



This unit allows you to explore the various technical and 'behind the scenes' roles that the theatre has to offer. You will look at **\* lighting \* sound \* set design \* costume \* stage makeup**. These are all roles you could take on if you chose to go down a production route for Performing Arts or GCSE Drama, when you come to take your options.

### Key Words

**Sound Designer**

- \* Works alongside director and lighting designer
- \* Responsible for all sound heard in a production
- \* Sources appropriate sound effects, mic sound, transitional music and orchestra
- \* Setting up the playback music/ desk

**Lighting Designer**

- \* Works alongside the director to come up with ideas
- \* Designs lighting for a performance
- \* Draws out the lighting plot
- \* Attends technical rehearsals

**Set Designer**

- \* In charge of designing and creating the set
- \* Working alongside the director, light/sound designer and costume designer
- \* Creates initial plans, model boxes
- \* Researches time eras

**Costume Designer**

- \* Designs and creates characters costumes/outfits. These need to be in keeping with the time period of the production.
- \* Sketches designs, creates mood boards.
- \* Liaises with the director
- \* Chooses fabrics, colours, style

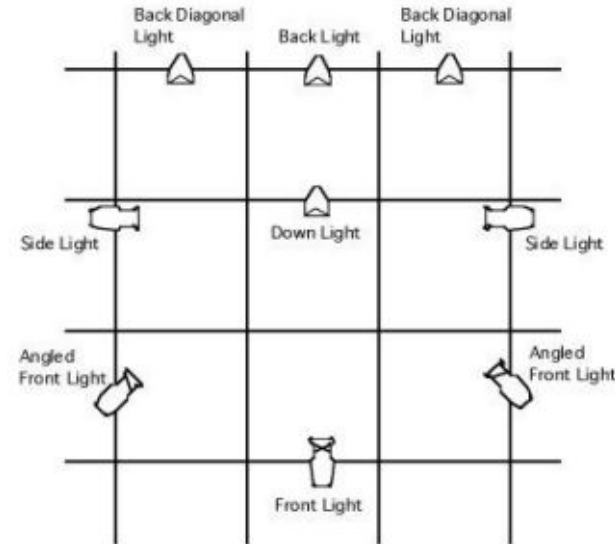
**Theatrical Make-Up**

- \* Designs and creates looks appropriate for characters
- \* Works closely with costume designer.
- \* May need work with prosthetics (Special effects (SFX) make - up to create specialised looks, such as injuries, aging, animal features for instance).

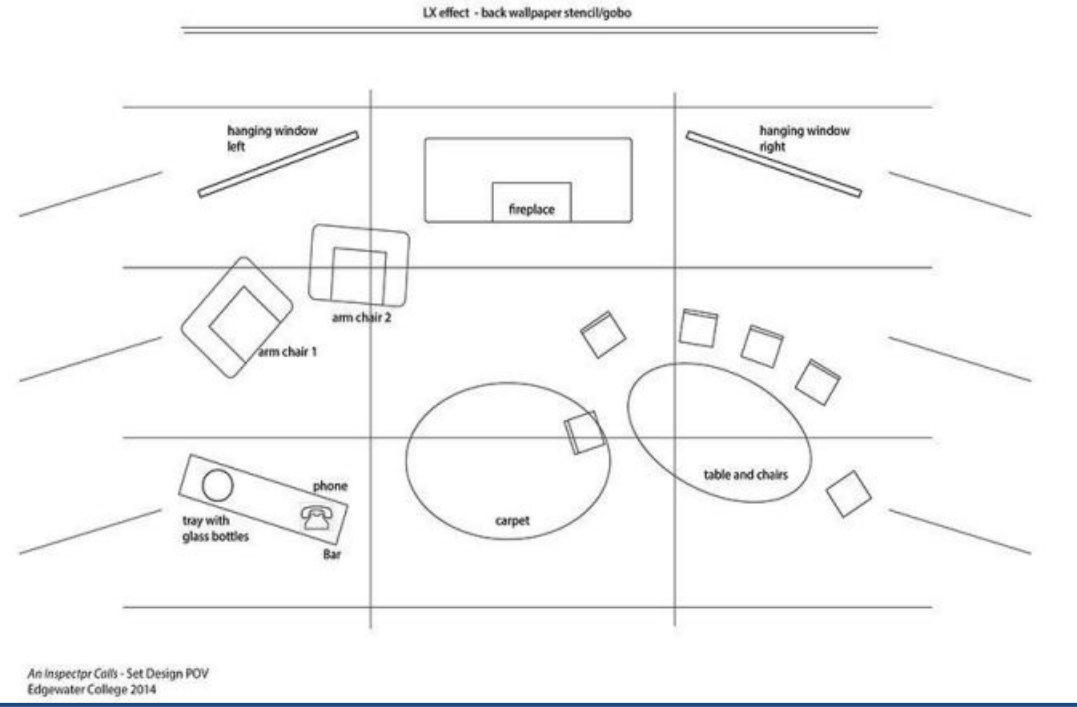
**Lighting Colours and possible meanings:**

- **Red** - Used to show rage, passion, anger, heat, power, danger, blood, fire, war and violence.
- **Pink** - Used to show innocence, love, happy, romantic, content, playfulness, charming, feminine energy.
- **Yellow** - Used to show knowledge, wisdom, joy, hope, imagination, summer, sunshine
- **Orange** - Used to show energy, humour, balance, enthusiasm, warmth,
- **Green** - Used to show healing, nature, good luck, spring, envy
- **Blue** - Used to show sky, cold, water and depression.
- **Purple/Violet** - Used to show royalty, mysterious, mystery
- **Brown** - Used to show earth, reliability, outdoors
- **Black** - Used to show power, fear, unhappiness, style, depth, sadness, evil
- **White** - Used to show protection, peace, cleanliness, innocence, winter, snow, sterile and cold.

**Example of a lighting plan below**



A stage/ground plan is a birds eye view/blueprint of the set and used by the stage management team to help set the scene. It shows the exact locations of the main set and scenery for each scene in a performance. Here is an example of a stage/ground plan.



An Inspector Calls - Set Design POV  
Edgewater College 2014

The **Costume designer** will always start by sketching out ideas and fully annotate them. They will also research and source fabric swatches (small fabric samples). As a designer, you should consider the time period, colours, fabrics/materials, the condition of the clothing and add clear annotations.



A **makeup artist** is responsible for knowing which brushes and products to use and how to effectively apply the products.

The role of a makeup artist is to enhance the visual aspect of a performer.

The makeup artist will have to identify the key requirements of a piece.

They will liaise with the director to ensure they understand the overall vision.

They will then design the makeup for each character.

They must be aware of health and safety.

They will need to know about special FX make up, including prosthetics.

They will need to consider health and safety.

