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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Different Languages of Design

A thesis submitted in partial satisfaction of the

Requirements for the degree Master of Fine Arts

in

Theatre and Dance (Design)

by

Wen-Ling Liao

Committee in charge:

Professor Alan Burrett, Chair Professor Tara Knight Professor Manuel Rotenberg Professor Shahrokh Yadegari

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University of California, San Diego 2012

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ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS

Different Languages of Design

by

Wen-Ling Liao

Master of Fine Arts in Theatre and Dance (Design)

University of California, San Diego, 2012

Professor Alan Burrett, Chair

Being an international student to learn about design here, I am always very sensitive that how different it is to express my design in another language. After three year's learning process, I realized the language I have tried to improve is not just using English but various forms of languages to approach my design.

I learned multiple ways of creation by using different medias from pencils, brushes and craft to different types of technologies such as WYSIWYG, Vectorworks and Isadora. Taking different types of classes to brainstorm with my classmates and absorb new knowledge from faculty also inspired my to think about design in a different way. Practicing how to communicate was a big section I tried to improve during these three years. Understanding how many different types of people we are working with in the theatre and they all think differently help me to adjust what I should talk while I work with them. Knowing the culture difference is another major language I am learning here. It is not just broadening my horizon also becoming a process to define who I am as a designer, artist and human being.

After three years, I am still learning how to use all of these languages. However, I feel much more comfortable and confident to use them and will keep improving in rest of my life.