

Culmination: Assistant Lighting
Designer for Bindlestiff

Lauren Mahon

What is my project?



For my culmination project, I was given the opportunity to be an assistant lighting designer and light board operator for the Bindlestiff Variety Show, which performed 3 times this Fall 2023 semester. I was in charge of creating the look for the show by making different cues on the ETC console.

Who is Bindlestiff?



Bindlestiff Family Variety Arts was founded by Keith Nelson and Stephanie Monseu in 1995. Bindlestiff produces shows, festivals and public events in the regions of NYC and the Hudson Valley. They also work to support the emerging of professional variety artist, which they would have an “open mic” night and have artist perform their talents. Lastly, they also provide high quality circus arts education and enrichment opportunities.



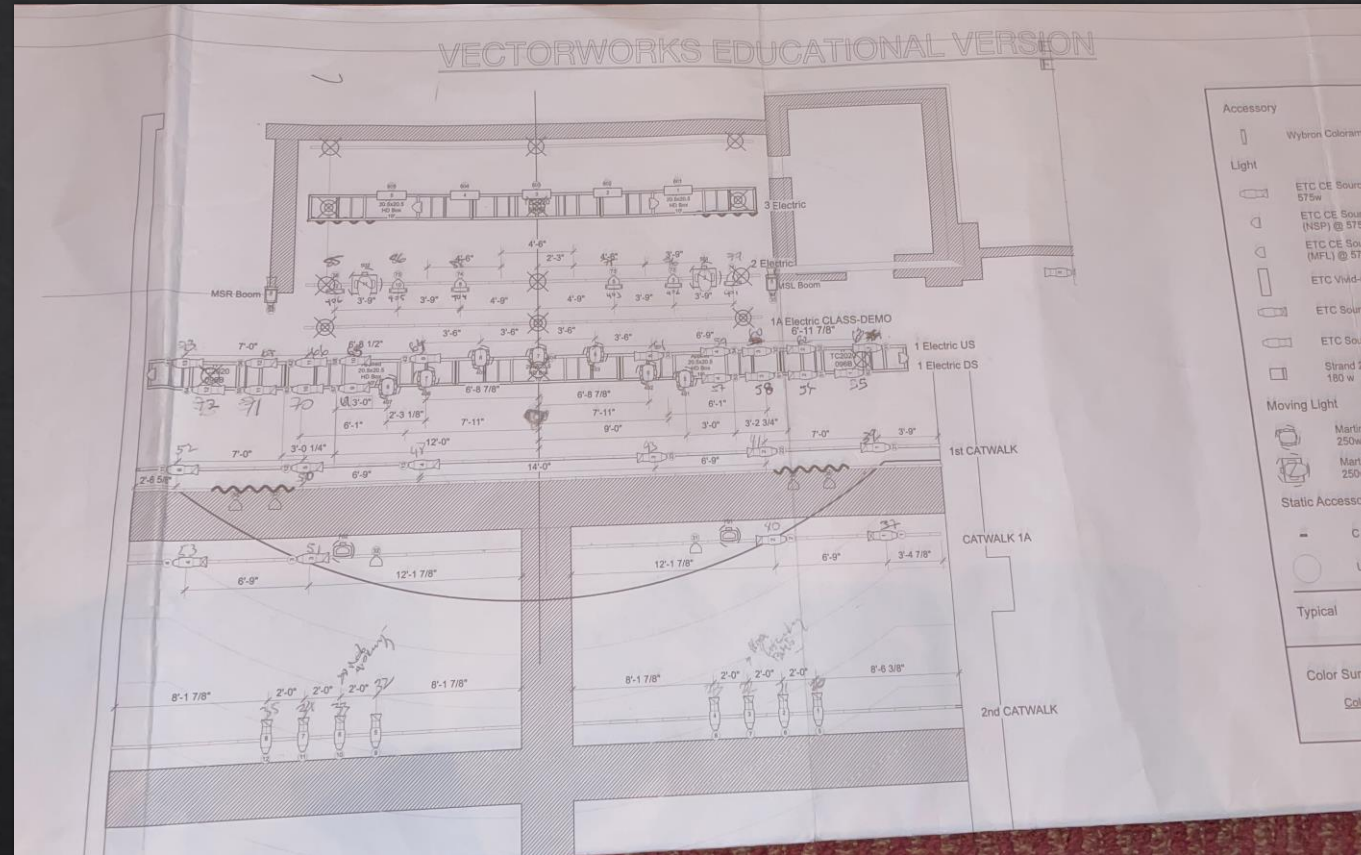
Lighting requirements and considerations

