

Pre-show Preparation

Making sure it all runs smoothly

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Lecture Series

- Creative Lighting
- Safety & Security
- **Pre-show preparations**
- Running a show
- (Sound Design)



Contents

1. Have a plan
2. Rent additional luminaires
3. Position & gel luminaires
4. The lighting control desk
5. Programming the desk very basically
6. Follow spot lights
7. Technical run through
8. Feedback

1. Preparation – Have your plan

- Recap – Before the show's first technical run through you should have considered the lighting design (See lecture 1)
- You should have a lighting plan and an idea of how the stage will look
- The positioning of the lights should have been considered, and whether additional lights are to be rented

2. Preparation – Rent additional luminaires

- We have 10 fresnels, 6 profile spots
- Thus as stated before this will only do cold/warm and one-two colours (so it's fine for just lights on/off)
- Rent more if you need to provide additional lighting or if you want strong colours (not just straw/steel)
- Rent from Whitelight Ltd (contact details back of Monckton Handbook)
- You may need to rent a follow spot, we only have one
- This will also have to have been considered during planning

3. Preparation - Positioning & gel

Recap of safety:

- We own a Zarges 14rung 6m ladder! – Y shape
- Smaller moveable ladder: disconnects to access side lights
- Once lights are up generally avoid the ladder
- Must do for colour/positioning however
- AT OWN RISK
- Must have 3 people at least present
 - One to go up ladder
 - One to support opposite base
 - If unsure another to support same side
 - One person to switch lights on/off at console



3. Preparation - Positioning & gel

- Try to have a good idea where you are positioning each light
- Remember cross lighting
- The gel must be bought (from Whitelight or other retailer) or we have some in drawer in projection booth
- Gel every light ideally
- Gel is cut to size according to gel frame (these slide out)
- Gel frame can then be inserted into luminaire and positioned

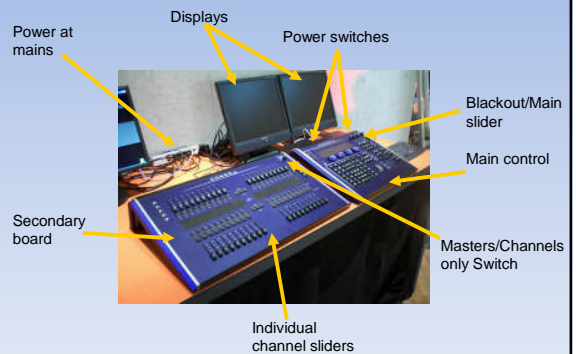
3. Preparation - Positioning & gel

- To position have 3 people at least
 - One at foot of ladder
 - One moving luminaire
 - One controlling the light desk
- When positioning have the person at the light desk turn the light on 50-75%
- Turn house lights to low setting
- Position under direct vision and avoid blocking the light with your body (position ladder appropriately)
- Use barn doors to mask sides so light doesn't hit curtain etc

3. Preparation - Positioning & gel

- Lots of shouting e.g.
 - 'Turn 25 on 50%' (controller then turns on 50%)
 - Position light on channel 25
 - 'Turn 25 to full' (you can now see what the light is hitting fully)
 - 'Turn 25 off, 26 to 50%' and move on to channel 26
- Work your way across systematically and try to keep everything balanced
- Occasionally take a step back into the audience with the light you've just positioned on (and possibly the opposite one for assessment of symmetry)
- Check at the end that the pairs/scenes you have setup look ok together

4. The lighting control desk



Questions?