

Technical Rider: *Tomorrow's Child*

The following contains the specifications and requirements for a successful production of Ghost River Theatre's *Tomorrow's Child*.

Tomorrow's Child is a versatile production; the nature of the technical elements allows it to be adapted to many venues.

If you have any questions or concerns about any requirement please contact:

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1. Detailed Show Description

Ghost River Theatre, with special permission from the Ray Bradbury estate, has created a new adaptation of Bradbury's sci-fi short story *Tomorrow's Child* as a one-of-kind sightless theatre experience. Audience members are blindfolded and individually guided into the theatre to a swivel seat in the centre of the stage. The story then unfolds in a sonic landscape that surrounds them.

2. Touring Company (2)

*Head of sound / Sound Operator

*Head Usher / Tour Manager / LX Operator

*Required for the run of the show.

3. Crewing and Scheduling

Ideal Set Up Crew (provided by presenter)

9am-1pm

3 Sound/LX Crew -Please note: one crew member will be required to do the LX install, set-up and programming.

2-6pm

1 Sound technician

2 Crew to help set-up lobby

Schedule

The following one day technical schedule presents a typical set-up with audio cable run, lighting hang, and acoustic treatment done in advance:

Day One	
9am - 1pm	Load in, install speakers, run any remaining cables, adjust any sound baffling
	Hang LED fixtures and rig pyramid
	Focus Lights for speakers
	Set up sound position
1pm - 2pm	Lunch
2pm - 4:50pm	Sound EQ/Levels (in silence) / Set-up Lobby Environment / Train Ushers
	Move laptop to playback position

4:50-6:00pm - Dress/Tech rehearsal with ushers in attendance.

6:00-7:30 pm Supper/Tech notes as needed

8pm First Performance.

4. The Show

Description

Tomorrow's Child consists of three parts:

1. Pre-show instructions performed by head usher in lobby - 8 mins
2. Blindfolded audience is led into space by ushers - 10 mins
3. Performance - 50 mins

Total running time: 70 mins

Tomorrow's Child can be performed up to 3 times per day depending on length of engagement.

Performance Space

Size of performance space is dependent on anticipated attendance. The original production was performed in a blackbox theatre 60'x50' with 18' ceiling for 80 audience members sitting in individual swivel chairs organized in a grid. The swivel chairs need a diameter of 5 feet to allow the audience member to move 360 degrees as to avoid touching another person. There also needs to be aisle ways between each row of seating to allow easy access to the swivel chairs.

The performance space must be acoustically treated as to remove most/all natural reverb. This is the responsibility of the presenter and can be accomplished by the hanging of thick curtains on all venue walls, carpets on the floor, sound insulation, bass traps, acoustic panels etc. Any acoustic treatment should be done in consultation with Ghost River Theatre to ensure the highest quality sound experience.

The audience is situated in the middle of a 10.1 surround speaker array. See speaker layout for more information. The further away the audience is seated from the speakers the better. No audience member should be seated within 4 feet of any speaker.

Lobby

Tomorrow's Child requires a lobby that can host the entire size of the expected audience. Informative diagrams, headshots and other visual elements are to be displayed on the lobby walls to draw the audience into the world of the performance. GRT has limited graphic content from the lobby of original performance venue that can be used, however other material may need to be printed to fill the area. Please consult with GRT.

The presenter must provide two raised 4 by 4 black platforms for the head usher and his assistant to perform/ demonstrate the safety instructions to the audience in the lobby environment. If the lobby already contains a raised area or small stage where the audience will have clear sight lines to the head usher when he performs then the platforms may not be necessary. Please contact GRT to discuss the specifics of the lobby performance.

Swivel Chairs

Provided by The Presenter

The original production used 80 'office style' swivel chairs which allowed the audience to spin freely and safely 360 degrees and choose the direction in which they faced/listened during the performance. It is critical that these office chairs be in good working order and do not make noise while being operated.

The casters on the chairs must be taped or removed to prevent forwards or side movement of the chairs.

