

# THE WATERMILL THEATRE

If you require this information in an alternative format, please contact our Admin Secretary, Julie Pearson: [admin@watermill.org.uk](mailto:admin@watermill.org.uk) / 01635 45834

## **ABOUT THE WATERMILL THEATRE**

The Watermill Theatre is a regional powerhouse, consistently making an innovative contribution to the vibrant and diverse landscape of UK Theatre reaching far beyond the 200 seats of the theatre itself. One of the most beautiful theatres in the country, it can be found nestled on the banks of the River Lambourn, in the hamlet of Bagnor, just outside Newbury, Berkshire. The theatre sits at the heart of its community to whom it offers a wide programme of work, nurturing emerging artists, generating new pieces and offering a thriving Outreach programme.

'a paradigm of what a regional theatre should be.' Stephen Sondheim, 2020



*Approach to The Watermill Theatre & Restaurant.*

## **BACKGROUND**

From our home in a converted watermill in rural West Berkshire, The Watermill Theatre has produced award-winning work that has been recognised throughout the UK and abroad. The very best artists and creative teams, both established and in the early stages of their careers, are our lifeblood, earning The Watermill a reputation as one of the very best producing theatres in the country.

Our artistic ambition is shown in our choice of work, from new writing and musicals to Shakespeare and classic plays. We have become a leading figure in the work of actor-musicianship; our bold approach to this work has led to innovative reimagining's of large-scale musicals and classics as well as applying this approach to the development of new work.

Recent tours and transfers have included Amélie The Musical ( West end and tour), The Wipers Times (West End and Tour), A Midsummer Night's Dream and Macbeth (National Tour and Wilton's Music Hall), Crazy For You (National Tour), Trial By Laughter (National Tour), Burke and Hare and One Million Tiny Plays About Britain (Jermyn Street Theatre), Twelfth Night (Wilton's Music Hall), Teddy (National Tour and The Vaults).

Alongside transfers and national and international tours of our work, we create productions for small-scale touring, ensuring that those living in rural isolation are able to enjoy high quality theatre on their doorstep. We also tour to schools taking new interpretations of classic texts into the classroom to support students' learning.

The theatre also runs its own restaurant and bar from the beautifully converted and recently refurbished 18th century tithe barn, situated adjacent to the theatre. Our Restaurant serves freshhome cooked and where possible locally produced food for our audience. In addition, our beautiful venue is available to hire for parties, wedding receptions, meetings and seminars.

Following the forced closure of the theatre due to COVID in mid-March 2020, we have faced enormous challenges. However, we have shown huge resilience over the last 18 months, and as soon as we were given the green light to start creating live performances in July, we were quick to react with a socially distanced outdoor summer season in our beautiful gardens. During Summer 2021, we reopened once again for a hugely successful season of outdoor performances. On 10 September, The Watermill auditorium reopened for full capacity and socially distanced performances indoors.

## **ABOUT THE ROLE**

### **Role Description**

Role title:	Theatre Technician – minimum three-month Cover
Start Date:	Early January 2022 – exact date to be agreed
End Date:	Guaranteed to the end of March 2022 with an option to extend if required.
Salary:	£19,000 - £21,000 pro rata depending on experience
Other benefits:	Contributions to Employer's Workplace Pension Scheme Two Complimentary tickets per production (subject to availability)
Working hours:	<p>Your normal working week will be based on 43 (forty-three) hours to be worked between the hours of 8.00am and Midnight Monday to Saturday with variable shift patterns including evenings, weekends and bank holiday work.</p> <p>However, you will be required to work further reasonable hours, or such flexible shift patterns as are necessary for the proper performance of your duties, taking into consideration The Watermill Theatre performance patterns and touring schedules.</p> <p>Additional hours worked should be balanced against those weeks where the programme of events is less busy when it will be possible to carry out the proper performance of your duties in less than 43 (forty-three) hours.</p>
Reports to:	Production Manager and Company Stage Manager

## **OVERVIEW**

We are looking for a technician to be part of our in-house team, which includes a production department and stage management department. The candidate will be responsible for technical aspects of the theatre and on occasion performing the role of duty technician. We are ideally looking for a candidate that has a strong sound knowledge. The Watermill Theatre is a producing theatre, creating all aspects of the productions in-house & on site.

The role will be varied, carrying out whatever duties are required to fulfill/create the technical aspects of the productions.

The spring 2022 season is comprised of two world premiere productions (one play and one actor-musician musical), and a revival of our 2020 production of the new musical *The Wicker Husband*.

This role is a three-month fixed term contract. Starting at the beginning of January we will have three dark weeks to service the building, PAT test all equipment, before the commencement of our spring season.

## **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Act as Duty Technician for Watermill Productions as required.
- Technically support the Stage Management team.
- Rig checks.
- Operate sound for shows if required.
- Mix live sound for Musicals if required.
- Liaise with incoming creative teams; particularly sound designers to ensure their technical needs are met.
- Ensure material received from sound designers is transferred to rehearsal room Q Lab during tech week and fit ups
- Work on focusing and rigging of lighting
- Setup sound equipment as per Sound Designer requirements
- Set up cue lights and comms.
- Have an understanding of an ION lighting desk
- When required, assist the stage management team sourcing & building technical props.
- Share responsibility with stage management and production staff for preparing the rehearsal rooms
- Setting up musical instruments for use in rehearsals
- Putting sound system and radio mics into rehearsal room
- Ensure the storerooms are kept tidy and equipment free from damage
- Take responsibility for the technical and stage requirements of the Watermill youth theatre presentations and other Watermill events.
- Ensure the catering department's sound and lighting equipment is in good working order
- Assist in the daily running and upkeep of the Watermill Theatre site including general maintenance of the theatre, foyer and rehearsal room

## **PERSONAL SPECIFICATION**

- Strong, proven experience and/or qualification in sound and lighting design
- Up to date knowledge of lighting systems, control apparatus, equipment, and its maintenance
- Up to date knowledge of digital audio and audio-visual equipment and its use in relation to live, recorded and play-back techniques
- Experience of operating lighting and sound equipment.
- A willingness to accept delegated responsibility and to both give and follow instruction where appropriate.
- Self-motivation and willingness to work within a team-based environment.
- Bright, proactive and energetic, with a demonstrable record in the delivery of productions at the highest artistic and technical level.
- An excellent communicator. Resilient and with the ability to demonstrate and communicate enthusiasm and professionalism in all aspects of this highly demanding job.
- IT and autoCAD literate.
- A full driving licence
- A working knowledge of Health and Safety regulations.

## **HOW TO APPLY**

We actively encourage applications from people from a variety of backgrounds, experiences and skills as The Watermill Theatre is committed to equal opportunities for all. We also encourage people who don't necessarily meet these criteria but believe they could challenge our thinking and ensure the theatre's future resilience.

### **To Apply**

Please send us the following to [admin@watermill.org.uk](mailto:admin@watermill.org.uk):

- Your CV and a cover letter explaining how you fit the criteria
- A completed Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form.

If we can support your application by offering an alternative format, please do let us know. Likewise, we want to ensure interviews are as accessible as possible so please do let us know in your application if there is anything we can do to support this.

**Application Deadline: Monday 29 November 2021**

Interviews will take place: Week commencing 6 December