifie
1988	*SOUTH PACIFIC - Rogers & Hammerstein dir. Raymond Hawthorne
1986	*PETER PAN THE MUSICAL - JM Barrie dir. Paul Minifie
	*WEST SIDE STORY - Leonard Bernstein dir. Raymond Hawthorne
	*STEPPING OUT - Richard Harris dir. Jan Prettejohns
1984	*THE PACK OF WOMEN - Pam Gems dir. Richard Mudford

#### **FULLTIME APPOINTMENTS**

1991 - 2012	Freelance Designer
1987 - 1990	Head of Design/ Associate Director Mercury Theatre, Auckland NZ
1983 - 1986	Resident Designer Mercury Theatre, Auckland NZ
1981 - 1982	Stage Manager Centrepoint Theatre, Palmerston Nth NZ

#### QUALIFICATIONS

1997 Bachelor of Spatial Design Auckland Institute of Technology Te Whare Takiura o Tamaki Makau Rau

#### **AWARDS**

AVVAILDS	
2012	Helpman Award Nomination (Australia)
2011	Helpman Award Nomination (Australia), Green Room Award Nominee (Australia), Sydney Theatre Award Nominee.
2006	Alumna Merita, Diocesan School for Girls Auckland
2005	Lawrence Olivier Award Nomination, Best New Dance Production 2004 (UK)
2003	Jury Award (NZ exhibit), Prague Quadrennial
1999	UNESCO Prize for Emerging Artists (NZ exhibit), Prague Quadrennial
1999	Best Production Design for "Possum" (short film), St Kilda Film Festival, Melbourne.
1987	Winston Churchill Memorial Fellow

#### **EXHIBITIONS**

2011	THE CRUCIBLE Prague Quadrennial, Czech Republic
2009	THE ENCHANTED FOREST Exhibition New Dowse Museum, Wellington
2008	KRISTIAN FREDERICKSON SCHOLARSHIP Exhibition The Arts Centre, Melbourne
2007	THE WEDDING Prague Quadrennial, Czech Republic
2005	ROMEO & JULIET World Stage Design, Toronto, Canada
2003	IHI FRENZY & LA TRAVIATA Prague Quadrennial, Czech Republic
1999	CARMEN Prague Quadrennial, Czech Republic
1995	DANCING AT LUGHNASA Degree Show, Auckland Institute of Technology
1991	DON GIOVANNI & TURANDOT Praque Quadrennial, Czechoslovakia

### TUTORING

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	2012	Design Tutor, School of Performing and Screen UNITEC
	2000 - 2005	Theatre Design Tutor Writers and Directors, School of Performing and Screen UNITEC
	1995 - 2002	Theatre Design Tutor Bachelor of Spatial Design, School of Art & Design, AUT
	1993 - 1995	Design Tutor Diocesan School for Girls, Auckland NZ
	1992	'Having Designs on the Stage' Workshop for Young Adults, Aotea Centre, Auckland NZ
	1992	Design Tutor Hawkes Bay Youth Drama School NZ
	1987 - 1991	Stage Design Tutor Diploma of Drama, Auckland University NZ

Production Designer Opening Ceremony CEPSI, Christchurch Town Hall

#### CONFERENCES 1994

1993	Member of Design Panel NZATT Conference, Aotea Centre, Auckland
1989	Attended OISTAT Conference Sydney
1986	Guest Designer Aus/ NZ Dance Conference, Christchurch
1986	Attended NZATT Inaugural National Conference Wellington
1985	Attended Design Masterclass - Hadyn Griffen QEII Arts Council, Auckland
1983	Attended Theatre Corporate Summer School Hawkes Bay NZ

#### FILM, TELEVISION and CONCERTS

1996	Production Designer POSSUM Trevor Haysom Productions
1993	KIRI AT THE MISSION IMG/ Auckland Opera Mission Vineyard, Hawkes Bay
1992	PLACIDO DOMINGO AT WESTERN SPRINGS IMG/ Auckland Opera
1990 - 1995	Freelance Costume Designer Television Commercials
1990	Production Designer THE AUNTIES ABC

#### **REVIEWS**

"The Auckland Theatre Company have obviously lavished on the musical Oliver! the sort of time, money and effort that Oliver the hungry orphan can only dream of. The musicians; the revolving set; the abundance of actors continually changing their elaborate costumes - all add up to an impressive spectacle."

Janet McAllister New Zealand Herald

> Nik Smythe Theatreview

"The action, which unfolds on a delicious set by Tracy Grant Lord, builds from an almost naturalistic beginning...."
(Female of the Species)

Frances Edmond New Zealand Listener

#### "DESIGN STRONG IN DIE FLEDERMAUS

The costumes would not be out of place at the Theater an der Wien. Tracy Grant's designs for both sets and costumes are the strength of this production. Every garment and accessory is in complete accord with every other aspect of design... The dollhouse design of the first scene, very David Hockney with a touch of Salad Days... "

Laurence Jenkins
The Dominion

"This Wind in the Willows is a spectacular success, showcasing the cream of Auckland's acting talent in a production that is as polished as it is heartfelt, a glorious romp through the best of childhood dreams. Auckland theatre gets no better than this."

