



White Light:
Creative Solutions, Technical Excellence



CASE STUDY
Young Vic - House Lighting Installation

Installing Brand-New Lighting System



Working with GDS for Custom-made Solutions



KEY INFORMATION

- **THE CLIENT:**
Young Vic
- **EVENT:**
House Lighting Installation in Young Vic's Main Space
- **PRODUCTION TEAM:**
Chris Harris- WL's Business Development Manager
Stuart Ingram - WL's Installations Project Manager
Nicki Brown - Young Vic's Head of Lighting
Nicole Smith - Young Vic's Senior Lighting Technician
- **BRIEF:**
To oversee the entire installation of a brand new house lighting system in the Young Vic's Main Space.
- **PROJECT TIMELINE:**
Planning: Three months.
On-site Prep: Three weeks.

Located on The Cut, Young Vic is one of London's most exciting theatres. The venue decided to replace the house lights in its Main House space and approached WL to oversee the installation.

The Main House at the Young Vic is spread across three floors with a capacity of up to 550. Every single seat needs house lighting, both for practical purposes as well as adding to the mood of the in-house production. The original house lights were GU10 Birdies and had been in there for 10 years. WL worked closely with GDS to improve this original set-up.

They installed a series of GDS MR16s as part of the Inner and Outer Ring. With the MR16 being a compact LED unit that only consumes 10 watts, it was the ideal product to provide illumination for the house seating. WL installed 60 of these on the first floor balcony alone. To control the lighting, WL picked up the power from existing circuits to run new data across all three levels. This was controlled by LSC DMX Splitters.

The new house lights had to integrate with the existing theatrical lighting rig in order to light the front seating rows. WL drew on the ETC Colour Source Pars which were compact enough to be positioned along the Main House's bridges whilst ensuring maximum coverage and avoiding any blockage.

PLANNING & APPROACH

"A major problem was that the previous fittings simply did not provide enough coverage for all of the seats, resulting in some being lit and others being missed. To counter this limited coverage, the venue had to run extra birdies from their theatre stock, which became problematic – especially as we had to do it in a different configuration for each show. Our aim was to find a fitting that would provide enough coverage and be energy efficient".

Chris Harris
WL's Business Development Manager

EQUIPMENT

A problem that many Young Vic productions faced was that the Exit signs were often both visible and bright during a performance. To counter this, WL created custom-made Exit signs using Philip Payne signage with GDS Drivers that could be remotely dimmed using DMX. This means that any show can achieve a perfect blackout if needed. Similarly, WL created portable Exit signs that could be moved around according to the production's requirements, working with the bigger sets that might use more of the space.

RESULTS

"The installation means that all of the house lights are now not only LED and energy efficient but provide enough coverage for every audience member. Everything from the custom-made Exit signs, to the fact that the house lights now blend with the theatrical lighting so there is no jarring, means the space has been completely transformed and given us a plethora of creative options".

Nicki Brown
Young Vic's Head of Lighting





For any further information or any enquiries, please contact our team:

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