

KEREM ÇETİNEL

SET, COSTUME & LIGHTING DESIGNER

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Kerem is a scenographer and performance designer based in Istanbul, Türkiye. After moving to Canada to study stage design, he lived and worked there until 2011. Alongside his freelance practice, he taught set design, lighting design, and basic design at the University of Alberta and the University of Victoria.

Since returning to Türkiye, Kerem has collaborated with leading independent theatre and dance companies in Istanbul, as well as the National Theatre and National Ballet of Türkiye. He also taught lighting design as a guest lecturer at Mimar Sinan State Conservatory. His designs have toured internationally to the UK, France, Germany, Belgium, China, Greece, and Israel, and he continues to work in Canada.

Kerem's practice bridges cultures and disciplines, bringing Turkish and Canadian theatre into dialogue on stages worldwide.

EDUCATION:

2000 - 2004 University of Alberta, MFA in Theatre Design

1995 - 2000 Middle East Technical University, BS in Mechanical Engineering

1993 - 1995 TED Ankara Collage, High School- Ankara

EXHIBITION CREDITS:

2019 Prague Quadrennial 2019 (Prague, Czech Republic) - Turkey National Professional Exhibit
Lighting Design for "Anna Karenina"

2017 World Stage Design 2017 (Taipei, Taiwan) – Professional Exhibit (Digital Section)
Lighting Design for "The Last Voyage of Donald Crowhurst" & "The Kite Runner"

2013 World Stage Design 2013 (Cardiff, Scotland) – Professional Exhibit (Digital Section)
Lighting Design for "A Streetcar Named Desire"

2011 Prague Quadrennial 2011 (Prague, Czech Republic) - Turkey National Professional Exhibit
Lighting Design for "A Streetcar Named Desire"

2005 World Stage Design 2005 (Toronto, Canada) – Professional Exhibit
Lighting Design for "A Midsummer Night's Dream", Studio Theatre (Edmonton)
(Chosen to be a part of the gallery exhibit by the international jury)

2003 Prague Quadrennial 2003 (Prague, Czech Republic) – Canada National Student Exhibit
Set Design for "Are You Lonesome Tonight?"

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION:

2026 "The Father", Oyun Atölyesi (İstanbul), Director: Muharrem Özcan
Afife Theatre Award Nomination for Best Set Design

2026 "The Ugly One", Bakırköy Belediye Tiyatroları (İstanbul), Director: Yelda Baskin
Direklerarası Tiyatro Ödülleri - Best Set Design Award

2026 "Driftwood - Sürüklenmiş", Satsuma Sahne & Tiyatro Kintsugi (İstanbul), Director: İbrahim Çiçek
Üstün Akmen Tiyatro Ödülleri - Nomination for Best Set Design

2026 "Driftwood - Sürüklenmiş", Satsuma Sahne & Tiyatro Kintsugi (İstanbul), Director: İbrahim Çiçek
FilmSan Tiyatro Ödülleri - Nomination for Best Set Design