Set

Provided by Ghost River Theatre

The only set is a 4 by 4 foot frosted plexiglass Pyramid that needs to be rigged above the centre of the audience.

Ushers

Provided by The Presenter

2-4 highly responsible ushers are required for each performance to guide the audience through the experience - this involves leading a group of blindfolded audience members (up to 5 per usher) into the performance space and guiding them one-by-one to their swivel seats. The number of ushers required will be dependent on the seating capacity of the venue.

Ushers are required to participate in 2hr training session, attend a tech/dress rehearsal, and all performances. Ushers must be at the venue 30 minutes prior to the opening of the lobby and stay throughout the performance in case an audience member needs to leave the venue.

Ushers are required to wear black pants, black shoes and a white button up shirt. GRT will provide white lab coats, glasses and Tomorrow's Child usher badge.

Ghost River Theatre reserves the right to vet or dismiss ushers that we feel are unable to perform the tasks required in a safe and professional manner.

Masks

Provided by Ghost River Theatre

Each audience member is provided a personal sleeping mask as a blindfold when they present or obtain their ticket as they enter the venue lobby. The masks are theirs to keep after the show or can be returned to the ushers.

5. Sound and Lights

Sound

The show was originally conceived in a 10.1 sound environment. Due to the complex nature of the sound design, Matthew Waddell and or his representative must adjust, EQ, and set levels for the production. A speaker plot will be provided for each venue upon receipt of accurate venue drawings and technical specifications.

Matthew Waddell or his representative will operate sound.

During the technical set-up and rehearsal, a table with all 11 audio cables must be provided to connect to the show sound card and laptop (provided by GRT) system will be made available at the center position of the audience (the point in the middle of all the speakers) along with AC.

Program sound is not required.

AC for all of the speakers must be on their own ground. This is to avoid any hiss in the system.

Sound equipment provided by Ghost River Theatre

- 1 MacBook Pro (the audio machine), which provides audio via Logic and Qlab.
- 1 Motu Ultralite Hybrid sound card with firewire cable.

Sound equipment provided by The Presenter

Speakers:

- Due to the nature of this performance, speaker quality is of the highest importance. The show was originally presented using equipment from PK Sound. Speakers of equal or better quality must be available. High quality studio monitors may also be used with approval of Matthew Waddell.
- 8 x surround speakers of the same mark and model capable of delivering distortion free sound at 110db. These speakers must be placed at equal distances and heights around the audience.
Original speakers used: <http://www.pksound.ca/loudspeakers/klarity-12/>
- 2 x hung overhead speakers of the same mark and model capable of delivering distortion free sound at 90 db. Speakers should be hung no more than 10 feet above audience.
Original speakers used: <http://www.pksound.ca/loudspeakers/klarity-8/>
- Depending on the size and configuration of the venue 1 or more subwoofers capable of creating a 'body rumbling experience' for the entire audience area.
Original subwoofers used:

Cables:

- All cables must be high quality and provide clear sound
- 11 x balanced ¼" Male to XLR Male adapters
- Enough cable lengths to access tech position and playback position

Output Patch List

Sound Card Output		Assign
1		Speaker 1
2		Speaker 2
3		Speaker 3
4		Speaker 4
5		Speaker 5
6		Speaker 6
7		Speaker 7
8		Speaker 8
9		Speaker 9 (Overhead)
10		Speaker 10 (Overhead)
11		Subwoofer(s)

Lights

Provided by The Presenter

The area/path from the lobby to the performance venue needs to be safely lit. The area where the audience is seated in swivel chairs should be lit by blue area lights (or equivalent depending on venue) that can be dimmed once all of the audience members are safely seated.

Each of the 10 speakers requires a dimmable focused special.

3 LED Color Blast 23 (or similar fixture) with power source and cables to internally light the pyramid.

Provided by GRT

1 'Cognito' lighting console

6. Hospitality

The company requires the following hospitality measures:

- a minimum of one large dressing room with private washroom, with access to the space without traversing through public spaces. The dressing room shall be kept at no less than 20 degrees Celsius.
- access to a quiet common 'Green Room'.
- Access to internet and phone line.