Leonie Reynolds New Zealand Herald

"This production was not only an extravagant spectacle of mammoth proportions, fully utilising a set that covered the entire length of a rugby field, but it was an artistic triumph. The combination of imaginative staging and lighting... and vivid costumes all added up to a visual feast." (Carmen)

Tara Werner New Zealand Herald

"The production was a marvellous spectacle of grand dimensions. It is rare to see a good cast and magnificent sets on such a scale." (Carmen)

John Daly-Peoples The National Business Review

"... and a subtle and sexy design by Tracy Grant - that bursts into brilliant flower for one incandescently effective moment - this Masterclass is rich and ravishing."

Bernadette Rae New Zealand Herald

"Tracy Grant's set is stunning; spare and elegant, it breathes Arcadian bliss."

Leonie Reynolds

Listener

"... a magnificent spectacle and an artistic tour de force." (Falstaff).

Naomi Millett The Bulletin

"Phillips and his mainly NZ based collaborators have succeeded in suggesting a place and period without pointless distortions or unnecessary detail... Tracy Grant's costumes are splendid." (Falstaff).

Roger Covell Sydney Morning Herald

#### **REVIEWS** continued

"The production delivered many fine things... The colour-coded costumes and lighting – reds for the tavern, pastoral greens for the market place, warm yellows for Ford's house – were a triumph for the designers..." (Falstaff).

Meurig Bowen
Opera Now

"The combined imaginations of Iain Aitken and Tracy Grant were displayed to us in their earlier work on the sets and costumes of Auckland Opera's THE FLYING DUTCHMAN. But they surpassed themselves with this MAGIC FLUTE."

Peter Shaw Metro Magazine

"Tracy Grant's costumes included a dazzling queen, society ladies, dowdy masons, brilliant bird persons. The team that has been responsible for the superb Flying Dutchman designs last year covered the stage with glory again. Their wit and imagination were counterpoint to Phillip's (director)."

Nicholas Tarling, Australia Opera in Review/ November

#### MEDIA http://www.listener.co.nz/issue/3522/artsbooks/9945/dressed to thrill.html

When renowned theatrical designer Kristian Frederickson died in 2005, it seemed that an era of magnificent sets and costumes for the Royal New Zealand Ballet had come to an end. Not so. The mantel has been passed to another Kiwi designer, Tracy Grant Lord. Five major commissions with the ballet have already received critical acclaim, and her extraordinary work in the sell-out Cinderella, a new work by Christopher Hampson, secures her place right up with Frederickson. She first made an impression in 2001 with zany 'Split Enz' costumes for Ihi FrENZy that included corrugated iron-like grey pleated tutus. When then artistic director, Matz Skoog, invited her to work with the company, Grant Lord worried that with her background in theatre and opera, she had left it too late for ballet. With his reassurance, she went ahead and loved it. Next came young English choreographer Hampson's production of Romeo and Juliet in 2003 where her clever set design used a cantilevered platform to shift from colonnaded street, grand staircase, to Juliet's bedroom. It was also the first glimpse of her striking colours and eclectic costume designs. In 2004 she created a permeable silky pavilion for Abhisheka, and last year her slick and witty style tempered the flamboyance of The Wedding.

An interview with Grant Lord is not unlike her designs — she is expansive, generous and fun. Her house which she shares with husband David and two friendly Cornish Rex cats, is tucked away in a quiet, wooded street in Manurewa. After graduating in design, her expertise can be attributed to her ten year apprenticeship with Auckland's Mercury Theatre. Painting scenery, drafting, making special effects or hats, she slowly graduated to the main stage, becoming associate director. A latecomer to ballet, she says she is still learning. Theatre and opera rely on tailoring and structure to create weight and presence to enhance the performer. Ballet is different. "I have to reveal the body, as well as costume it and create character. I have to strip back yet provide information to the audience without reducing it to painted leotards. It's about delicacy and refinement, to go both beyond and with the movement; enhancing the beauty, extending the story. I have such extraordinary bodies to work with." she says. A hallmark of Grant Lord's work is her eclectic use of periods to create mood. "I use a whole mishmash of references, especially the 20th century for class, society, circumstance, politics, geography. You can point to a major art movement, designer or look that automatically evokes a piece of story. You go 'ok we'll put that over there' and immediately define a character to an audience."

Set design is Grant Lord's first love, but she has many costume commissions, especially in Australia. Ideally, designing a set and costumes is about creating a whole world. "There's always a balance; sometimes the set or costuming is greater, or as in Cinderella, everything is full on". Grant Lord says a designer always creates the choreographer's vision. Good friends with Hampson, they worked together on Romeo and Juliet and toured to England. She was totally entranced when Hampson sat her down to tell her his story of Cinderella, complete with his magical vision of the rose garden and a very English romantic rambling world. "He wanted the garden to look as if it had grown naturally, so we married this with a design form. The magical quality can be seen as completely art nouveau." The overarching brief for Cinderella was 'beautiful' - it took her five versions to achieve his ideal. She considers Australian lighting designer Nick Schlieper is an intrinsic part of Cinderella's success. "He made the total production look divine. It's an extraordinary call to light everything so magnificently." Although she would love more commissions overseas she feels her knowledge of Kiwi audiences is an essential ingredient of her expertise. She is very aware of who they are, what they see and don't see, here and abroad. "I want to give them something which blows them away, to be excited about going to the theatre, to have a good time. I want them to experience something they can't experience anywhere else. I want to thrill an audience."

SEE ALSO

http://www.nzhouseandgarden.co.nz/Articles/TracyGrantLordsMoment.asp http://www.nzhouseandgarden.co.nz/Articles/AWorldOfitsOwn.asp