

Luken Smyth

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Career Profile

With +12 years in Film and Live production, I have extensive experience as a lighting professional. My forte is to think laterally in problem solving situations and articulate ideas/solutions effectively to achieve the vision of my clients. Through my career I have developed a strong passion for lighting design which inspired me to further my education and build on my expertise. As a designer, I have an eye for detail, coupled with a passion for innovation and an appreciation for proven methodology. My aim is to draw upon my experiences and apply my knowledge of lighting to architecture, to collaborate with teams and ensure sophisticated, quality designs in the delivery of high end projects.

Key Skills and Abilities

in Illumination Design

- Proven ability to conceptualise work with clients and creatives to develop ideas and produce a clear vision.
- Drafting designs and presenting concepts through visual demonstrations.
- Extensive experience in budgeting and working with suppliers to provide quotes suitable to the client.
- Regular communication, consultation and collaborating with stakeholders and executives to ensure they are part of every step from design to launch
- Highly skilled in using Vectorworks Spotlight and Renderworks to construct scale lighting plans for installation and rendered artistic impressions.
- Experience with Architectural Lighting Design software AGI32 and Adobe Creative Cloud
- Understanding of compliance with Australian/New Zealand Standards and Australian Building Code
- Extensive knowledge in working with power, rigging and network based control systems

Employment

Leading in Lighting Design

As head designer I have undertaken projects demonstrating my personal style of symmetry and subtleness. My role is to facilitate the collaboration with creatives, in order to insure the success of their vision. My training as a lighting system technician enables me to take into consideration technical feasibility, particularly in terms of allocation of time and budget. My involvement in these projects has enabled me to express who I am as lighting designer.

Recent roles as lighting designer and assisting in lighting design

- 80 Rawson Avenue, Queens Park | 2019 | Konstas residence Lighting Consultant
- 7/ 15 Station Street, Mortdale | 2019 | Dogias residence Lighting Consultant
- The Star. Darling Harbour | 2019 | Archi-Entertainment Foyer Install Project Programmer.
- Soft Centre, Casula Powerhouse | 2018 | Principal Lighting Designer
- Disney Under the Stars | 2016 | Vectorworks Lighting, Rigging, System Draftsman
- A Midsummer Night's Dream | 2016 | Dulwich H.S of Visual Arts and Design
- Carnivale Building Facade | 2015 | Dulwich H.S of Visual Arts and Design
- Pymble Ladies College | 2015 | Annual Dance Assemble Lighting Designer
- Secret Garden Festival | 2015 | Production Manager and Lighting Designer
- Secret Garden Festival | 2013 - 2014 | Lighting Designer and Crew Chief
- Sydney Eisteddfod "Dance of Champions" | 2012 - 2017 | Producer: H Squared TV. Broadcast on Channel 10 Lighting Designer and Director
- Tame Impala | 2010 - 2013 | Lighting Designer and Touring Operator

Lighting Programmer in Feature Film

Working in film introduced me to a new form a lighting design, behind a lense. Working alongside directors of photography who essentially play the role of lighting designer on set, is where I've developed the foundation and understanding of colour, particularly in portraying emotion. Whilst live events tend to use saturated hues in large quantities, film lighting has a certain subtleness to it, and the importance of light texture is paramount. Through my experience in film I am able to apply these concepts into my design work, Being on set, it is important to be an effective communicator as it is a collaboration with several departments for a common goal. As a programmer I am in control of the balance of light, colour and contrast through the guidance of highly experienced individuals.

Recent feature films

- King Kong vs Godzilla | 2019 | Board Operator Gold Coast
- Peter Rabbit 2 | 2018 | Board Operator Sydney

- I Am Woman | 2018 | Board Operator Sydney
- Danger Close | 2018 | Board Operator, Vectorworks draftsman Gold Coast
- