OPERA AUSTRALIA

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Lighting Technician/Crew

Position Title:	Lighting Technician / Crew
Department:	Technical Resources
Location:	Based at The Opera Centre, Sydney, but may be required to work and/or be based at project locations or other company work locations, as required.
Classification:	Production
Employment Type:	Temporary Contract

The Company

Opera Australia (OA) is Australia's national opera company, dedicated to enriching Australia's cultural life with exceptional opera and sustaining and developing the art form.

Opera Australia is the largest and busiest performing arts organisation in Australia, with over 600 opera performances a year, including two opera seasons in Sydney and Melbourne, Opera on Sydney Harbour, musical theatre, opera concerts and a range of other activities. Through its touring arm, the Company reaches out to communities in regional Australia, and delivers an exciting program to school students. Opera performances are broadcast and distributed nationally and internationally.

Opera Australia casts its productions from an ensemble of Australian artists - opera singers, dancers, conductors and repetiteurs, with regular appearances by international guest artists. The Company manages the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra and also works in partnership with Orchestra Victoria. The Company works with leading directors and designers, and employs a large number of highly skilled people in the areas of scenic construction and painting, wardrobe and wig-making, stage production, and management and administration. Overall, the Company plays a vital role in developing and sustaining a specialist skills base in this unique area of the performing arts. For further information please refer to our website at opera.org.au.

The Technical Resources Department

The Technical Resources Department is an in-house function of OA responsible for the supply of scenery, props, costumes, wigs, make-up, lighting, audio, projection, stage effects and crewing for productions within Opera Australia's repertoire.

Position Summary

The Lighting Technician/Crew role will support the lighting department with setup and installation of the production, site and stage lighting, as well as perform show cues. This position will also be responsible for carrying out tasks such as test and tagging and other maintenance and/or operational tasks as required, only of which the employee is suitably certified to perform.

Reporting Line

Reports to: Head of Lighting

Key Accountabilities

Key accountabilities include, but are not limited to the following:

Production

- Set-up lighting equipment for performances, both as part of a team and individually under limited supervision;

- Assist with the install of production and stage lighting, involving manual handling and working at heights;
- Deliver procedures and practices to comply with safety requirements;
- Participate in event and venue documentation, including fault reporting and consumable requirements;
- Assist in venue and daily maintenance of the stage;
- Work productively with the Lighting team, including staff from the contracting lighting equipment supply company, and
- Maintain the artistic integrity of the Lighting Design.

Other

- Attend production and staff meetings and implement requests from these meetings as directed
- Follow all Work Health and Safety policies and guidelines, including but not limited to:
    - Using equipment in the recommended manner and using safety and personal protective equipment as provided;
    - Reporting immediately any hazards, unsafe work practices or incidents that you see to your Head of Department in the first instance, and if not sufficiently addressed to the Senior Site and Technical Production Manager;
    - Adhering to safety solutions provided; and
    - Participating and contributing to discussions on safety implementations as they arise;
- Undertake any other duties as required, which are within the limits of the employee's skill, competence and training.

Common Accountabilities

Opera Australia is committed to the health, safety and wellbeing of its staff. The company and its staff must comply with a range of statutory requirements, including equal opportunity, work health and safety, privacy and trade practice. The Company also expects staff to comply with its policy and procedures, which relate to statutory requirements and our ways of working. Appointees are accountable for completing training on these matters and ensuring their knowledge, and the knowledge of their staff, is up to date.

All staff must:

- treat other staff and members of the public with respect
- act with integrity and meet the company's high standards of personal and professional conduct
- take reasonable care of, and cooperate with actions taken to protect, the health and safety of both themselves and others
- report incidents and hazards to their immediate manager as soon as practicable.
- All Managers of staff and facilities must do whatever is reasonably practical to ensure that both the workplace and the work are safe, in consultation with staff affected.

Key Selection Criteria

The key selection criteria for the role are:

- Completed a 4 year apprenticeship specialising in a relevant trade; or
- Equivalent skill and competence gained through a minimum of 3 years professional experience in a lighting department for live theatre.
- Demonstrated experience working in the maintenance of electrical equipment, preferably in a theatre and/or outdoor events setting;
- Proof of competencies in tasks to be carried out, e.g. test & tagging
- Capable to carry out manual handling tasks and comfortable working at heights;
- Exercise the required level of skill and competence to operate hand tools and machinery relevant for the completion of specific tasks.
- Demonstrate a clear understanding of "performance" etiquette, including a comprehensive knowledge of theatre traditions, protocol and terminology.

- Exercise the skill and competence to understand lighting plans, patch sheets and focus descriptions.
- Exercise a comprehensive knowledge of light and lamp technology.
- Exercise a comprehensive understanding of the relationship between colour and light.
- Exercise competence in preparation of cues and their execution.
- Exercise skill and competence in the operation of a broad range of lighting equipment and accessories.
- Exercise the skill and competence to apply a general knowledge of electricity and safety procedures
- - exercise the skill and competence to apply a basic knowledge of:
    - various control systems
    - lighting effects
    - testing equipment
    - fault finding techniques
- Exercise the skill and competence to participate in change-overs and notation of productions
- Exercise a comprehensive understanding of general venue policies and occupational health and safety
- Practical knowledge on the operation of various lighting desks;
- Excellent organisation and communication skills, written and verbal;
- Demonstrated ability to work with creative and technical personnel and performers;
- Ability to work under pressure, using tact, diplomacy and flexibility;
- Knowledge and understanding of safe work practices; and
- Be available to work flexible hours including weekends, public holidays and nights.

Other considerations

Appointment to this position is subject to the position holder having residency status and/or possessing a visa with work rights. Appointment may also be subject to passing a mandatory Working with Children check, where required by law. For some positions, an independent health and fitness check or criminal records check may also be required.

The role involves working in venues as well as regular evening and weekend work.

This position description will be reviewed on a regular basis and changes made to reflect changes in the requirements of the role. Staff will be consulted in the process of review.