

The Man Who Planted Trees: Tech Spec

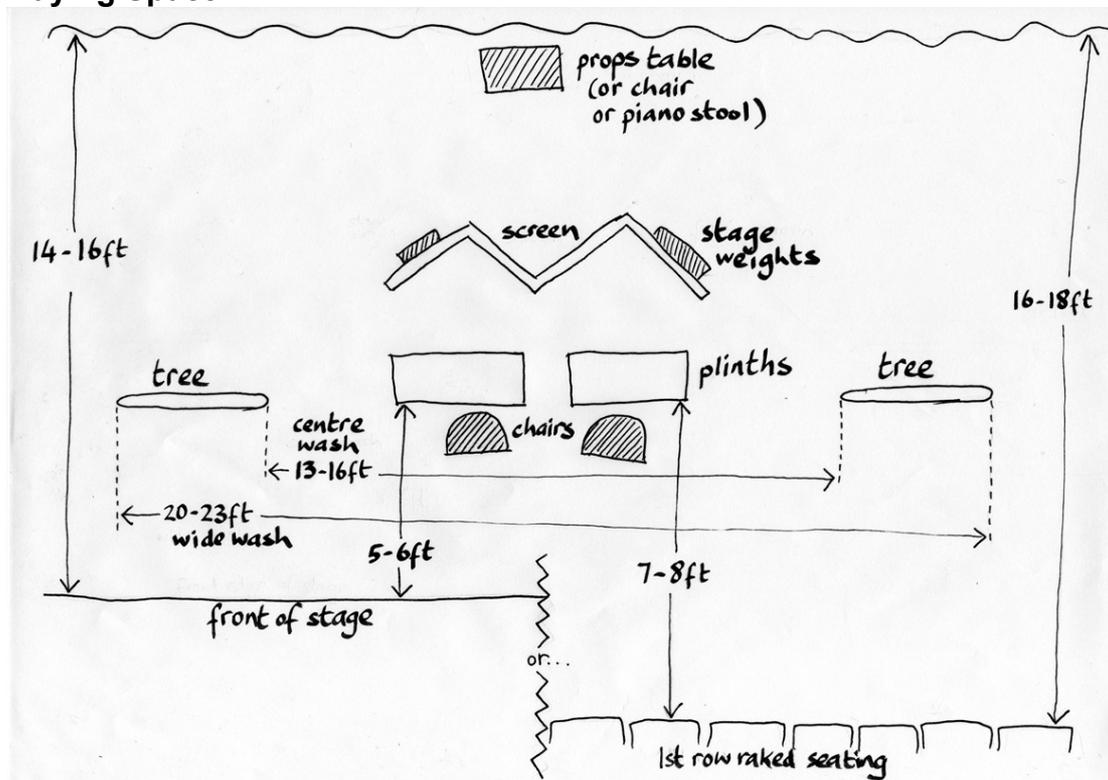
Summary

With two performers and one stage manager/operator, this simple show plays to an optimal audience of 200 in raked, end-on seating in a black-box theatre. There are about twenty sound cues and twenty lighting cues. The set is compact, versatile and low-risk. At two points during the show, the performers enter the audience to waft scented fans or spray misted water.

Production Outline

Team	1 Stage Manager/Technician and 2 Performers
Set	A folding screen. Two tree-shaped, hessian-covered fans in aluminium stands. Two plinths (flight cases on lockable wheels) covered with coloured cloth create a number of different scenic elements and containing puppets and props. These items are used in various configurations within a black box performance area.
Venue provides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two matching wooden chairs with a plain, old-fashioned mid C20th look – bentwood is ideal (no arms please). • Two stage weights. • One small props table (or piano stool or chair covered with blacks.) • 2 x radio lavalier mics (unless v. intimate space)
Runs	Approx 65 minutes with no interval. (Show length can vary slightly due to improvised scenes.)

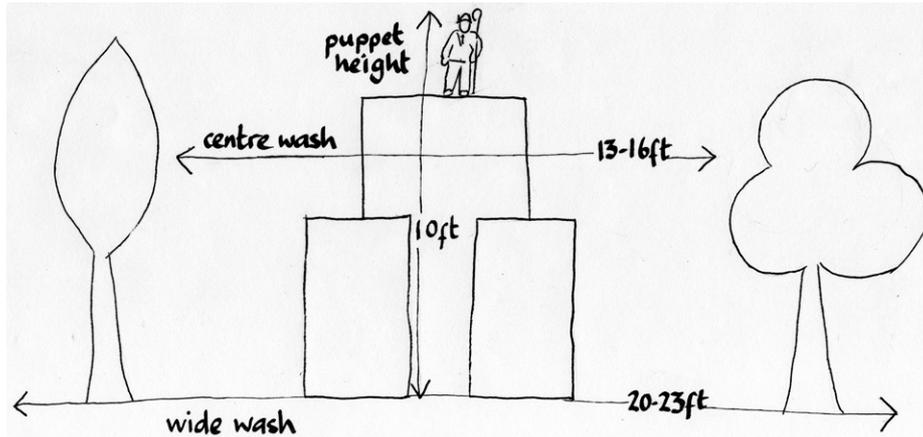
Playing Space



Key: Shaded items are required at each venue (see above).

