

Monica Manganelli – Biography/CV
Creative&Film Director/Scenographer-Visual Artist/Writer

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CREATIVE DIRECTOR, DESIGNER and WRITER MONICA, MANGANELLI's visually arresting work is usually known for the intersection of theater, opera and film, for its cinematic elegance, abstract yet visceral staging, and a multidisciplinary merging of narrative heft, visual dramaturgy and design. Her Current projects as *director, visual/video & set designer* include new films, debuts and performing arts productions that continue to blur and explore the lines between film, visual art and music-opera. Her films and projects have participated in about 180 festivals and won 40 awards, and are being supported by Rai Cinema, MiBACT (MIC) Cinema and Audiovisual Italian Ministry of Culture, BKM (Germany) - Bundesregierung für Kultur und Medien, Emilia Romagna Film Commission.

Biography:

Born in Parma (Italy) in 1977, studied **Architecture** at the *Institute of Art* (Bachelor in Architecture). In 2002 she graduated from the *Parma University* with an **Academic Degree in Conservation of Cultural Heritage** (History of Art and Architecture's Specialization).

She followed an additional year specializing with a **Postgraduate Academic Degree in "Theater's Set Design"** and a **Master in Cad Design e Computer Graphics** in Reggio Emilia (2002-2003).

In this period she began to work as **Set Designer Collaborator and Concept-Visual Artist** for many productions since 2001 to 2011 in the *Lyric Opera House* in Italy and Europe among: ***Rigoletto***, *Theatre Marijnski, St. Petersburg*; ***L 'Impresario delle Smirne***, *Theatre Stabile Turin*; ***Samson et Dalila, Don Pasquale***, *Theatre Comunale Bologna, Opera Royal de Wallonie*; ***Fahrenheit 451***, Director Luca Ronconi; ***Ercole sul Termodonte, Agrippina***, *Theatre La Fenice Venice*.

Monica collaborated with the Director Davide Livermore for the preparation of Scenic and visual/Set design of following works : ***Billy Budd*** (Season 2004-05), ***Acì Galatea e Polifemo*** (Season 2008-09), ***Idomeneo*** (Season 2010-11), ***I Vespri Siciliani*** (Season 2011-12), productions by *Theatre Regio Turin*.

Then Monica moved in the **FILM PRODUCTION** definitely (2009) and now she is also specialized as **VFX Art Director/Concept Artist and Creative EventDesigner**.

She collaborated with different **VFX-PostProduction Studios, Film Productions, Events Agency in Europe, working on many commercial spots, movies and fashion show/ events for:**

EDI VFX (Milan), MATHEMATIC (Paris), KOMPOST (Zurich), WARNER BROS (Chicago), DAW Design (Turin), TAX FREE FILM (Parma), Leo Burnett UK and PARTIZAN LONDON, BALICH WORLDWIDE SHOW, VILLA EUGENIE (Paris-Bruxelles). **CREDITS:**

CLOUD ATLAS (2012): **CONCEPT ARTIST** for the Movie Production by *Tom Tykwer, Andy and Lana Wachowski* (Berlin-Babelsberg Studios), Production Design: Hugh Bateup, Uli Hanisch (2011-12).

COMMERCIAL SPOT (2009-2016): Sammontana, Adidas, Armani, X_Factor, SkyTV, Tim "Survivor", Q8, Lancia, Mediolanum, Neutro Roberts, Wind Mobile, Oro Saywa, Seaworld, Tim "Internet pack", Tim "Monalisa", "BBC-Mass Construction", Lancia Delta, Lancia Musa, Lamborghini, Tim-

Marco Polo, Tim Casanova, TrafficJam-Zain/TV, BMW, Wolswagen, Ansaldo Breda-Expo Milan 2015, Mirabilandia, Rado, Ferrero , Richmond, Tic Tac etc....

VILLA EUGENIE (Bruxelles) by Scenographer and Director Etienne Russo: *SCENOGRAPHER-CONCEPT/VISUAL ARTIST* for fashion show and events (2012-2013); Credits: Dior Homme (Paris), Y3, Farley (New York), FIE Event- Grand Palais (Paris).

MILAN FASHION WEEK (2013): *Scenographer/Set Designer - Art Director* for fashion show and events by Vogue- Condénast and some fashion brands (BORBONESE, MEISSEN, ETRO) ecc..

In 2013 she signed at **BMF- Beijing Music Festival** (China) as ***Scenographer- Set Designer-Art Director*** the *virtual multimedia scenography* for the Verdi's Anniversary Celebration project (Traviata, Rigoletto, Trovatore, Wagner - Opening Ceremony).

In 2014 she collaborated with *Event Creative Director Marco Balich* and his creative team for the event show **OPERA ONICE at the ARENA OF VERONA** and other events projects.

NOW and UPCOMING FUTURE PROJECTS: Now she is focusing on projects regarding **CREATIVE and ARTISTIC-FILM DIRECTION** in film production, lyric opera house and fashion/events show.

