



For architecture graduates considering a career in the film industry, set design may be the most obvious avenue of entrance. One example of an architecture grad who made that leap

is **Anshuman Prasad**, who graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2003 with his Master of Architecture. After writing his thesis *Beyond Mise-En-Scene: Narrative Through Architecture in Main Stream Cinema (1980-2002)*, Prasad moved to Los Angeles to pursue a career as a set designer. He is now a member of the Art Director's Guild. One of his latest projects as set designer is the film *Captain America: Winter Soldier*. [From 2005-2013, he has been involved in many blockbuster films](#), including *Die Hard 4*, *The Hangover*, *No Strings Attached*, and *Girl With the Dragon Tattoo*, as shown in our timeline above.

Prasad views his film career as more of a specialization rather than abandonment of architecture, as his time as set designer has given him a new appreciation for the mood and character of spaces. In particular, light, shade, reflections and rain create incredible variations within a space. The benefit of being a set designer is that all these conditions can be controlled. He also believes that the most critical aspect of set design is proportion, and here his architecture degree is especially useful. Looking back on his career transition, Prasad reminisced, "I believe it was the diversity of the work that has always attracted me to set design and there was a lot of passion as well, after all, this was Hollywood. For someone who still believes in the magic, it was a dream job."

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