Yanyi Liu

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Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA — Sep 2023 - Present
- Master of Architecture degree candidate with Departmental Fellowship and Stipend.

Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA — Sep 2018 - Dec 2022
- B.A. Mathematics and Art History. GPA 3.91/4.00. Department & Social Impact Scholarship.

Architectural Design Experience

3XN Architects, Copenhagen, Denmark — Architectural Design Intern | Mar - Aug 2025

Project: P57 Tower A, Zuidas, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Developed massing, façade, and floorplate studies for the adaptive reuse of a landmark office tower, integrating transparency, materiality, structure reuse, core planning, and amenity strategies.
- Produced architectural drawings and renderings for biweekly client presentations and design development.

ZGF Architects, Washington DC — Architectural Design and Sustainability Intern | Jun - Aug 2024

Project: Johns Hopkins University Data Science and AI Facility, Baltimore, MD
- Conducted multi-objective optimization for the building performance of a 500,000 square feet research facility in Baltimore, Maryland, improved user experience and operational carbon by 50%.
- Optimized the geometries of façade shading and atrium skylight shading device through automated iterations of daylight, glare, and energy analysis with climate studio, ladybug, and grasshopper.

MITDesignX, MIT, Cambridge, MA — Prototype Designer | Jan - Dec 2024
- Designed and prototyped modular bamboo shelter systems, developing enclosure and connection details through digital and physical models.

Zaha Hadid Architects, Beijing, China — Architectural Design Intern | Jun - Aug 2020
- Supported material research, construction documentation, shop-drawing revisions, and contractor coordination for projects including Infinitus Plaza and Unicorn Island.

Scenic and Production Experience

The Glimmerglass Festival, Cooperstown, NY — Scenic Design Apprentice | May - August 2026
- Designed scenery for *Vignettes: Ellis Island,* coordinating fabrication and installation of the painted floor, drapery, furniture, and lighting integration.
- Assisted three scenic designers across five opera and musical productions through drafting, renderings, tech rehearsals, and coordination with scenic shops and production teams.
- Designed and fabricated the festival 4th of July float and twelve props pieces across four productions.

MIT Theater Arts, MIT, Cambridge, MA — Live Camera Operator and Projection Designer | Sep - Dec 2025
- Developed panoramic projected environments within a 360° projection screen and operated a live video camera for a 6-hour performance of Stan Lai's *A Dream Like A Dream*.

Swarthmore College Theater Arts, Swarthmore, PA — Scenic Designer | Sep - Dec 2022
- Led scenic design of Friedrich Dürrenmatt's *The Physicists*, from concept through drafting, fabrication, technical rehearsals, performance, and strike, closely working with director and technical director.

Skills

Skills: Rhino, Revit, AutoCAD, Vectorworks, SketchUp, Enscape, VRay, Adobe Suite (Indesign, Photoshop, Illustrator, Premiere), Grasshopper, Climate Studio, QGIS.
Language: English (Bilingual), Mandarin (Native).