

Alistair J. Sterling

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Forward-thinking Technical Director with over 12 years of experience managing large-scale theatrical productions and live events. Expert in structural engineering for the stage, high-end automation, and budget optimisation. Proven track record of delivering 100+ complex scenic designs while maintaining a perfect safety record and reducing material waste by 20%.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Technical Director | Royal National Theatre | London, UK

May 2018 - Present

- Oversight of all technical aspects for 7 mainstage productions annually with budgets totalling £1.1M.
- Engineered a complex rotating stage for a premier production that facilitated 12 seamless scene changes.
- Managed a full-time staff of 15 and up to 40 casual technicians during peak production periods.
- Implemented a new digital safety tracking system that reduced workplace incidents by 40% over three years.
- Negotiated a long-term contract with a regional steel supplier, saving the organisation £25,000 in annual material costs.

Regional Technical Supervisor | Creative Technology (CT) | Manchester, UK

Aug 2013 - Apr 2018

- Directed the technical implementation for 25+ large-scale corporate trade shows and live concerts across Europe.
- Audited and approved structural rigging plots for overhead loads exceeding 22,000 kg.
- Conducted feasibility studies for proprietary LED wall integrations, increasing client satisfaction scores by 15%.
- Managed a high-speed turnaround schedule for venue transformations, consistently beating deadlines by 4+ hours.
- Supervised the maintenance and repair of a £4.5M inventory of automation and staging equipment.

Assistant Technical Director | Birmingham Repertory Theatre | Birmingham, UK

Jun 2010 - Jul 2013

- Performed structural analysis and created technical drawings for 18 varied scenic designs.
- Led the carpentry team in the construction of a two-story realistic house set with working plumbing.
- Optimised shop workflows using Lean principles, reducing build time by 10% per show.
- Tracked daily expenditures against production budgets to ensure 100% financial compliance.

EDUCATION

Royal Central School of Speech and Drama | Master of Arts | Creative Production and Technical Management

Sept 2008 - Jun 2010

Guildhall School of Music & Drama | Bachelor of Arts (Hons) | Technical Theatre Arts

Sept 2004 - Jun 2008

SKILLS

AutoCAD & Vectorworks, Structural Steel Fabrication, Stage Automation Systems, Rigging & Load Calculations, Pneumatics & Hydraulics, CNC Routing & Digital Fabrication, Budget Forecasting, Supplier Negotiation, IOSH & NEBOSH Safety Compliance, Resource Allocation, Project Scheduling, Conflict Resolution

CERTIFICATIONS

NRC Level 2 Rigging | National Rigging Certificate (2016)

NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety | NEBOSH (2019)

LANGUAGES

English (Native)

French (B2 DELF)

ACTIVITIES

ABTT Member

Active member of the Association of British Theatre Technicians, contributing to safety standards committees.

Scale Modelling

Building historical architectural models to scale as a personal study in structural evolution.

CV example from guide at vitae.so