

CHRISTOPHER HOWCROFT

Lighting Designer, Production Electrician, Eos Programmer & Philosopher for Hire

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Employment History:

November 2015 to present: Technical Co-ordinator, THE QUEENS THEATRE, HORNCHURCH
Line manager for a team of six technicians plus casual staff with responsibility for the lighting, sound and stage requirements of the theatre's productions. I am responsible for budgets for both ongoing repairs and renewals and specific projects. I also have responsibility for ensuring that the technical department is working safely and in accordance with regulations. I am a major point of contact for visiting creatives and external clients and partners to discuss their requirements and ensure their events meet their expectations.

July 2014 to November 2015: Production Assistant, THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, HORNCHURCH.
With responsibility for liaising with visiting companies and groups at this busy 500 seat producing theatre; dealing with their riders, risk assessments and other paperwork. I also drew up the technical department's schedules, call casual crew, administer budgets (including drawing up estimates and bills), checked timesheets for the production department as a whole and deputised for the production manager as required.

November 2005 to July 2014: Technician, THE QUEEN'S THEATRE, HORNCHURCH.
As one of six multi-skilled technicians, my responsibilities included lighting, sound and stage support for the Queen's Theatre's in-house productions, of which there are eight a year running for about three weeks each. I was production electrician and programmer for over twenty main-house productions; other production credits included Sound No. 1 and No. 2 roles (including musicals and pantomimes with the actor-musician company as well as pure playback shows).

2004 to present: Freelance technician for clients including THE BLOOMSBURY THEATRE, LONDON BUBBLE, THE BECK THEATRE HAYES, THE YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE.

2002–2004: Technical Officer, UEA STUDENT DRAMA SOCIETY plus lighting design and crewing for various amateur groups in Norwich.

Skills:

Highly proficient Eos family and Strand 500 series programmer.	Set construction, fit-ups and get-outs.
Vectorworks Spotlight drafting for lighting plans (and have own licenced copy).	Computer literate and able to use most common software packages.
Live sound mixing with analogue and digital desks (mainly Yamaha but also some Digico).	Props: Specialising in electrical practicals and LED effects.
Qlab programming for sound and video.	Production management: Including scheduling, managing budgets, supervising junior staff and amateurs.
PAT testing and other electrical maintenance.	Stage Management: DSM work, ASM work including making and sourcing props.
Proficient counterweight flyman.	

Training and certification:

Full clean UK driving licence

DBS checked

First Aid at Work, July 2013, via Frinton Training

In-house Risk Assessment training, Queen's Theatre Hornchurch (not a certified course)

Introduction to the Ion Control System, February 2009, via ETC

Education:

2001–2004: University of East Anglia

1999–2001: Harrow College, Harrow

1996–99: Watford Grammar School for Boys,
Watford

1991–96: Lincoln Christ's Hospital School,
Lincoln.

Academic Qualifications:

Ba Linguistics and Philosophy (first class honours).

A levels: Mathematics (B), English language and Literature (C)

AS levels: Philosophy (A), Mechanics (C), General Studies (A)

GCSE's (1996): 10 grade A or A*s, including Maths, English, Sciences, Theatre Studies and French

Lighting Design Credits:

Associate member of the A.L.D., membership number 1914

For the Queen's Theatre, Hornchurch:

'Hot Stuff' (May 2015); 'Deadly Murder' (February 2015); 'Sleeping Beauty' (December & January 2014/15); 'The Great Gatsby' (April 2014); 'The Rise and Fall of Little Voice' (October 2013); 'Lust' (September 2013); 'A Passionate Woman' (February 2013); 'The Hound of the Baskervilles' (October 2012); 'Peter Pan' (June 2012); 'Satin and Steel' (January 2012); 'The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde' (October 2011); 'Pick Yourself Up' (March 2011); 'A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum' (October 2010); 'Travels with my Aunt' (January 2010); 'A Murder Has Been Arranged' (October 2009).

Recent fringe designs:

Britten's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' for 'Opera in the City', St Katharine Cree church, June 2015

'Clown Slut' for 'Local Girl Productions', BAC, March 2015

'Boxer Beetle' for 'Local Girl Productions', Rich Mix, March 2014

References available on request
