

SARAH RIFFLE

LIGHTING SUPERVISOR & PRODUCTION MANAGER

slriffledesign.com

(813) 469-5469 slriffle@gmail.com

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

A seasoned entertainment and special events production professional with over 20 years of experience at all levels of the industry, bringing a wealth of technical expertise and leadership to every project. Highly organized with excellent communication skills, able to manage multiple tasks efficiently while maintaining a positive attitude in high-pressure environments. Adept at problem-solving and adapting to dynamic challenges, ensuring seamless execution of creative and technical productions from creation to performance.

SELECTED EXPERIENCE

Assistant Lighting Designer

Lyric Opera Chicago

2017-Present

- Generate and maintain all associated design paperwork for a 6-8 opera season in a 3500-seat house
- Collaborate with guest lighting designers and Lighting Director to fulfill design objectives, including rentals, budgeting, scheduling, and labor assignments
- Act as assistant to guest designers and in-house Lighting Director for productions, which includes focus, tracking cues, preparing show files with the programmer, documenting all moving light information, watching every performance to maintain design integrity and accurately archiving the production after it closes
- Coordinate and communicate with IATSE local 2 crew, including installation, focus, and maintenance schedules for assigned productions
- Utilize Adobe After Effects and run content through a Raspberry Pi device to create and distribute front-of-house marketing displays
- Design lighting for additional Lyric Opera Chicago programming such as the annual gala, Rising Star Concert, and other special events

Lighting Supervisor

Des Moines Metro Opera

2016-2018

- Organize and supervise the implementation of a three-opera repertory season in a 500-seat thrust theater
- Coordinate lighting rental packages and purchasing for the season alongside the Head Electrician while tracking and remaining within the allotted budget
- Create and maintain paperwork for efficient daily changeovers
- Assist in adapting production stage lighting for television during live recording for Iowa Public Television
- Act as department representative in weekly production meetings, as well as facilitate continued communication between designers, electric staff, and other production departments
- Interview and hire Electrics Department staff and interns for the season
- Oversee the educational component of Electrics Interns summer season, including resume and portfolio reviews, experience with programming lighting consoles, and hands-on experience with a rep plot
- Coordinate and execute lighting for DMMO's Second Stages production at an offsite, immersive location

Production Manager/Lead Designer

Truth In Lies, NYC

2013-2017

- Manage the technical aspects for all originally conceived immersive events produced in various locations around New York City, ranging from bars to the New York Botanic Garden
- Create and maintain budgets covering the entire scope of an event
- Recruit, hire, and manage all additional design and technical staff
- Collaborate with fellow managing partners on events from conception through performance as a part of the leadership team
- Create and manage all marketing assets for independently produced events

Lighting Supervisor

BMCC Tribeca Performing Arts Center

2012-2017

- Create and manage repertory light plots in a 901-seat proscenium, a 250-seat thrust theatre and an 86-seat flexible space for productions ranging from theatre offerings to corporate events
- Lead all production crew in their respective duties to ensure seamless event management
- Execute technical advance on all productions and events
- Provide recommendations and insight into the hiring of all production staff
- Oversee budget, purchasing, and secure rentals for the Lighting Department

Asst. Lighting Designer/Tour Lighting Supervisor

Dicapo Opera Theater

2010-2013

- Develop, update, and maintain all Lightwright, Vectorworks, and Excel files for both NYC based productions and touring shows
- Lead lighting hang and focus for resident lighting designer at New York venue
- Adapt lighting design for touring repertory productions
- Advance electrics information and coordinate with tour venues on rentals and staffing requirements
- Recreate original lighting design at tour venues for Resident Lighting Designer in a fast-paced environment

Asst. Lighting Designer/Electrics Shop Manager

The Chautauqua Opera, Chautauqua, NY

2008-2009

- Communicate with guest designers for show preparation and provide assistant support on-site
- Generate and update paperwork in Lightwright, Vectorworks, Excel, and Word for a proscenium house of over 1400 seats
- Supervise 2-6 IATSE Local 266 electricians and stagehands
- Responsible for purchasing operating supplies and lighting rentals per show while meeting budget objectives
- Assist the Head Electrician with troubleshooting issues with the ETC dimmer doubling system

Freelance Lighting and Costume Designer

Regional, New York City & Chicago

2004-Present

- Craft detail-oriented designs unique to each production across multiple events simultaneously
- Collaborate with directors, designers, and crew for successful project completion
- Draft, render, and implement each design on time and within budget

SELECTED COMPANY CREDITS

Complexions Contemporary Ballet, Chicago Opera Theater, Glimmerglass Festival, Arizona Opera, The Joffrey Ballet, UrbanArias, New York City Opera, Columbus BalletMet, Issue Project Room, The Directors Company, The Chautauqua Opera

EDUCATION

MFA, Theatrical Design, Ohio University

BA, Theater, University of South Florida

SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS

ETC Consoles, Networking & Intelligent Lighting, Microsoft Office, Vectorworks, Lightwright, Moving Light Assistant, AutoCAD, Photoshop, Illustrator, After Effects, Driver's License,

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

United Scenic Artists 829, Lighting Design category, Member since 2022

Freelancers Union, Member since 2010