Dimensions Stage space 20-23ft wide x 16-18ft deep (on floor level with raked seating – from back of stage to 1st row of audience) or 14-16ft (on a raised stage).

Front Elevation



Optimal audience size
Seating

200. In an auditorium with larger capacity we can play to 250 or more depending on the shape of the space. The audience has better views when seated centrally and not too far away. End-on with raked seating preferred. Ideal theatre space: black box studio with raked seating and access to audience through aisles during scenes with wafting of smells. If a raised stage is used, steps are needed to allow performers safe access to audience.

Sound

PA
Speakers
Playback

Use of venue facilities is needed
House Left and House Right driven in stereo

- QLab drives cues, preferably operated by our SM.
- *Backup: CD player to be supplied by venue.*

Control

Sound desk to be provided by the venue. The sound control may be positioned next to the lighting control to allow both systems to be operated by touring Stage Manager – or simple LX cue calling to venue tech. A sound control position with open windows or otherwise non-soundproof is preferred. Alternatively, we need adequate show relay to allow clear monitoring of playback levels.

Lighting (See also our generic simple rig plan, adaptable to venue)

Rig summary

Front of house washes: wide warm, centre warm, wide cool, centre cool, dark blue moonlight effect, red bomb flash (L106 covers set from front), leafy breakup gobo (open white, summer leaves, covers set and floor).
Other specials: Dark blue back light (L132 extra moonlight).
Down-lights: top of screen (OW two profiles for 'dead special').
Down light on plinths (OW fresnel for 'old village special').
Additional open white centre fill can enhance 'new village special' and 'baddy special'.
Manually dimmable house lights.

Control

20 scenes/cues. Lighting desk to be provided by the venue. Lighting is usually operated by our Stage Manager but venue staff may be asked to operate lighting if the lighting and sound control desks are not adjacent to each other.

Lighting States

LXQ #	Name/ Fade time	Description
1	Preset n/a	House lights up, faint FoH cool wide wash, w/ brighter cover (poss downlight) on dismal village on the central plinth. ('Old village' special). Optional side-light set dressing.
2	Hiya 6	Warm-ish FoH wash wide, brighter centre. Warm day, warm atmosphere, nice people.
3*	Journey 6	Generic FoH warm wide wash.
House lights to glimmer when Rick comes through audience with lavender tree fan.		
4	Villages 6	Dimmer, cooler FoH wash, mainly centre. Downlight on dismal village. ('Old village' special)
5*	Delirious 6	Generic FoH warm wide wash.
6	Inside 8	Warm-ish FoH centre wash. No light on trees please.
7	Bedtime 8	Dim FoH wash centre with dark blue (moon) wash, some from back. 2-part cue OR manual grand master flare as (battery-operated) candle is revealed on stage by Richard.
8	Moon 0	Snap to very dim blue centre wash. Battery-operated candle 'blown' out.
9*	Wake up 2	Generic FoH warm wide wash.
10	1914 8	Cooler, faint FoH wide wash. Red (and open white or cool) flash/bump buttons. Button-mashing war game time!
11*	Fresh air 10	Generic FoH warm wide wash.
12	Visitor 8	Cooler FoH centre wash, merest hint of leafy gobo. Bad bureaucrat hatches evil plan.
13*	MP 8	Generic FoH warm wide wash. Politician's dubious environmental rallying speech.
14	WW2 45	Cooler, brightest centre wash. Power-crazed politician's greedy song & dance number. ('Baddie' special). 2-part cue OR manual grand-master flare on completion of cue.
15*	Post war 8	Generic FoH warm wide wash.
16	Breeze 8	Warm FoH wide wash. Open white leafy breakup gobos. ('Leaf' special)
House lights to glow when Rick comes through audience with forest-infused fan.		
17	Village 8	Warmest FoH wide. Extra light on plinth. Joyful, beautiful village. ('New village' special).
18	Died 6	Dimmer FoH warm wide wash w/ gobos & bright downlight/s on top of screen. ('Dead' special)
19	Well done 6	Warm FoH wash, mostly centre. Intimate feel for conclusion of the story.
20	Post show 6	House lights up, everything fancy to make the set look great. Post-show eye candy.

* Same generic state

Subs useful for plotting states or manual operation:

wide warm, centre warm, wide cool, centre cool, moon, red, leafy gobo, dead special, downlight, village special downlight, house lights.

NB Rig plan below may need supplementary warm front-of-house wash.

Schedule and Staffing from Venue

Schedule	A lighting pre-rig prior to the Load-In is helpful. Load-In, focus and plotting takes 2-3 hours Load-Out takes up to 1 hour
Load-In Staffing	Load-In Staffing 1 Technician needed from venue
Show Staffing	1 Technician needed from venue who may be required to operate lighting. NB Our stage manager is at the sound (and light) control position for the show.
Load-Out Staffing	Load-Out is simple and does not need additional staffing, although help carrying is often appreciated.

Hospitality

If possible ... 2 secure dressing rooms ideally please. Access to bottled/drinking water is essential. Coffee, tea and wifi access are desirable. When show times are 2 hours apart, light snacks (fruit, granola bars, sandwiches, etc.) are very much appreciated. Access to an ironing board and iron is appreciated. Thank you!