

Victorian College of the Arts
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Renowned Italian set designer in residence at the VCA

Milan-based set designer and artist Edoardo Sanchi will be on campus at the Victorian College of the Arts from Monday 23 July until late October as part of the Simplot International Masterclass Series 2007.

Sanchi will be mentoring and workshopping with students from VCA Production and VCA Art. He will work closely with individual postgraduate design students, supervising them as they complete their sets and costumes for upcoming performance seasons. Sanchi will also bring his own talents as a designer to VCA Puppetry's end-of-year public performance in November.

Sanchi is acclaimed throughout Europe for his innovative approach to set design. Recent design credits include *La Mano* by the experimental theatre company Teatro delle Albe in Belgium, Ravenna and Chicago, *Ascanio in Alba* at La Scala Milan, *Tannhäuser* for Theater Erfurt in Germany, and *Il ritorno del Don Calandrino* by Cimaroso conducted by Ricardo Muti at the Pfingsfestspiele in Salzburg.

"As a stage designer in constant demand in Europe, we are extremely lucky to have secured Edoardo's services as a guest teacher here at the VCA," said Richard Roberts, Head of VCA Production.

"One of our goals here is that students are exposed to a wide range of artists and practitioners from a variety of cultural environments. As a leading European designer and teacher, we are delighted to be able to welcome Edoardo to the VCA as part of that programme."

Sanchi will be the second guest artist to visit the VCA in 2007 as part of the Simplot International Masterclass Series - choreographer Stephen Petronio is currently in residence at VCA Dance. Sponsorship from Simplot Australia enables the VCA to invite prominent international artists, performers and directors to the campus to work with students. Previous visiting artists have included art director at Pixar Animation Studios Tia Kratter and French puppeteer Philippe Genty.

Edoardo Sanchi graduated from the Academia di Belle Arti di Brera in Milan where he is currently Professor overseeing the masters degree in set design. From 1986 to 1990 he worked as assistant to the designers Margherita Palli, Gabris Ferrari, Michel Lebois, Quirino Conti and Gianni Quaranta, signing his own stage and costume designs from 1981 onwards and exhibiting his work as a sculptor in Milan. He has collaborated as set designer with directors Luca Ronconi, Franco Branciaroli, Antonio Calenda and Jerome Savary, Franco Zeffirelli, David Brandon, Stefano Monti, Giorgio Marini, Italo Nunziata, Franco Ripa di Meana, Ruggiero Cappuccio, Marco Martinelli and Giorgio Barberio Corsetti, Marco Martinelli and Micha Van Hoecke.

Richard Roberts and Edoardo Sanchi are available for interview

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