

JESS KROMETIS

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

I bring my theatrical sensibilities, honed through a decade in the Chicago theatre scene, to the museum and architectural lighting world. My passion is for constructing innovative, multi-layered designs that spread joy, immerse audiences in new environments, and advance the craft in the digital age. My mission is to stay at the forefront of our field and discover new ways lighting can spark wonder around the world enhancing the visitor experience and marketability.

Multi-faceted professional expertise in:

Project Management - Proposals - Strategic Planning - Team Leadership and Management - Onsite Problem Solving - Emotional Intelligence - Cost Control - Mentoring - Public Speaking - AutoCAD - Vectorworks - Microsoft Office Suite - Photoshop - InDesign - Photography

EXPERIENCE

SENIOR DESIGNER AND PROJECT MANAGER

March 2020 – Present

Hartranft Lighting Design - Washington, DC

- Project Manages small to large-scale projects in sectors that include landscape, civil bridges, experience design, museum exhibits, public art, federal government agencies, corporate, and commercial.
- Successfully manages a remote office and local team, implementing collaboration and luminaire presentation strategies that increases productivity and design comprehension.
- Mentors and educates a team of 5 employees, resulting in their professional development and growth within the company.
- Collaborates with museums to identify their needs and create customized solutions, establishing successful partnerships that expanded the company's expertise and a new project sector.
- Maintains positive working relationships with federal government agency stakeholders to ensure timely delivery and project success.

Notable Lighting Designs: Banneker Douglas Museum, Veterans Plaza Ice Rink, Rio Light Sculpture, James B. Beam Distillery Experience, Private Residence Gallery, Night Lights in New Lebanon (lighting festival) and Lights in Alingsås (lighting festival installation)

ASSOCIATE DESIGNER

August 2019 – March 2020

CM Kling + Associates - Alexandria, VA

- Project Managed small to large-scale projects in project sectors that included landscape, hotels, restaurants, corporate, and commercial.
- Created design documents including concept presentations, lighting specification sheets, budgets, control risers, zone schedules, and drawings.
- Coordinated closely with clients including architects, exhibit designers, owners, owner reps, and luminaire manufacturers.

ASSOCIATE DESIGNER

Summer 2014, July 2015 – July 2019

Available Light - Boston, MA

- Collaborated with exhibit designers, owners, conservators, and architects.
- Created design and construction documentation from SD/Concept design phase through post occupancy documentation.
- Generated and managed CAD drafting, AGI lighting level calculations, and photo-realistic conceptual renderings.
- Led multiple electrician crews onsite during focus and show programming.
- Project sectors included landscape, science and technology centers, higher education, museum exhibits, public, corporate, and commercial.

Notable Lighting Designs: Deep Time Exhibit at the National Museum of Natural History, International Spy Museum-Architecture, American Writers Museum, Yorktown Victory Center, Witte Museum- Susan Naylor Center, Analogue Devices HQ, District Burlington environmental lighting, Florida Museum of Science, Olin Library at Washington University and Back Bay Beats.

JESS KROMETIS

FREELANCE LIGHTING DESIGNER

October 2005 – June 2015

Various Companies – Chicago, New York City, among others

Lighting Designer, Assistant Lighting Designer, Programmer, Electrician, and Vectorworks Draftsperson

- Created design schematics for theatre productions, museum exhibits and special events.
- Developed CAD drawings, paperwork, and conceptual renderings.
- Collaborated with production and venue team from conception to opening
- Managed lighting budgets and specifications of rented equipment for productions
- Coordinated multiple projects and techs at the same time
- Selected Companies and Venues include American Theatre Company, Theater Wit, Theatre on the Lake, NYC Fringe Festival, Museum of Science and Industry, Museum of Contemporary Art, Lookingglass Theatre Company, Goodman Theatre, and The Court Theatre

EDUCATION

Master of Fine Arts in Stage Design / Northwestern University, Evanston, IL 2012- 2015
Prague Quadrennial United States Exhibitor, USITT Conference Young Designer's Forum, John Woodbridge Williams Memorial Scholarship

Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Design / Columbia College Chicago, Chicago, IL 2005- 2009
Michael Merrit Award Winner 2008, Academic Honors Diploma, Liberace Scholarship Recipient 2008-2009

PRESENTATIONS AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Negotiation Seminar and Workshop- Boston Lights, Boston, MA, 2023
Who's In Your Corner? – IALD Enlighten Conference, Palm Springs, CA, 2022
Lytei Lytepod Podcast Interview, New York City, NY, 2021
Lights in Alingsås -Workshop Head Presentation, Alingsås, Sweden, 2021
Steal That Detail Panel Discussion -LEducation, New York City, Virtual, 2021
Optimizing Lighting Design for a Virtual Audience – IES Annual Conference, Boston, MA, 2018
Transition from Theatrical to Architectural Design– Various universities and colleges, 2016-2022

AWARDS

40 Under 40 Lighting Award from Light Collective and Filix Lighting 2021
LIT Design Award - Hospitality Lighting Design for James B. Beam Distilling Company 2023
IES Section Award for James B. Beam Distilling Company 2023
IES Award of Merit for The International Spy Museum (Architecture) 2021
IES Section Awards for Analogue Devices, Witte Museum, Back Bay Beats, and District Burlington 2017-2022

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS AND INTERESTS

IALD Chapter Coordinator in DC and Past Chapter Coordinator in New England
Women in Lighting and Design (WILD) DC, MD, Northern VA Committee Member
IALD Trust Stipend Committee Member
DC Roller Derby Travel Team and BP Chair

Traveling International and Domestic - Lighting Installations – Long Distance Running - Baking - Biking -
Finding the best local donut in each new city

REFERENCES UPON REQUEST