



There are two moments in the creative process when my cheeks turn red and my heart starts to race.

The first happens after months of prep and research — that moment of inspiration when I finally know what motivates all of the design. The second happens months later, at the dress rehearsal — when the world I imagined and its poetic reality comes to life.

## DANYLYNE

Born to ballroom-dancing parents in Montreal, Dany mounted her first production at the age of three atop the kitchen counter, charging three clothes-pins for admission. By 10, she was roping her friends into neighbourhood spectacles held in the basement. Her murder mystery musical was a popular offering.

By her late teens, Dany was a graphic designer like her father. She tried her hand at interior design — hated it. In 1985, while studying painting at the Ontario College Of Art, she took an introductory theatre course as her last elective. During the first class by Paul Baker, she knew she had found her vocation, where she could do it all — theatre design.

Dany's first professional production was *Twelfth Night* for Shakespeare In High Park in 1993, for which she received the first of seven Dora Award-nominations (she won one for 1997's *The Attic*, *The Pearls And Three Fine Girls*).

Pictured is one of Dany's Indian silk kimonos from the Canadian Opera Company's stunning production of *Pelléas et Mélisande*, which just played in Toronto and travels to Cincinnati this summer.

Photograph by Paula Wilson.