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YOHO Artist Spotlight: Props Master Zach Serafin



YOHO Artist Zach Serafin with one of his creations.

At only 32 years of age, Zach Serafin already has eight years as a working set designer and builder in the fast-paced world of New York theater under his belt. Since a lot of his work comes by word of mouth, these days he is attracting almost more work than he can handle.

Having earned a Bachelor of Arts degree at Buffalo State, Zach is a self-made success story. After completing internships in Buffalo and Ithaca, he made a bold move to New York City, determined to become a success in scenic design, set construction, props mastery and visual arts.

In a competitive market, he singlehandedly marketed his skills and networked his way to recognition, and today Zach has lined up enough set design projects with area theater groups to keep him busy for the next several months. Samples of the colorful sets that Zach has expertly designed and fabricated can be found at www.zachserafindesigns.com, and include such productions as "Romeo and Juliet," "Laughter on the 23rd Floor" and "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

Zach has most recently built the set and provided props for a children's production of "Grease," and will be working on "Aladdin" and "Anne of Green Gables" for the same group in the near future. He is additionally working as props master for The Flea Theater in Tribeca, and transitioning into the role of its set designer. Meanwhile, Zach has ventured into visual art work with the unveiling of an art installation for Jack Magazine. With Zach's eye for design, the poster-sized magazine pages have been artfully and stylishly displayed in the Meatpacking District, on West 14th Street.

A self-proclaimed "Jack of all Trades," Zach has been working out of his YOHO studio for almost

three years. His work is hands-on and laborintensive, and his studio is a fully-operational workshop that doubles as a storage space for his on-hand scenery, props and building materials. His studio came with a loft space that was built by the previous occupant, which for him was ideal.

"I have more lumber than Home Depot," he joked.

Zach has also started creating one-of-a-kind home decor pieces, recycling unused props and items found in various locations throughout the city in the process.

Zach Serafin occupies studio number 546 at 540 Nepperhan Ave., within the artist studios at YOHO. He recently participated in the 13th annual Open Studios event. To learn more about Zach's theater work, visit www.zachserafindesigns.com. To learn more about YOHO, the largest artist community in southern Westchester, visit www.YOHOartists.com.