

Mini Report #1

2/3/04

Bryan Breau

<http://www.theatrecrafts.com/>

This site has many very thorough descriptions of different areas of theatre. The site was created and is maintained by the University Of Exeter School Of Performance Arts in the United Kingdom. It is stated on the site that, "The aim of theatrecrafts.com is to eventually be the best resource for practical information and advice about technical theatre techniques for theatre folk at any level." The main page contains links to such areas as Administration and Audio/Visual, Lighting, Sound, Props, Venues, Rigging, Scenic, Special Effects, Marketing, Stage Management, and a glossary of theatre terms.

In every category there are useful links to help you through certain aspects of technical theatre, however in some of the more complete categories, such as the special effects page, it will actually list what special effect you're trying to create and send you straight to where you need to go to complete it, such as smoke, pyrotechnics, flying effects, and so on. The Lighting section contains pages like the process of lighting design, descriptions of the types of lighting instruments, a lesson on physics and lighting, a section on UV light and fluorescence, and examples of lighting angles and colors. The props section contains information on how to create a ball of fire on stage, how to make stage blood and cobwebs, and other interesting information. The sound category contains information on the history of recording technology, the sound "chain", typical mixing desks, and how to set up a gain structure.

Not only are there useful tips and links to other information, but they also recommend books and are in the process of putting up more information all the time. The Haas Effect, audio connectors, fade times, and how to focus lighting instruments are just some of the information that's coming soon. Of course this wouldn't be used as a final resource or as a substitute for hands on learning, it's a good general overview.