

Ariel Benjamin

Lighting Designer



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Arieljbenjamin.com

SUMMARY

Professional lighting designer for television, theatre, dance, and opera based in Brooklyn, NY
Member of USA 829 and NABET

EDUCATION

The University of Maryland
Master of Fine Arts in Theatre Design
Graduated with Honors
September 2008 - May 2011

SUNY New Paltz
Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts
Graduated with Honors
September 2004 - May 2008

SKILLS

- Teaching/Mentorship of students and immersing designers on a conceptional and technical level.
- Excellent communication skills about design conception and execution, as well as critical thinking and problem solving.
- Strong organizational skills, particularly with paperwork/forms.
- Experience with acquiring new clients through networking.
- Sufficient in current versions of Vectorworks and Lightwright.
- Skilled in EOS family console programming.
- Basic Adobe Photoshop and Microsoft Office skills.
- Member of United Scenic Artists, Local 829 since 2011 and NABET since 2019.

EXPERIENCE

LIGHTING DESIGNER FOR TELEVISION

The Lighting Design Group, New York, NY (2013 – 2024)
Self Employed (2024 – Present)

Lighting Designer for Tamron Hall at ABC since its launch in 2019. Managing LD for Yahoo! Studios since 2014. Other LD assignments with such clients as: Good Morning America, Today Show, CNN, Bloomberg, NY1, SNY, CNBC, Peloton, and MTV. A range of responsibilities including lighting direction for live television shows, lighting design and implication of new television programming, in studio lighting management, client interaction and management, day-to-day maintenance and organization of studio spaces and lighting paperwork, crew leadership and management for larger scale lighting installation projects, and basic scheduling of projects and staff members.

THEATRICAL LIGHTING DESIGNER

Self-Employed

Responsible for conception, design, and execution of all elements of lighting design for a range of productions in theatre, dance, and opera locally, regionally, and internationally. All projects include collaborating with directors and fellow designers to create a cohesive design concept by analyzing text, researching images, and presenting creative, unique ideas. All projects also include meeting multiple deadlines for initial ideas, research, formal drafting and paperwork packages and revisions. Many projects include managing installation crews and technicians. Notable projects: Numerous world premier pieces with PEARSONWIDRIG Dance Theatre, five years of an annual production at Oklahoma Lyric Theatre, former resident designer with Making Books Sing, Inc. and Shadowland Theatre.

ASSOCIATE THEATRICAL LIGHTING DESIGNER

Self-Employed

Working with the lead lighting designer from the beginning to the end of the project. Responsibilities include translating design concepts and research with the lead designer to working drawings, transferring working drawings into formal drafting and paperwork packages and revisions, communicating with the installation crews and technicians, overseeing the physical installation of the lighting rig in the space, maintaining all paperwork updates and archival documentation, show transfer and remount from theatre to theater, and providing artistic support for the lead designer. Notable projects: *Chinglish* in Chicago and on Broadway; *The Book of Mormon* on Broadway and *Armida* at the Metropolitan Opera House (Assistant to LD).

2013-
Present

2008-
2017

2008-
2013

References available upon request.