

BAK

BEN ARGENTA KRESS

Costume Designer / Visual Artist

OBJECTIVE

"Man will be become better when you show him what he is like"

– Anton Chekhov

Ben Argenta Kress (He/Him/His) is an artist interested in who we are and who we can be, together and alone. Informed by his interest in psychology and sociology, these musings have been central to Ben's work as a costume designer, visual artist, and manager.



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WEBSITE

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REFERENCES AVAILABLE
UPON REQUEST

SELECT EXPERIENCE

Theater	Playwright / Director	Organization
<i>The Love Object</i>	• Justine Gelfman / Jasmine B. Gunter	• The Story Theatre
<i>The Audience</i> (codesign)	• Peter Morgan / Jessica Fisch	• Drury Lane Theatre
<i>The Tempest</i>	• Shakespeare / Manna-Symone Middlebrooks	• The Story Theatre
<i>La Cenerentola</i>	• Gioachino Rossini / Amy Hutchinson	• Everyman Theatre
<i>The Hero Within</i>	• Shakespeare / Tor Campbell	• Chicago Shakes in the Parks
<i>The Prom</i>	• Chad Beguelin / Tor Campbell	• Northwestern University
<i>Sweat</i>	• Lynn Nottage / Gené Fouché	• Maryland Ensemble Theatre
<i>Everything is Wonderful</i>	• Chelsea Mercantel / Noah Himmelstein	• Everyman Theatre
<i>Antigone</i>	• David Feldshuh / Daniel Bryant	• Baltimore Center Stage Mobile Unit
<i>Spring Awakening</i>	• Steven Sater / Ryan Haase	• Stillpointe Theatre
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	• William Shakespeare / Daniel Bryant	• Baltimore Center Stage Mobile Unit
<i>Lady Day at Emerson's...</i>	• Lanie Robertson / Danielle Drakes	• Rep Stage
<i>Wasted</i>	• Kat Woods / Kat Woods	• Baltimore Center Stage
<i>H2O</i>	• Jane Martin / Kasi Campbell	• Rep Stage
<i>Endgame</i>	• Samuel Beckett / Daniel Bryant	• Baltimore Center Stage Mobile Unit
<i>Wait Until Dark</i>	• Frederick Knott / Donald Hicken	• Everyman Theatre
<i>The Zero Hour</i>	• Madeleine George / Ann Turiano	• Iron Crow Theatre
<i>Macbeth</i>	• William Shakespeare / James Bunzli	• Loyola University of Maryland
<i>Outside Mullingar</i>	• John Patrick Shanley / Donald Hicken	• Everyman Theatre

Recent Costume Design Assistant Work

Betrayal at the Goodman Theatre, Designer: Linda Roethke
Into the Woods at Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Designer: Linda Roethke
Selling Kabul at Northlight Theatre, Designer: David Arevalo
A Christmas Carol at Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Designer: Dede Ayite

Recent Teaching Experience

Introduction to Costume Design, NU, Instructor, Fall 2023
Embodied Storytelling: Character, Textiles, and Sculpture, NU, TA for David Arevalo, Spring 2022
 Design Instructor, Cecil College Young People's Theater Program, Elkton, MD, Summer 2019

Employment July– September 2021

Interim Costume Shop Manager • Wirtz Center for the Performing Arts • Evanston, IL

Employment July– September 2021

Interim Costume Shop Manager • Repertory Theatre of St. Louis • St. Louis, MO

Employment August 2016– June 2020

Associate Costumer • Baltimore Center Stage • Baltimore, MD

EDUCATION

Northwestern University MFA, Stage Design (Costumes), 2024
 Kenyon College BA, Theatre and Psychology, 2014

SPECIAL SKILLS

Costume Construction, Alterations, Patterning, Costume Crafts, Shop Management, Return Management, Budget Tracking, Fabric Sourcing, Shopping, Research, DSLR Photography, Microsoft Office, Photoshop and Digital Illustration, Pencil and Watercolor Sketching, Fabric Painting and Distressing, Rental Coordination, Running Wardrobe, Garment Cleaning and Maintenance

VISUAL ART

2024 Group Exhibition, *Fruta Madura*, Fluffy Crimes, Chicago, IL
 2022 Group Exhibition, *Figures*, Chicago Fine Art Salon, Chicago, IL
 2022 Solo Exhibition, *Translucency*, Department of Performance Studies at NU, Evanston, IL