

James Lavoie

James Lavoie holds a Masters Degree from Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design (London, UK) in “Scenography: performance design and practice”. Working in both set and costume design; James is most recognized for his work as a production designer. Following his specialized studies in dramaturgy through design, he creates and directs multiple visual aspects of a performance (combining set, costume, props, video and puppetry) and works in tandem with a director to create a total visual environment.

His multi-disciplinary background as a visual and video artist as well as a performer and performance creator informs his approach as a designer.

His career has been marked by his involvement in the creation of many new Canadian works, including premiere productions by playwrights Bryden Macdonald, (*With Bated Breath*) Michael Mackenzie, (*Instructions To Any Future Socialist Government Wishing to Abolish Christmas*) Colleen Curan, (*True Nature*), Steve Galluccio (*In Piazza San Domenico*), Colleen Wagner (*Down from Heaven*), I. Virapaev (*Illusions*) and J. Tannahill (*Boticelli in the Fire and Sunday in Sodom*). In Montreal his work has been recognized five times by the Montreal English critics circle award for best design. Internationally, he has collaborated with students from the Jerusalem school of Visual theatre, the Cape Town Theatre Laboratory in South Africa and Bios in Athens, Greece.

Among many others, Jame designed «Cirque du Soleil’s» *Les Chemins Invisibles, Chapitre 4: La Frontière de Pixels* (Quebec City, 2012), and created the costumes for «Cirque’s» *Les Chemins Invisibles, Chapitre 5: Le hangar des oubliés* (Quebec city, 2013). James also completed the costumes of Cirque du Soleil’s *Joyà* in Cancún (México).

In 2013, he won the META award (Montreal English Theatre Awards) for “Outstanding Costume Design” for his costumes of Andrew Shaver’s adaptation of *Sherlock*, featuring Jay Baruchel, at the Segal Center.

James is also a coach/mentor for the 3rd year Scenography Students at the National Theatre school of Canada, and has been a regular guest lecturer at Concordia and McGill Universities.

In 2015, James designed the set and costumes for the musical *Grease*, produced by Juste pour Rire in Montreal, and coordinated the set, costumes, and props for the show *Circo Jumbo* (2015-2016), to be performed in Chile and Columbia.

James is part of the Expo 2017 in Astana, Kazakhstan as costumes and props designer for the show *Reflekt*, presented by Cirque du Soleil.