



JOB DESCRIPTION

BOOK OF DUST: DRESSER/HEAD DRESSER

Salary: Dependant on experience
Terms: Fixed Term Contract ending 19 February 2022
Hours: 46 hours average working week over 6 days Monday-Saturday

Holiday: Calculated pro rata
Reports to: Head of Costume, Wardrobe Manager
Responsible for: Dressing and associated tasks

Location: Bridge Theatre, 3 Potters Fields Park, SE1 2SG

ABOUT LONDON THEATRE COMPANY

London Theatre Company is a commercial theatre producing company led by Nicholas Hytner, Tim Levy and Nick Starr, with an emphasis on new work. Our intention is to create a culture, ethos and economic model that supports writers, directors, designers and actors to work at scale in a space that is complementary to those of the subsidised theatre and West End.

In 2020, we produced a new series of Alan Bennett's Talking Heads for BBC One. A new theatre in King's Cross is currently in development.

ABOUT THE BRIDGE THEATRE

The Bridge is London Theatre Company's first new theatre. It has a stunning riverside location on the south bank of the Thames, right by Tower Bridge and five minutes' walk from the transport hub of London Bridge station. It is designed by Haworth Tompkins, winners of the 2014 RIBA Stirling Prize for Liverpool's Everyman Theatre. It has 900+ seats and can be configured in end-stage, thrust and promenade formats.

The Bridge opened for the first time in October 2017, and since then has produced a variety of plays, including A German Life, a one-woman show starring Maggie Smith, and A Midsummer Night's Dream, an immersive reimaging of Shakespeare's classic. My Name is Lucy Barton, performed by Laura Linney, opened on Broadway in January 2020.

ABOUT THIS ROLE

This is a dressing role.

Your main responsibility is setting up, managing & executing a dressing plot for the duration of the run.

During the interview stage we will appoint a Head Dresser to lead a dressing team for this production. All shortlisted applicants will be considered for the Head Dresser position.

You will be expected to work collaboratively with the Costume & Wardrobe team, as well as cast & company, to help achieve an efficient and smoothly running backstage environment.

This role sits within the Running Wardrobe team led by the Wardrobe Manager.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- You will be dressing actors during the performances.
- Your main responsibility is setting up, managing & executing a dressing plot.
- You should expect to become familiar with the costumes and be prepared to alert the Wardrobe team of any damage or wear & tear or issues, for resolution.
- You should expect to do Pre-Sets and checks before each performance, and be responsible for the costumes being in the right place at the right time.
- A key aspect of this role is to establish good communications with the team, cast & company, helping to create an atmosphere which is professional and courteous, and ultimately helps solve problems promptly & efficiently.

Pre -Tech Preparation Days

You will be invited in for prep days in the week before tech, to familiarise yourself with the technical & practical aspects of the Show, the costumes and the working environment.

In collaboration with team members, you will be setting up the dressing rooms, change areas, working out entrances & exits for the plot; labelling costumes, steaming or ironing, becoming familiar with the details of the costumes; working out how to execute the actual changes efficiently & to time.

- As part of this preparation, you can expect to watch a rehearsal room run, which will be at a venue away from the theatre.
- The setting up of the plot & backstage areas will occur with the input & oversight of the Wardrobe Manager & Wardrobe Assistant.



Technical Rehearsals

During the tech period you will be asked to focus on show plots, and practical costume management. This often includes off stage timed quick change practice with actors – you will be supported in this by members of the Wardrobe team.

You should expect to adapt to new information regarding changes, entrances & exits for the plot, and working out how to execute the actual changes efficiently & to time.

Performances

Once we are into the show running period, post- Press Night, the hours will reduce and you will be given a weekly rota. This is not set in stone but will be adhered to as much as possible.

- There will be laundry calls included in this contract. These are shared amongst the dressers, one or two per week, depending on the production and team structure. These are considered part of your weekly hours and do not incur a separate fee.
- It is expected that you will participate helpfully & collaboratively with your colleagues. Sometimes this will mean changes to your established plot -This can occur especially in the case of Understudy performers going on.
- You may also be asked to participate in lighter maintenance tasks occasionally, such as trips to the cobblers, labelling or sewing on a button or mending small items like jewellery. You may be asked to handle small amounts of cash and provide receipts for approved expenditure.

Paperwork

- You will be asked to type up a show plot within the first week of performances to share with the Wardrobe Manager. You may be given a template for this.
- The Wardrobe manager should be informed, and the paper plot kept up to date if any alterations are made further into the run.

Person Specification

All candidates must have professional theatre experience as well as:

- A keen eye for detail in costume
- Ability to work in a focused & organised fashion
- Excellent communication skills
- A positive and solution-oriented attitude
- Ability to work well within a team, in a fast-paced environment
- Confident in taking initiative and working independently
- Calm under pressure and resilient in meeting new challenges
- Punctual and reliable
- Proven skills working with a wide variety of company members



Responsible to: Head of Costume

Terms: The hours are scheduled around a 46-hour average working week over 6 days, to reflect production periods and performance schedules

TO APPLY

Please email recruitment@londontheatrecompany.co.uk with a copy of your up to date CV in either PDF or word document format as well as a covering letter detailing why you are interested in the role and how your experience makes you an good candidate.

Please identify which role you are applying for in the subject line of your email.

We also ask that you complete an [Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form](#) either via this link or via our website.

Deadline for applications: **Monday 27 September 2021 12pm**

Interviews will most likely take place week commencing **w/c 27 September 2021** with first round interviews likely taking place over video call before being invited onto site for a 2nd round.

This role has a start date of either **14 or 21 November 2021** (depending on the role you are recruited for)

Fixed term contract end date is **19 February 2022**

For more information, please visit www.bridgetheatre.co.uk or email recruitment@londontheatrecompany.co.uk

If you have any queries, please contact recruitment@londontheatrecompany.co.uk

We are an equal opportunities employer and value diversity. We encourage applicants from all backgrounds and different experiences.