



# BEYOND THE SCORE

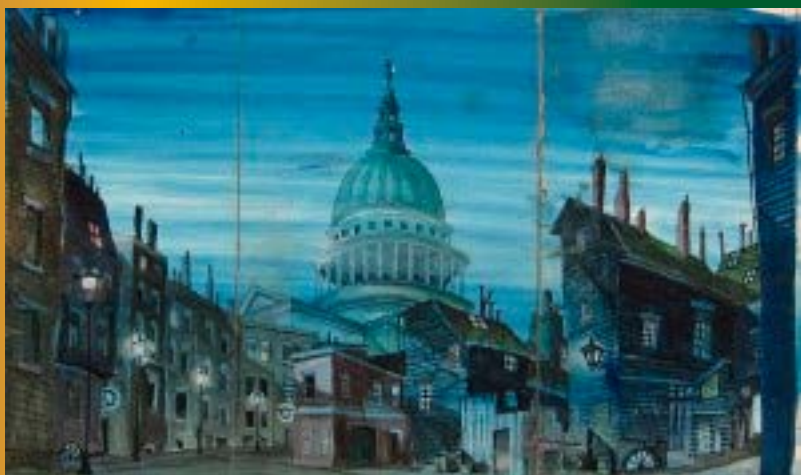
A CLOSER LOOK AT MUSICAL THEATRE

*An Eye For Design: Set Design in the Golden Age*

THE IMPORTANCE OF  
DESIGN

GOLDEN AGE SET  
DESIGNERS

CAPTURING THE  
WORLD



ISSUE TWENTY THREE



C. BALDWIN

# THE IMPORTANCE OF DESIGN

One of the most mesmerizing things about going to see a show is the design! The glamorous make-up, exciting costumes, and breathtaking sets add not only "pizzazz" to the show, but help us an audience enter the world we are being introduced to. The design for a show is planned far before even the actors are assigned their parts! This is because designing and prepping can take long periods of time. A design may also reflect time period, the director's vision, or the story itself! So when you are applauding at the end of an exciting show, you are also applauding the hard work of the production team who brought the musical to life through design!



# GOLDEN AGE SET DESIGNERS

Designed many prominent Broadway shows and films. Some notable productions include On The Town, West Side Story, and Hello Dolly! He was nominated 25 times for a Tony Award and won 10.

**OLIVER SMITH**



Described as being "the most successful set designer of the Golden era of Broadway". He designed both stage plays and musicals. Some of the musicals included Guys and Dolls, South Pacific, and The King and I. Jo was nominated for 12 Tony Awards and won 7.

**JO MIELZINER**



Began his career as a costume designer and eventually also did scenic design. He worked on several shows and would do costume and/or scenery for those productions.

He won the Tony Award for Wonderful Town, doing the scenic design.

**RAOUL PENE  
DU BOIS**



# CAPTURING THE WORLD

In each story there is a world ready for the audience to explore. The scenic design is the most important aspect in this world building because this is what the audience sees. It is the scenic designer's job to not only follow the vision of the writer and director, but to create a world in which the audience will believe and be immersed in.



[Click here to watch how they brought Mary Poppins to life on Broadway through set design.](#) What do you think about set design and why is it important to the story?

# SOURCES

---

“Jo Mielziner.” *Wikipedia*, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jo\\_Mielziner](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jo_Mielziner).

“Oliver Smith (designer).” *Wikipedia*, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oliver\\_Smith\\_\(designer\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oliver_Smith_(designer)).

“Raoul Pene Du Bois.” *Wikipedia*, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raoul\\_Pene\\_Du\\_Bois](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raoul_Pene_Du_Bois).

Links to Images:

<http://www.lightingandsoundamerica.com/news/story.asp?ID=564IIN>

<https://worldofwonder.net/bornthisday-set-designer-oliver-smith/>

<https://blogs.loc.gov/music/2011/05/oliver-smith-collection-on-display/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/163325923958109036/>

<https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0238845/>

All other graphics were used from free stock image site: [pixabay.com](http://pixabay.com)

Sources for images not cited, found in other issues.