

Allison Ramnainre  
Spring 2020 Culmination  
Reflection: Lighting Designer-  
Trilogy Concert

On December 6, 2019, in the Voorhees theater, there was a concert that was being held and ran by mostly the students of the entertainment technology department of City Tech. Mellisa Kucevic was the production manager for this event and Nick Mallios worked on the sound but he was also the guitarist for Trilogy. Melissa and Nick asked Justin Maldonado and I earlier that semester if we would be interested in being their lighting designers for the concert, and we happily joined them. Trilogy was a cover band and most, if not all the songs that they would be covering on the day of the show were song both Justin and I were familiar with. This allowed us to play around with our cues and individual songs for the show can have a unique look. We both got advice from John Robinson our technical advisor whenever we got stuck since this also being the very first show Justin and I have ever done the lighting design for.

Before the actual show, Justin and I needed to provide some paperwork first to get the approvals that we needed to begin any part of the physical aspects of this project. I was charge of creating a magic sheet, cue sheets, and more of the creative elements of the lighting for the concert but I worked very closely with Justin in creating a light plot on vector works and he made the instrument schedule and channel chook up. We both worked together in the focusing of the lights after the lighting crew hung them. Now all we need to do was program but we needed to get through the Thanksgiving break.

After Thanksgiving break we only had about a week left to program our lights which seems do-able; unfortunately during the week of the concert, most days the theater was occupied by some SMART classes. Justin and I waited every day after the SMART classes were over to go and program out lights with the GrandMA 2. The first few nights the stage was full of tables because of the classes. But this wasn't a big problem because Justin and I had already focused our lights. It just would have been nice to see them. Within a few days the tables were gone and the gear for the concert was slowly moving into the stage space.

I wanted each song to have an individual look to them and each look was loosely based off the color scheme of the original album they came off of, but I also wanted to make the colors of the show look interesting and give the audience a feel as if they were in a real concert venue. During the programming of the show, we created some basic and simple grouping of colors and positions in the GrandMA, but now that the show is over and I have put some thought into it, Justin and I would have to save some more time if we spent a little more time to program more group that was we can easily have called a simple action into outlook without going back into the tracking. I feel like I was also very focused on making each one song perfect before moving onto the next song which now looking back at it, it would have been more beneficial to Justin's and I time if we programed simples looks/colors and then go back and add details. The

day before the show the band came to the theater for soundcheck while Justin and I continue to work on the lights. We even got to speak to the band members for a little bit just to let them know who we were what my idea is for the color pallet for the show.

Our process finally came to an end a few hours before the show and we were very excited to finish program the show but now we need to run the show and Justin was going to run the show and I was going to call the cues and well and the cue to the spotlight operator which was Max Rodriguez. As the doors opened for the audience Justin flooded the stage with red lights and soon we both had headsets on and were ready for the show. I had a few friends record our show for future usage on what could have been improved. Melissa also gave me a setlist and a list of solos that the guitarist will have and should have a spotlight on them during that time. The first two songs went great and there transitioning was very timed. Unfortunately during the third song one of the lights tracking from the last song followed through into the third song. Which to the audience looked like nothing really happened but to Justin and I knew that it didn't look right and I frantically asked Justin what happen but he quickly fixed it and the show was back to running smoothly.

Now that the show is over with and I have some time to reflect back onto to event, I know now where I could have improved. For my paper trial, I could have been more particular in explaining what each instrument was doing during each cue. For programming, we could have made more groups so that way when it came to building out songs we didn't have to go back and forward changing small things. As well as making a basic skeleton of our songs first and then so back and add all the more interesting details for the sack of time an to no get confused. After watching the video that my friends had taken I saw that I should have either move the strobe lights elsewhere or have lowered the intensity of the lights because I can see how the brights and the speed of the light could have been distracting to the audience during some points of the show.

Overall the was a great experience for me and I am very grateful and thankful for Justin being my associate lighting design and program for this show and Mellisa and Nick for asking us to help and John Robinson for helping Justin and I through all of our problems. Creating a programing concert lighting is something I am very fascinated about in the entertainment world and it is something I hope I can continue to pursue. This was a wonderful first learning experience.