

Matthew Llewellyn Smith

I have enjoyed and wanted to work in the theatre ever since being taken to see my first show when I was seven years old. However when I started studying for a degree in Theatre Design and Production at Trinity College, Carmarthen, I was unsure which area I wanted to focus on and eventually work in. The course has given me the chance to try all the different roles needed to put on a show and I have discovered the role I enjoy most is Stage Management. This was confirmed by a work placement with Assembly Theatre in July and August 2005 when I had the chance to work as Stage Manager for *The Gigli Concert* which, after a rehearsal period in London, went to The Edinburgh Festival.

When I graduate from university I hope to go into Stage Management. I enjoy being in the rehearsal room to see a production coming together and being actively involved in the collaborative process. I also enjoy construction, especially building or adapting small items such as props. I have experience of liaising with venues, loading vans and managing get-ins and, once a production is running, calling the show, maintaining costumes, set dressing and props and operating either sound or lighting.

My degree course has given me the chance to study a wide range of plays and styles of theatre. It has also given me the chance to work on touring shows, site-specific performances and main house productions. It has taught me many skills allowing me to understand and work in a wide range of roles but most importantly it has confirmed my enjoyment of and passion for producing theatre.

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