

## **Anne E. McMills**

### Artist/Creative Statement

I have been in a love affair with lighting since as long as I can remember. We share a common energy, a common love language, and a common goal to develop beauty in all things. Whether that beauty is meant to be elegant, ugly, coarse, or stark, beauty is shaped and defined through light. That fact alone is magic.

Lighting brings joy to my life, and, in turn, I believe in bringing joy to the production process. Regardless of the heaviness of the subject matter on which we sometimes work, the process can still be a joyful one. I love nothing more than working with collaborators that I adore and finding the perfect look to enhance the shared vision of the design team.

The medium of light is a dynamic one to use on your artist's palette. I enjoy the way it can sculpt the stage picture, create contrast and mood, and can use texture as highlights and shadows in order to develop a visual viewpoint in which to tell the story.

I also believe that art (and the process of art) should lift others up. Whether through the storytelling of a piece, through anti-racist and anti-oppressive practice, supportive collaboration, or education, paying-it-forward is an important part of our roles as artists.

Working in entertainment (and with light) is truly a gift.