

Spirited Away - LX No.1 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 wider production team, the LX No.1 will oversee an LX team of three, work closely with the Japan based lighting designer and associates during the technical rehearsal period and be board operator for each performance as instructed, this will include operating moving lights and effects for the production.

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 No.1 LX throughout the run of the production operating the board to a first class standard.
- Work collaboratively with the lighting designer, associates and creative team during technical rehearsals.
- Facilitate a handover from the Japanese team to the London LX department, using artistic and technical skills.
- Responsibility for the checking and focusing of lighting equipment and setting up for rehearsals and performances as required.
- Oversee that work materials are kept in a tidy and secured manner and purchase stock for the department.

- Work collaboratively with other departments to ensure the smooth running of the show.
- Attend technical, dress and understudy rehearsals as required.
- Ensure that all lighting equipment is regularly tested, maintained and complies with current Health and Safety legislation and advise on new equipment purchases.
- Work as directed and supervise the setting up and operating of performances and of general maintenance as required.
- Establish a positive working relationship with the resident technical staff, theatre technicians and creative team.
- Supervise and train other LX department staff to provide board cover to a high standard and ensure that the flow of information both within the department and to others is clear, accurate and timely.
- General knowledge and awareness of Health and Safety policy and procedures and its implications.
- Wear protective clothing and footwear when required.
- Ensure that equipment is left in a safe and secure condition at the end of each performance.
- Keep up to date and accurate records of hours worked.
- When the production has finished, supply any relevant 'LX bible' paperwork in relation to running the show and support in returning any equipment to Japan / hire companies

Person Specification

- A proven background in LX control systems and board operating large scale theatrical productions.
- Experience of managing a professional theatre lighting department on large scale productions. Motivating and directing as necessary.
- Solution-focused candidates who work calmly under pressure.
- Excellent communications skills and the ability to work across all departments in a fast-paced environment.
- Experience of programming and operating lighting control systems with specific experience in a Grand MA desk
- Experience in focusing of lighting equipment.

- 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: 15th April 2024 (some pro-rata dates may be required – TBC)

Salary: Dependant on experience (above minimum SOLT/BECTU rates).

Benefits: Sunday payments, overtime at time and a half, will change in accordance with any SOLT/Bectu changes.

Contract: Fixed term 15 April – 25 August 2024

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

Holiday: As per the Bectu 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, with the subject line 'LX no.1'.

Deadline to apply: Monday 4th March 2024 10am