

Spirited Away – Dresser Job Specification

Background:

Co-producers Toho Co. (based in Japan) and PW Productions (based in London) are looking to build an experienced team to work alongside the Japanese production team on the European premiere of Spirited Away opening at London Coliseum in April 2024.

The story has been brought to life for the stage by Toho Theatrical Department and Olivier and Tony Award-winning director John Caird (*Les Misérables*). Following a sell-out tour of Japan in 2022, the original Japanese cast including stars Kanna Hashimoto and Mone Kamishiraishi, who play Chihiro, will perform this spectacular production for a strictly limited London season. The production will be presented in the original Japanese, with English captions. Miyazaki's masterpiece is brought beautifully to life with a live orchestra playing the magnificent film score by Joe Hisaishi arranged by Brad Haak (*Mary Poppins*), dazzling set design by Jon Bausor (*Bat Out of Hell*), wildly imaginative puppets designed by Toby Olié (*War Horse*), choreography by Shigehiro Ide (NODA MAP Series), and lavish costumes by Sachiko Nakahara.

The production is rehearsing in Japan, performing at Imperial Theatre, Tokyo before coming to London in April.

Purpose of Job:

As a key member of the Wardrobe department, Dressers will assist performers with their costumes before, after and during the performance. They will carry out various duties for the Wardrobe team including laundry, maintenance and assist the HOD, Wardrobe Dep and Wardrobe Assistant where necessary.

As we are bringing the Japanese company to the UK, many performers, creatives and crew will not be able to speak English, interpreters will be on site throughout the run. Applicants must be able to fit into the already established Japanese team and be able to work with patience, flexibility and empathy.

Responsibilities:

- Act as a dresser throughout the run of the production.
- Assist with costume repairs and maintenance where necessary.
- Carrying out laundry calls prior to performances.
- Dressing performers prior to and during the show.
- Assisting on quick changes.
- Help actors to change at the end of performance and to hang up their costumes, returning appropriate costumes and laundry to the Wardrobe.

Person Specification:

- Experience in theatre on a large-scale production is desired.
- Basic sewing skills and knowledge of costume repair.
- Ability to be self-motivated and work well as part of a team.
- Solution-focused candidates who work calmly under pressure.
- Excellent communications skills and the ability to work across all departments in a fast-paced environment.
- Excellent punctuality and good time management.
- An open mind to new and different ways of working and the ability to acquire new skills when needed.

Producers: Toho Co. Theatre and PW Productions

Start date: Technical rehearsals start in London on 15th April 2024 (some pro-rata dates may be required prior to that – TBC)

Salary: Weekly rate as per SOLT/BECTU Agreement, based on 8 performances a week

Contract: Fixed term 15 April – 25 August 2024

Show schedule: 7:30pm Tuesday – Saturday, 2:30pm Wednesday & Saturday, 3pm Sunday

Holiday: As per the Equity agreement (28 days per year)

Start Date: 15 April 2024 (Possibly slightly before)

Location: Coliseum Theatre, St Martin's Lane, London

If you would like to apply for the role, please send a recent CV and a short cover letter (maximum one side of A4) to info@pwprods.co.uk.

Deadline to apply: 10am Wednesday 6th March 2024.