- 2024** "KeI Diva", Oyun Atölyesi (İstanbul), Director: Muharrem Özcan
Afife Theatre Award Nomination for Best Set Design & Best Lighting Design
- 2023** "Struck", Ghost River Theatre (Calgary), Lighting Design, Director: Eric Rose
Betty Mitchell Award for Outstanding Lighting Design
- 2022** "Kum Zambakları", Zorlu Performance Arts Centre (İstanbul), Set Design, Director: Mark Levitas
Afife Theatre Award Nomination for Best Set Design
- 2022** "Taxim", Baba Sahne Theatre (İstanbul), Set & Lighting Design, Director: Emrah Eren
Afife Theatre Award Nomination for Best Set Design & Best Lighting Design
- 2019** "Photograph 51", Craft Theatre (İstanbul), Director: Çağ Çalışkur
Afife Theatre Award Nomination for Best Set Design & Best Lighting Design
- 2018** "Killology", Craft Theatre (İstanbul), Director: İbrahim Çiçek
Afife Theatre Award Nomination for Best Lighting Design
- 2018** "Terror", Bakırköy Belediye Tiyatrosu (İstanbul), Director: Nurkan Erpulat
Afife Theatre Award Nomination for Best Lighting Design
- 2017** "Fortune Falls", Catalyst Theatre (presented by Alberta Theatre Projects), Director: Jonathan Christenson
Elizabeth Sterling Haynes Award Nomination for Outstanding Lighting Design & Betty Mitchell Award for Nomination for Outstanding Lighting Design
- 2016** "Yarın Başka Koruda", Bakırköy Belediye Tiyatrosu (İstanbul), Director: Yiğit Sertdemir
Ismet Küntay Theatre Award for Best Lighting Design
- 2016** "A Comedy of Errors", Bakırköy Belediye Tiyatrosu (İstanbul), Director: Tim Supple
Afife Theatre Award for Best Set Design & Yeni Tiyatro Dergisi Award for Best Set Design
- 2016** "The Beaux' Stratagem", National Theatre (Turkey), Director: İlham Yazar
Turkey Arts Council Award for Best Lighting Design
- 2015** "The Last Voyage of Donald Crowhurst", Alberta Theatre Projects & Ghost River Theatre (Calgary),
Betty Mitchell Award for Outstanding Lighting Design
- 2013** "The Kite Runner", Theatre Calgary & Citadel Theatre Co-Production (Calgary & Edmonton),
Set & Lighting Design, Director: Eric Rose
Calgary Theatre Critics Awards Nomination for Best Design
- 2011** "The Trespassers", Belfry Theatre(Victoria), Lighting Design, Director: Ron Jenkins
Victoria Critics Choice Award Nomination for Best Lighting Design
- 2011** "The Trespassers", Vancouver Playhouse(Vancouver), Lighting Design, Director: Ron Jenkins
Jessie Richardson Theatre Award Nomination for Outstanding Lighting Design (Large Theatres)
- 2011** "Reverie", Ghost River Theatre(Calgary), Set & Lighting Design, Director: Eric Rose
Betty Mitchell Award Nomination for Outstanding Lighting Design
- 2010** "A Streetcar Named Desire", Bluebridge Repertory Theatre, Victoria - Director: Brian Richmond
Victoria Critics Choice Award for Best Lighting Design
- 2010** "Mourning Dove", Kill Your Television Theatre(Edmonton), Production Design, Director: Kevin Sutley
Elizabeth Sterling Haynes Award Nomination for Outstanding Set Design
- 2010** "Romeo and Juliet", Phoenix Theatre (Victoria), Set Design, Director: Brian Richmond
Victoria Critics Choice Award Nomination for Best Set Design
- 2008** "Scythe", Dammitdance Theatre(Edmonton), Lighting Design, Choreographer: Amber Borotsik
Elizabeth Sterling Haynes Award Nomination for Outstanding Lighting Design
- 2007** "Monster", Kill Your Television Theatre (Edmonton), Lighting Design, Director: Kevin Sutley
Elizabeth Sterling Haynes Award Nomination for Outstanding Lighting Design
- 2006** "Helen's Necklace", Shadow Theatre(Edmonton), Production Design, Director: John Sproule
Elizabeth Sterling Haynes Award Nomination for Outstanding Set Design
- 2006** "Glass Menagerie", Kill Your Television Theatre(Edmonton), Production Design, Director: Kevin Sutley
Elizabeth Sterling Haynes Award Nomination for Outstanding Lighting Design

SELECTED THEATRE DESIGN CREDITS:

