

BLind SumMiT

BLIND SUMMIT - PUPPETING SHAKESPEARE

Local Touring - Technical Requirements

1. About the show

Blind Summit are an internationally touring producer of puppet-based theatre led by Artistic Director Mark Down, one of the world's leading puppeteers.

"Puppeting Shakespeare" is part puppet show, part Shakespearean salon. Three puppeteers use a variety of puppets and puppet styles to bring Shakespearean speeches to life in ways that you have never seen or heard them before.

The show is performed by three puppeteers and a variety of puppets.

Estimated Running Time: 70 minutes

The show may be performed up to twice a day.

2. Company On Tour

Cast: 3

Technical Manager & show operator: 1

3. Stage

The show requires an end-on, black box venue with a flat stage, a playing area not less than 8m wide by 5m deep, plus wing space on both sides of the stage with enough space for an actor to speak from off-stage without being seen.

No flying required

The show cannot be performed on a raked stage.

For an overnight stay we require secure storage for five flight cases.

4. Set

The set is not yet designed but will be simple and we will bring it with us.

There will be a shadow screen and special shadow lights which the company will bring with them. The lights will need to be plugged into the main rig so that they can be operated from the board.

5. Dressing rooms and backstage

We require a minimum of two dressing rooms - one male and one female.

There must be access to a shower and space to hang clothes.

We need space for puppet maintenance (a clean work-surface and access to power points). This could be in one of the dressing rooms if there is space, or another backstage location if the dressing rooms are small.

We will require access to ironing and laundry facilities on the day of the performance.

6. Get In and Get Out

Get in and technical rehearsal: one day on day of 1st performance.

The venue should pre-rig lighting if possible and provide a minimum of one member of their technical team for the duration of the get-in and get-out. Any additional cost for technical support or pre-rigging must be pre-arranged and agreed to by the venue and Blind Summit Theatre, before any such costs are incurred.

Proposed Schedule:

Day	Time	Detail	Staff (to be provided by venue without charge)
Advance	tbc	Pre-rig	tbc
Day 1	0900 - 1300	Get In - approx 1 hour - Positioning table & setting up stage - Focus and Gel Lights - Set Lighting States - Set Sound levels	1 x LX 1 x Sound
Day 1	1400 - 1800	Technical Rehearsal Cast Warm Up	1 x LX Op
Day 1	1930 - tbc	Performance	1 x LX Op
Day 1	60 mins	Get Out	2 x technicians

Exact timings for the day should be agreed a minimum of two weeks prior to the touring date.

7. Sound

We will require a standard front of house speaker system and a CD player with single / continuous play option. Both sound and lighting desk should be close enough for one person to operate.

We will also need the option of use of 1 x headset mic depending on the acoustics of the venue. If this is not possible, then Blind Summit should be informed in advance.

8. Show Operation, Coms, Clearance

The touring technician will operate the sound and lights but may utilise the house lighting operator. Both sound and lighting desk and house-lights should be close enough for one person to operate.

Clearance should be given to the touring technician/stage manager to begin the show.

9. Lighting

We will bring with us our own gel, but any colour you can pre-rig will speed up the focusing time.

We will bring 4 special shadow lights which will need to be plugged into the main rig so that they can be operated from the board.

Lanterns Used/Lighting Overview

We will need to have access to the full set of the theatre's lighting rig and lights. The company will provide a lighting plan in advance so that it can be pre-rigged to save time.

10. Parking

We may require parking for one transit van at the venue. This should be provided within walking distance and at no extra cost.

11. Audience volunteer in show

There may be audience participation in the show. In this case the venue must ensure that there is a safe passage for someone to come on and off stage.

12. Programmes

Blind Summit will provide a free-sheet as a pdf that can be offered as a free download from the venue website or handed out by venue staff to all audience members.

13. Post show activity - "Meet the Puppets"

Our "Meet the Puppet" event after the show allows the audience to meet the puppet and performers in the foyer and have their photo taken, ask questions or find out more about Blind Summit.

For this we require:

- Two tables set-up in the foyer, one for the puppet and one for information leaflets
- A route for the performers to take from backstage to the foyer after the show

The tables will be manned by Blind Summit's company manager and will include a newsletter sign-up sheet for the company and a donation box.

For more information about the technical aspects of the production please contact Mark Down who will be able to help or put you in touch with the touring technician for the relevant touring date.

Mark Down
07870 235 736
info@blindsummit.com