

'Showstopper! The Improvised Musical' - Technical Info for Venues

General Information

The show is completely improvised based on audience suggestions, making each performance different and unique. As a result, the show's setup is a little unusual, but this document should outline what is needed.

The show runs for two halves of approximately 45 minutes (approximate due to improvised nature of show), with a twenty minutes interval in between.

Company size is usually two technicians (lighting and sound), six/seven performers and two/three musicians.

Parking is required for one Luton van. Cast and musicians often arrive in cars if additional parking is available.

We ask an appropriate Health and Safety briefing to be carried out from each venue in order to provide proper information to all cast and employees of the production.

Dressing Rooms

We require:

- 3 x Secure, lockable dressing rooms.
- Iron and Ironing board to be available
- Tea and coffee making facilities please

Typical Schedule

10.00 to 13.00	Venue staff pre-rig.
13.00 to 14.00	Technicians arrives. Unload van. Fly sign, build set
14:00 to 15:40	Focus overhead. Sound setup desk in auditorium, run cable to stage box
15:40 to 16:00	BREAK
16:00 to 17:00	Focus front of house. Sound setup band
17.00 to 17.15	Company arrives/warm up
17.15 to 18.00	Sound check
18:00 to 19:00	BREAK
19.10	House Opens
19.30	Act 1 Commences
20.15	(20min Interval)
20.35	Act 2 Commences
21.20	Performance Finishes
22.00	Get Out Concludes

Crew Requirements

Our get-in crew call is normally for a minimum of 2 venue staff (depending on size of space, and provided this is not subject to contra costs by the venue). These will be needed to help setup both sound and lighting.

During the performance we will need one technician in the wings to give clearance at the top of each half, and to act as Sound No. 2 if we have any mic problems.

Stage Requirements

The stage needs to be a black box with entrances mid-stage-left and mid-stage-right. Also a cross over is very useful.

It can be fit into a variety of different sized stages, although a depth of 7m is typically the maximum we'll use.

The wing space needs to be clear to store props which are brought on during the show. There should also be blue workers in this area.

Set and Kit List

Note: what is described below is the largest possible set configuration. For smaller spaces, it can be adapted and items cut in order to make the show better fit the venue

Note: since there are various items on wheels in this set, please inform us as soon as possible if the stage is raked.

- 3 flats upstage centre
- 2 frames on wheels
- 2 large step units
- Writer's area. This consists of a mounting board frame, a table and chair
- Two black masking flats. 2.3m high, 1.2m wide
- Small furniture: folding red chair, 5 black chairs, round table, 2 hat stands

In larger venues, we will use the flown sign – this measure 3.76m wide by 1.06m high, contains 3 circuits of bulbs and is hung from 3 flying wires (total weight 50kg). This requires a flying system.



The images below shows a typical stage layout.

Sound

Showstopper Tours:

- 1 Sound operator
- Full sound setup minus FOH PA including;
 - Yamaha TF3 mixing desk and stage box
 - 90m 16A/Cat5e FOH Multicore
 - 8 x Sennheiser ew300 G3 wireless microphones operating on Channel 38
 - 2 x Downstage monitors, 2 x Upstage monitors
 - 2 x Band monitors

- Wired microphones
- Microphone stands
- All signal and power cabling

Note: Please let us know if your FOH Multi run is longer than 90m, or not possible in your venue.

Theatre Is To Provide:

- POWER - Single Phase 13A or 16A (preferred) supply DSL.
 - FOH PA
 - High quality PA system providing a clear, full range, stereo sound across the whole auditorium and all levels.
- Preferably from the following speaker manufacturers: EM Acoustics, d&b Audiotechnik, Meyer Sound, L'Acoustics, CODA, KV2 Audio, or Martin Audio

The PA should have adequate headroom for comedy/pop music. An example set up for a 3-tiered 1000 seat auditorium might be:

- Stalls – 8 x EM Acoustics HALO C / side
- Circle – 4 x EM Acoustics HALO C / side
- Upper Circle – 4 x EM Acoustics HALO C / side
- Subs – 1 x EM Acoustics S215 / side

Please supply us with a separate left/right/sub output to your system.

FOH mix position should be dead centre, never against a rear wall and placed, preferably not on a riser, where situations allow.

FOH AUDIO MIX POSITION BEHIND GLASS IS NOT ACCEPTABLE.

Lighting

There are three attached lighting plans for a variety of different sized venues; please use the most appropriate one. If your lantern stock is in between two designs, feel free to transfer a few extras from a larger plan. They all follow a principle of general stage covers in a variety of colours, with some ability to sub-divide the stage (e.g. SL/SR), plus a number of special spots. Please contact the technician if you have any questions/issues.

We tour an LX practical – a red phone which is located downstage-right, and has a 15A plug to go into a dimmer.

The flown sign has 3x 15A tails that reach up the bar it is hung from. These can be paired if absolutely necessary.

The lighting is designed to be mostly operated through submasters (usually at least twenty), rather than a cue stack. Ideally the show is run from an ETC Ion or other members of Eos Family.

If there is no advance bar, then lanterns located on it can be moved to sidelight positions or DS booms. Gel colours are approximate and the closest match or even a total replacement is acceptable. We do not tour any gel.

If fewer subs or lanterns are available than listed then economies can be made. Please contact the technician to discuss.

As the show is improvised the design is not rigid – the main thing is to provide the operator with as many options as possible. Moving lights, scrollers, smoke, haze, star cloths, mirror

balls and followspots are all valuable toys that can enhance the look of the show. Anything and everything that the venue can supply would be appreciated provided that no extra cost is incurred to the company.

Contacts

If you have any other queries, please don't hesitate to contact any of us below.

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