

Scenic Painting: Adding Color to the World

Scenery can be transformed through the magic of painting. A scenic artist uses skills that encompass the entire scope of painting and crafts to create effects, texture and color to help form the world on a stage. Scenic artists create faux-finish textures like marble or wood grain often using unconventional materials. The Scenic Art Shop at SCR is part of the Production Department, and work with scenic designers.

SCR's Scenic Art Department is Responsible for

- Painting scenery including walls, floors, drops (large fabric “curtains”) and occasionally props
- Using paint elevations (color drawings that represent the design) and samples from designers to paint scenery properly
- Mixing color
- Ordering paints

Jobs at SCR in the Scenic Art Department

- Scenic Charge Artist
- Associate Scenic Charge Artist
- Scenic Artist

How to Get Into this Field

Many scenic artists pursue studies in art and fine art, graphic design, theatrical design or related fields. Areas of study should include drawing, painting, sculpting, color theory and art history. Gain experience by working with community theatres, schools or independent productions. Seek out scenic artists, talk to them and be willing to learn from them.

Qualities That May Help

- Artistic skills
- Patience
- Good listening skills
- Enjoy learning about and experimenting with materials and tools
- Curiosity
- Love of painting
- No fear of getting dirty on the job
- Comfortable with heights