

Nao Kobayashi Puppet, Costume, Interdisciplinary art

EDUCATION

2014-2017 MFA in Costume Design & Technology for Theatre, TV & Film San Diego State University
2001-2005 BA in Technical Theatre, minor in studio art Sonoma State University

PUPPET CONSTRUCTION and Related TECHNOLOGY (selected)

2019- Puppet fabricator Images in Motion, Sonoma CA
2023 sea creature educational model design/fabrication Monterey Bay Aquarium
2022 large puppet head design/fabrication for a corporation event TaylorMade Golf, CA
2021 puppet fabrication, design of Toony the Tuna MeTV, Chicago
2020 miniature figure design and construction for a Historic Circus project David L Hammerstorm, CA
2019 sea creature educational model creation for Monterey Bay Aquarium Images in Motion, CA
2018 special effect technical design for a dress in a fashion show Moschino, Ca/Milan Italy
2017 customized puppet design/fabrication for a national cat show the Martinos VivaTonk, CA
2017 costume design/fabrication for stilt walk for corporate events Background Productions, CA
2014 costume/craft artisan, kimono upcycling project for holiday markt Izumi Ose, Berlin Germany

THEATRE COSTUME and PUPPET DESIGN

2021 Little Journey prod. Images in Motion Short film
2019 The Fasting Girls dir. Alexis Macnab Z Space, San Francisco
2016 Momo the Time Titan dir. John McManus, Nathaniel Williams FreeColumbia Puppet Program, NY
2016 The Big Friendly Giant dir. Margaret Larlham Don Powell Theater, San Diego

THEATRE COSTUME DESIGN

2016 Requiem for Ocean choreo. Jean Isaacs Saville Theatre, CA
2015 Become Ocean choreo. Jean Isaacs SanDiego Trolley Dance, C
2015 Dr. Faustus Lights the Lights dir. Peter Cirino DonPowell Theater, San Diego
2015 Fukuoka Horror House dir. Nobuyuki Gomi Beppu Konyoku Art Triennale, Japan

EXHIBITION

2024 "Glimpse" juried show selected art Art Guild of Sonoma
2019- selected artist Mill Valley Fall Art Festival, Mill Valley
2017 "Yokai, Demons and Monsters" Exhibition commissioned works. Japanese Friendship Garden, SanDiego
2014 Fabric Artists' Exhibition organizer and residential artist Art Space Tetra, Fukuoka Japan

PERFORMANCE ART and INTERDISCIPLINARY PUPPETRY (artistic director /performer)

2018 Shilo Kloko Hollywood Fringe Festival
2018 Behind Shadows supported and co-produced by Highways Performance Space, Santa Monica
2017 Land of No Shadows invited work at the Last Night of the Steve Allen Theatre, Hollywood
2017 Unexpected Mirror w/ animators Walter Santucci, Yoriko Murakami, Steve Allen Theatre, MHP Theatre, SD

TEACHING

2023- finger puppet sewing workshop for all age Community Supply, Sonoma
2019 puppet workshop instructor for a children's summer program, 2727 California Art Center, Berkeley
2018 program coordinator/teaching artist for sewing, craft, puppet making The Planet Kids Center, Sausalito
2017-2018 teaching artist 10ths creative movement for students with special needs Youth in Arts, San Rafael
2017 teaching assistant at 12wks puppetry residency program for 2nd grades Nye Elementary School, SanDiego

ACHIEVEMENT

2021 selected screening at Calgary Animated Objects Festival, Venice Shorts Film Festival
2021 Artist Award of the year, Mill Valley Fall Art Festival
2019- US O-visa Individuals with Extraordinary Ability or Achievement as a Puppet Maker
2018 Hollywood Fringe Festival Scholarship winner
2018 Review, the Essence of Fringe Award and Platinum rated for Hollywood Fringe Festival by TVolution
2018 Highways Performance Space co-producing project recipient
2017 Outstanding Graduating MFA Design 2016-2017 San Diego State University

