

DAVID GÜRÇAY-MORRIS

interaction & experience designer

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SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- UX and IxD designer with 20+ years in theater design making a lateral career change into the digital world
- Collaborated on cross-functional teams to design the scenery for over 150 productions of plays, experimental theater, musicals, and operas in the United States and Europe
- Spearheaded design development processes (research, testing, iteration, and production) in time frames as short as 4 weeks or as long as 3-4 years, while managing and maintaining departmental budgets of up to \$250,000
- Generated sketches, 3D models, and technical drawings for collaborators and engineers while coordinating with local and remote construction, finishing, and installation teams to complete projects under tight timeframes
- Designed every aspect of the museum visitor flow, presentation and revelation of objects, associated visual information, and wayfinding in order to tell a story about the artwork on display in multiple exhibitions

DESIGN EXPERIENCE

UX DESIGNER | Our Mayberry (ourmayberry.com) pro bono client project, 2020

- Assessed and redesigned UX elements and architectures of a website that connects charities, local businesses, and buyers who want to patronize stores that give back to their communities, as the design and interaction lead
- Synthesized information architecture, visual design, and interaction design elements of ourmayberry.com and its associated PayBerry progressive mobile app, to clarify the core user flows of the consumer when using the Our Mayberry suite of products

IxD & UX DESIGNER | Electric Dusk Drive-In (electricduskdrivein.com) unsolicited website redesign, 2020

- Redesigned a drive-in movie theater's e-commerce website as design lead and interaction designer, using a responsive, mobile-first approach
- Created and iterated upon clickable, high-fidelity prototypes in Figma charting multiple user journeys, with special attention paid to differentiating interactions and visual organization of the site's information and navigation on mobile vs. desktop
- Established and maintained consistent nomenclature and asset organization in Figma for long-term usability

FREELANCE EXHIBITION DESIGNER | Williams College Museum of Art, 2017-2021

- Intensely collaborated with curators, preparators, and conservators to imagine and actualize innovative, non-traditional display techniques, materials, and movement patterns for 4 different museum exhibitions
- Sourced affordable solutions to the technical challenges often posed by the creative display of art objects, working closely with the construction team to ensure that walls, display cases, furniture, and signage were fabricated and installed to desired specifications

SCENIC DESIGNER FOR THEATER AND OPERA | 1996-2017

- Collaborated with leading playwrights, directors, actors and designers of contemporary theater and experimental performance in the United States, designing the scenic environments for dozens of world premiere productions
- Managed the design and technical aspects of national and international tours for multiple shows, to venues such as The Barbican in London, The Pompidou Center in Paris, the Vienna Festival, and the Sydney Opera House

WEBSITE DESIGNER / GRAPHIC DESIGNER | Tripod.com, 1994-1995

- One of three original website designers for the initial launch of startup Tripod.com, one of the early CMS sites of the web offering homepage creation and curated content, later purchased by Lycos for \$57M
- As a team, designed and coded (HTML) every aspect of Tripod's visual identity including logos, branding, webpage layouts, and advertising strategies, leading up to its successful launch in 1995

ASSOCIATE DESIGNER | Grand Street Studios, 2005-2006

- Assisted on the design, drafted, and created visual renderings/models of store window displays and point-of-purchase displays for Grand Marnier
- Designed, drafted, and created models of a new main window display for Tekserve (a large Apple Authorized reseller and repair store in New York City), and helped oversee installation of the approved design
- Accompanied firm's design leads to meetings and presentations with corporate clients

LEADERSHIP & COMMUNICATION EXPERIENCE

CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE — Williams College, 2019-2020

- Led academic department of 8 teaching faculty and 10 staff, representing and advocating for them with the college administration, campus-wide forums, and to alumni and donors
- Successfully orchestrated a reorganization of office and working spaces in order to increase interoperability, collaboration, and the sharing or pooling of resources between the Departments of Theatre and Dance

PROFESSOR OF THEATRE — Williams College, 2007-2021

- Developed and taught 10 different courses in design and experimental theater, including 2 of the 4 core major requirements, while also designing, or mentoring student designers, for all department productions
- Was promoted twice in thirteen years, most recently to the rank of Associate Professor of Theatre with tenure

SKILLS

- Figma, Sketch, InVision, MarvelApp
- Miro, Mural, Draw.io
- Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, XD
- Vectorworks, SketchUp, hand drafting
- Procreate, ArtRage, Concepts (iPad apps)
- HTML, CSS, R, ggplot2, Tableau, Lua (PICO-8)
- Wordpress, Semplice
- User research
- Information architecture, Optimal Workshop
- UX, UI, and Interaction design

AFFILIATIONS

Advisory Board, Seattle Universal Math Museum
United Scenic Artists Local 829, scenic design
Affiliated Artist, Clubbed Thumb
Associate Artist, Les Freres Corbusier

EDUCATION

General Assembly User Experience Design Immersive
MFA, Scenic Design, University of Washington, Seattle
BA, Theatre + Studio Art, Williams College

HONORS, AWARDS, & FELLOWSHIPS

- Princess Grace Theatre Fellowship, Fabergé Theatre Award (2005-06)
- Prague Quadrennial 2007, United States entry, scenic design for Orpheus
- Citation for public service from the Rhode Island Supreme Court for Constitutional (2007)
- 100+ reviews, and multiple "Top 10 Shows" or "Best Of" listings, for theater and design work in professional publications and press, including the New York Times, The New Yorker, Time Out New York, & The Village Voice
- Nominated for a 2010 Henry Hewes Design Award for the scenic design of LEAR
- Resident Artist, HERE Artist Residency Program (2005-2007, 2012-2014)