She signed in 2015 as director her first short animated film: ***The BALLAD of the HOMELESS*** (La Ballata dei SenzaTetto) with the co-production of Emilia Romagna Film Commission. Short selected in about 60 important international film festival and WINNER for :

- BEST ANIMATION-Los Angeles SHORTS FEST** for qualifying shortlist Academy Award/Oscar 2016,
- BEST FILM EUROPE and BEST FILM WORLD - Anim'Arte** Animation festival Brazil, (2015)
- BEST MUSIC and AUDIENCE AWARD -ATHENS Animation** Film festival (2016).
- SPECIAL PRIZE for ANIMATION – ITALIAN SILVER RIBBON 2016** (Nastri d' argento-Italian critics award).
- **BEST ANIMATED ECO FILM, Golden Kuker Animation** Film Festival (2016)
- AUDIENCE AWARD - Festival "Registi a Confronto"** (2016)
- AUDIENCE AWARD, Festival Palagiano in corto** (2016)
- BEST ANIMATION -Voghera Film festival** (2016).

Candidate for **"David di Donatello"-Italian Film Academy awards**: category BEST SHORT (2016).

She has been ***creative director*** and she developed videoscenography for **entertainment** and **video installations** on different cultural projects, including:

- *Virtual set design* for permanent **exhibition to Cinecittà studios**, client: Cinecittà Studios Rome
- *Immersive video installation* for **exhibition "Umbria and cinema"** , client: CariPerugiaArte Foundation at Baldeschi Palace in Perugia (2016).
- Immersive video installation* at **Rocca Paolina (into a medieval fortress) in Perugia - Italy**, client: Culture Department - City of Perugia. (2017).

Monica signed the set design and videoscenography for the Opera House Season 2016-20 for many opera projects:

- **ANNA BOLENA,ROBERTO DEVEREUX,MARIA STUARDA by Donizetti**: co-productions by THEATRE CARLO FELICE GENOVA/THEATRE LA FENICE -VENICE/THEATRE REGIO PARMA,

-**IL TURCO IN ITALIA**, Aslico, co-production THEATRE FRASCHINI PAVIA-OPERA HOUSE, THEATRE PONCHIELLI CREMONA.

-**AIDA**, new opera production by Theatre Carlo Felice-Genova Opera House, for the opening seasons 2018-19. An innovative production completely with virtual digital set design for creating a

futuristic Egypt, inspired sci-fi film.

In 2019, Monica completed her new animated film as film director, (middle length), **BUTTERFLIES IN BERLIN** an drama film about Homocaust and the story of a man who wants to become a woman, set up during the 30's and 40's in Berlin. A LATTEPLUS BERLIN FILM PRODUCTION & ALEXANDRA CINEMATOGRAFICA SRL in collaboration with RAI CINEMA, and with the support of German Federal Ministry of culture and media, EMILIA ROMAGNA Film Commission and MIBACT- Italian Ministry of culture and cinema. The film was selected in 100+ festivals, won numerous awards (25+), and **was a success with both audiences and critics. Now in distribution on AmazonPrime & HERE TV for North America.**

Moreover in 2021-2022, Monica signed the ***Direction/dramaturgy, set and videoscenography***, for new productions, in the field of ***multidisciplinary arts***:

THE ATLAS OF WONDERS *a crossmedia/theatrical film project (immersive video installation/ animated film series/6 episodes), where J.S. Bach's music meets the animation techniques/video design and new technologies for the celebration of 300th anniversary of Brandebunburger six Bach's Concerts.*

In 2022, she finished her new film (documentary), as film and creative director, ***THE BLACK CHRISTS-Far From Justice***, based on Tulsa/Oklahoma massacre in 1921. In distribution for 2022.

Monica is now in development as ***film director*** for her new feature animated film, **TURANDOT- Princess of China**, which received a first contribution/funding from the Italian Ministry of Culture- Film Section for the Screenplay-Development, and she is developing her first live-action feature film, **BREAKING THER SILENCE**, and some projects about baroque operas as stage-creative director.

She performs regularly **teaching at master classes** and **workshops** including Cinecitta' Studios, the Italian Opera School at the Teatro Comunale di Bologna, Toschi Institute of Art, IED Milan, CoopFolias, Italian national Cinema School-CSC (Animation Department).

She has been professor at the ***University of Parma***, regarding ***"Scenography and new technologies within creative industries "*** (2016-17).

She was awarded in 2015 the **Prize San Martino for artistic merit** by the city of Noceto (PR) with the following motivation: *"For a versatile and highly innovative artist who has achieved prestigious international awards, proving to be able to combine the talented professional skills developed with passionate determination, a sensitivity able to translate reality into stories and striking images of authentic poetry, open to messages of courage, solidarity and hope "*.

In 2018 has been invited as special guest-speaker by ***Iranian National School of Cinema*** for the international conference, in collaboration with Iranian Culture Ministry and National Library of Iran, on the subject of ***"Cinema in the Digital Age"***, to talk about ***"Interdisciplinary of the arts: Skills/Experiences- oriented relations between cinema and other artistic fields such as theater, exhibitions, animation and video-installation in the digital age"***.

In 2020 she was invited among the speakers of the Conference organized by the ***University of Salerno and Linea D'Ombra Festival*** regarding: ***"ECONOMIC AND DIGITAL AUDIOVISUAL CULTURES, between alliances and conflicts"***, and in 2022 by the ***Faculty of Fine Arts of the university of Lisbon*** and Centre for Studies and Research in the Fine Arts (CIEBA), for talking about ***"Inter and multidisciplinary of the arts for scenographer/set designer in the digital age."***