- 2026 "Driftwood", Satsuma Sahne & Tiyatro Kintsugi (İstanbul), Set & Lighting Design, Director: İbrahim Çiçek
- 2025 "The Father", Oyun Atölyesi (İstanbul), Set Design, Director: Muharrem Özcan
- 2025 "The Ugly One", Bakırköy Belediye Tiyatroları (İstanbul), Set & Lighting Design, Director: Yelda Baskin
- 2025 "Oedipux Complex", National Theatre (Turkey), Set&Lighting Design, Director: Whit MacLaughlin
- 2024 "Fortune Falls", Walk and Talk Theatre Company and MTP, Set & Lighting Design, Director: Andraea Sartison
- 2024 "Kel Diva", Oyun Atölyesi (İstanbul), Set & Lighting Design, Director: Muharrem Özcan
- 2023 "Titus Complex", DasDas Theatre (İstanbul), Lighting Design, Director: Ersan Mondtag
- 2023 "Struck", Ghost River Theatre (Calgary), Lighting Design, Director: Eric Rose
- 2022 "Glass Menagerie", Craft Theatre (İstanbul), Set & Lighting Design, Director: İbrahim Çiçek
- 2022 "Kum Zambakları", Zorlu Performance Arts Centre (İstanbul), Set Design, Director: Mark Levitas
- 2022 "Taxim", Baba Sahne Theatre (İstanbul), Set & Lighting Design, Director: Emrah Eren
- 2021 "Beni Sakın Yumruklardan", IKS (Turkey), Set & Lighting Design, Director: Yelda Baskin
- 2020 "Macbeth", Eskisehir Municipality Theatre (Turkey), Lighting Design, Director: Barış Erdenk
- 2020 "Amadeus", Çopan İlhan & Sadri Alışık Theatre, Lighting Design, Director: Işıl Kasapoğlu
- 2019 "Every Brilliant Thing", Belfry Theatre (Victoria), Lighting Design, Director: Estelle Shook
- 2019 "Girls & Boys", Craft Theatre (İstanbul), Set & Lighting Design, Director: İbrahim Çiçek
- 2019 "Namenlos", Kavim Theatre (İstanbul), Set & Lighting Design, Director: Ebru Tartıcı Borchers
- 2018 "Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime", Tiyatro Kare (Turkey), Set & Lighting Design, Director: Nedim Saban
- 2018 "The Normal Heart", Craft Theatre (İstanbul), Set & Lighting Design, Director: İbrahim Çiçek
- 2018 "Photograph 51", Craft Theatre (İstanbul), Set & Lighting Design, Director: Çağ Çalışkur
- 2018 "Killology", Craft Theatre (İstanbul), Set & Lighting Design, Director: İbrahim Çiçek
- 2018 "Terror", Bakırköy Belediye Tiyatrosu (İstanbul), Set & Lighting Design, Director: Nurkan Erpulat
- 2017 "Anna Karenina", National Theatre (Turkey), Set&Lighting Design, Director: İpek Atagün Gezener
- 2016 "Fortune Falls", Catalyst Theatre (presented by ATP), Set & Lighting Design, Director: Jonathan Christenson
- 2016 "Scorched", National Theatre (Turkey), Lighting Design, Director: Barış Erdenk
- 2016 "Şizo Şeyks", Altıdan Sonra Tiyatro (İstanbul), Lighting Design, Director: Yiğit Sertdemir
- 2015 "A Comedy of Errors", Bakırköy Belediye Tiyatrosu (İstanbul), Set Design, Director: Tim Supple
- 2015 "Full Moon", Suzanne Dellal Centre (Tel Aviv, Israel), Bedirhan Dehmen Dance Company, Lighting Design
- 2015 "Ezel Bahar", National Ballet of Turkey, Modern Dance Istanbul, Lighting Design, Choreography: Bedirhan Dehmen
- 2015 "The Last Voyage of Donald Crowhurst", ATP in assoc. with Ghost River Theatre, Lighting Design, Director: Eric Rose
- 2014 "Tek Kişilik Şehir", Tiyatropere (İstanbul, Turkey), Set & Lighting Design, Director: Kerem Ayan
- 2014 "Biz", Maxim Gorki Theatre (Berlin, Germany), Lighting Design, Choreography: Bedirhan Dehmen
- 2013 "The Kite Runner", Theatre Calgary & Citadel Theatre Co-Production (Calgary & Edmonton), Set & Lighting Design, Director: Eric Rose
- 2012 "Aşk Hastası", National Theatre (Turkey), Lighting Design, Director: Kenan Işık
- 2011 "Şehir Orman", National Ballet Modern Dance Company (İstanbul, Turkey), Lighting Design, Choreography: Beyhan Murphy
- 2011 "The Trespassers", Vancouver Playhouse(Vancouver), Lighting Design, Director: Ron Jenkins
- 2010 "Ghost Walk", Laboratuar (Turkey) & Bad Co(Croatia), Set & Lighting Design, Choreographer: Şafak Uysal
- 2010 "A Streetcar Named Desire", Bluebridge Repertory Theatre(Victoria), Lighting Design, Director: Brian Richmond
- 2009 "Bash'D!", Theatre Passe Muraille(Toronto), Lighting Design, Director: Ron Jenkins
- 2008 "Comrades", Kill Your Television Theatre(Edmonton), Production Design, Director: Kevin Sutley
- 2007 "Death and the Maiden", Globe Theatre (Regina), Set & Costume Design, Director: Floyd Favel
- 2007 "Fat Pig", Northern Light Theatre (Edmonton), Set & Lighting Design, Director: Trevor Schimdt
- 2006 "1984", Citadel Theatre(Edmonton), Production Design, Director: Jonathan Christenson
- 2005 "City of Lost Children", Laboratuar (Turkey), Set & Lighting Design, Choreographer: Şafak Uysal
- 2003 "Why??", Çıplak Ayaklar Dance Company (Turkey), Lighting Design, Choreographers: Mihran Tomasyan, Emre Celik