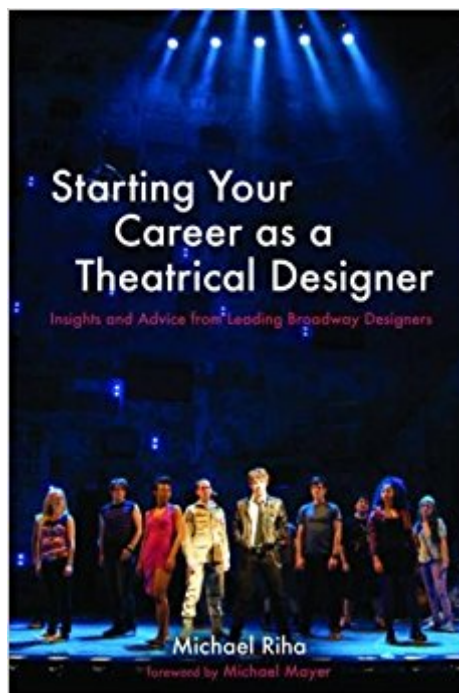




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# Starting Your Career As A Theatrical Designer: Insights And Advice From Leading Broadway Designers



## Synopsis

In the first book of its kind to be published in twenty years, ten award-winning and current Broadway designers—five set designers, four lighting designers, and one projection designer—discuss the business aspects of the theatre world, sharing relevant insider information and strategies that will prove invaluable to aspiring and seasoned theatrical designers alike. Culled from years of experience, the information offered in these enlightening conversations will strengthen readers' understanding of how designing in the commercial theatre is different from designing in an academic setting or not-for-profit theatres. The conversations are accompanied by designer sketches, finished drawings, technical plates of drafting, photos of scale models, storyboards illustrating multi-scene productions and unique lighting looks, and photos from Broadway and regional theatre productions. If you've ever wondered what it really takes to make it in the world of theatre design, let these Broadway stars be your guide!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Michael J. Riha is Director of Design and vice chair of the drama department at the University of Arkansas. He is a member of USA-829 and has designed scenery, lighting, sound, and costumes for well over one hundred productions. His most recent projects include work as an assistant designer to Christine Jones on the Broadway revival of *On a Clear Day You Can See Forever*, starring Harry Connick, Jr., as well as the 2013 Metropolitan Opera production of *Rigoletto*.

What a wonderful resource. So many books give you reference for how to design but how to make a career is terrifying. To hear the point of view of so many inspiring designers is thrilling. And sage advice by way of true experience is priceless. LOVE!

Excellent "starting a career" book. Interviews are are very strong. interesting read throughout.

This book helps anyone who start in the theater world to find the way to do it. it is also a history of the theater production in the last years in broadway.

(Full disclosure: I used to be the assistant designer for one of the designers interviewed.) This is a really remarkable book for the simplicity of its goal: to talk to working designers about how they got started and how they maintain a career in the theater industry. Each interview is illuminating and unique, showcasing the determination and sacrifices it takes to work as a designer. The book is less a guide to the path to take to become a huge success - these designers' successes can't be replicated and the paths they took no longer apply in the current market (nor did the paths their mentors took apply in their own careers) - than it is a description of their journeys. If any guide is to be given in their stories, its that each of them made extreme financial sacrifices in their early careers to get started and that many continue to make enormous sacrifices today, albeit on a higher plane. The commonalities are that none of them gave up, none of them complained (publicly) , and all lived for the work. Whether one identifies with each individual designer's aesthetic, I think all can identify with their love of storytelling and the work they've done to get to where they are.

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