Theatrical Stage Design: An Annotated Bibliography  
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Atkinson, Patrick. *Theatrical Design in the Twentieth Century: an Index to Photographic Reproductions of Scenic Designs*. Westport, CT: Greenwood, 1996. Print.

Atkinson’s index of designers and productions is both thorough and intensely useful. The book indexes over 2,000 designers and over 7,000 productions, filled with descriptions and photographs of said designs. This book is a good starting point when researching others’ works in the field of stage design, as well as a great book to have in an undergraduate library.

Baur-Heinhold, Margarete, and Helga Schmidt-Glassner. *Baroque Theatre;*. London: Thames & Hudson, 1967. Print.

Translated from the original German by Mary Whittall, this book focuses on the Baroque era of theatrical design, complete with photographs and valuable resources. By specifying one particular area of the theatrical design timeline, this book is a valuable asset to both beginning designers and experienced designers alike. Though it was published in 1967, *Baroque Theatre* still holds its place in libraries today because of the usefulness of the illustrations. This is highly recommended for any scenic designer.

Davis, Tony. *Stage Design*. Crans-Près-Céligny: RotoVision, 2001. Print.

Tony Davis’s *Stage Design* is a great book to have around in a designer’s library. Each chapter focuses on a different designer, complete with illustrations, process explanations, and inspirations. Not only does this book cover the theatrical side of stage design, but the opera and ballet aspects as well. This is a great library starter because of the range of information within. This being said, it is not the most comprehensive work in existence, but supplies valuable knowledge and illustrations.

Donovan, Harry. *Entertainment Rigging: a Practical Guide for Riggers and Managers*. Seattle, WA: H.M. Donovan, 2008. Print.

Though not technically a design book, *Entertainment Rigging* is a crucial read for scenic designers, because of the amount of information on the practical side of the industry. A precedent for many undergraduate and graduate programs, *Entertainment Rigging* gives insight on the mechanics, physics, and practice of stage rigging.

Gillette, A. S., and J. Michael. Gillette. *Stage Scenery, Its Construction and Rigging*. New York: Harper & Row, 1981. Print.

While not as comprehensive as the Donovan *Stage Rigging*, Gillette’s book is also helpful. Any designer should at least have a book like this on the shelf to pull out in times of need. However, be warned that this is not the most practical book in today’s theatre, and many of the ideas are out of date. This being said, it is still a good book to have in times of need, if not only for the parts that still apply today.

Moody, James L. *The Business of Theatrical Design*. New York: Allworth, 2002. Print.

Another essential in a designer’s collection, *The Business of Theatrical Design* is a very helpful source to aid designers into making art a living. Moody covers numerous topics ranging from resumes to taxes and fees, all while being very supportive to the reader. This is a great book for anyone who has recently graduated, or has recently entered the “real world” of design.

Oenslager, Donald. *Stage Design: Four Centuries of Scenic Invention*. New York: Viking, 1975. Print.

Oenslager provides his audience with an amalgamation of drawings, information, and photographs spanning from the 17th century into the 20th century. Yet another great book to have in a catalogue, and a very good research piece for a period play. This book would also be helpful to compare the process of design and the images are both vivid and detailed.

Owen, Bobbi. *Scenic Design on Broadway: Designers and Their Credits, 1915-1990*. New York: Greenwood, 1991. Print.

Bobbi Owen covers most of the 20th century in *Scenic Design on Broadway*, complete with helpful illustrations, designers and credits, awards, and much more. A very comprehensive look at the field in a span of seventy five years, *Scenic Design on Broadway* is a great resource on all levels. Nearly everything in this book is helpful in more ways than just one.

Roy, Donald, and Victor Emeljanow. *Romantic and Revolutionary Theatre, 1789-1860*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2003. Print.

*Romantic and Revolutionary Theatre* is less of a great design book, but a very important book on theatre itself. This look into history provides a greater understanding of what today’s theatre has evolved from. Complete with translated and annotated documents as well as a detailed outline of how the theatre itself works, this is a good book for any theatre person to have on the shelf, regardless of what field they specify in.

Simonson, Lee. *The Art of Scenic Design; Pictorial Analysis of Stage Setting and Its Relation to Theatrical Production.* New York: Harper, 1950. Print.

Written by one of the 20th centuries foremost scenic designers, *The Art of Scenic Design* is a wonderful tool, and one of the most valuable books on this list. Simonson provides both an illustrated and informational understanding of all that is stage scenery and how it works in efforts with other elements to make a whole. It is by far one of the most helpful design books, if not simply because it was written by a wonderful designer. Every bit of information in this book is pertinent and valuable to both beginners and experienced designers.