- What the talent was performing and how the lights would help enhance the look of their act
- What the performers were wearing
- The mood and feel of their performance
- Trying to match the look of the stage with their choice of music

Light Plot

Groups

- High side wash
- DS front lights
- US front
- Gobo
- Aerialist Side lights
- Aerialist DS up
- Aerialist MS up
- Backlight PARS
- CYC
- Sign (yellow)
- Sign (red)
- MAC washes
- MAC profiles



Color Palette

- 1- Red
- 2- Green
- 3- Blue
- 4- Pink
- 5- Amber
- 6- Yellow
- 7- Cyan

Programming



Intermission lights



Instrument schedule

Position	Unit Number	Instrument type	Channel	Color
3rd Catwalk	1	ETC source 4	13	R08
3rd Catwalk	2	ETC source 4	14	R08
3rd Catwalk	3	ETC source 4	15	R08
3rd Catwalk	4	ETC source 4	16	R08
3rd Catwalk	5	ETC source 4	17	R08
3rd Catwalk	6	ETC source 4	18	R08
3rd Catwalk	7	ETC source 4	19	R08
3rd Catwalk	8	ETC source 4	20	R08
2nd Catwalk	1	ETC source 4	5	R08
2nd Catwalk	2	ETC source 4	6	R08
2nd Catwalk	3	ETC source 4	7	R08
2nd Catwalk	4	ETC source 4	8	R08
2nd Catwalk	5	ETC source 4	9	R08
2nd Catwalk	6	ETC source 4	10	R08
2nd Catwalk	7	ETC source 4	11	R08
2nd Catwalk	8	ETC source 4	12	R08
Catwalk 1A	1	ETC source 4	1	R04
Catwalk 1A	2	ETC source 4	2	R04
Catwalk 1A	3	ETC source 4	3	R04
Catwalk 1A	4	ETC source 4	4	R04
Catwalk 1A		Martin MAC 301	701	
Catwalk 1A		Martin MAC 301	702	
Catwalk 1A		ETC source 4 PAR	31	
Catwalk 1A		ETC source 4 PAR	32	
1 DS Electric	1	ETC source 4	62	
1 DS Electric	2	ETC source 4	51	
1 DS Electric	3	ETC source 4	61	
1 DS Electric	4	ETC source 4	53	
1 DS Electric	5	Martin Mac 250 wash	501	
1 DS Electric	6	Martin Mac 250 wash	402	
1 DS Electric	7	Martin Mac 250 wash	406	
1 DS Electric	8	Martin Mac 250 wash	407	
1 DS Electric	9	ETC source 4	57	
1 DS Electric	10	ETC source 4	63	
1 DS Electric	11	ETC source 4	55	
1 DS Electric	12	ETC source 4	64	
1 US Electric	1	ETC source 4	31	R04
1 US Electric	2	ETC source 4	52	R04
1 US Electric	3	ETC source 4	32	R08
1 US Electric	4	ETC source 4	54	R04
1 US Electric	5	ETC source 4	33	R08



Challenges

I came across some minor challenges while designing the looks for the show. One thing I would have liked to change was the curtains in the theater. Another thing that made things a bit difficult was the rehearsals being the day of the show. It would be very helpful for Bindlestiff and the school to set up a day before the show to have a rehearsal so that they would be able to request what they would like to have in their light design. Also, it would also be helpful to have the theater and booths open more often so that students can practice their skills or update some things they would like to incorporate in the show instead of waiting until the last minute

Conclusion

I really enjoyed having this opportunity to gain this learning experience working with Miguel on this amazing show. I have learned so much in the past semesters and am glad that I was able to show my skills and had the opportunity to work with Keith and all the talented performers. I also would like to thank JR for helping Miguel and I program for the first show and answering all my questions and a few things I had forgotten. Lastly, I want to thank the lighting crew. They hung, ran data and power and focused all the lights on the catwalk and truss for the show. Everyone was such a big help in contributing to my Culmination



Thank you!!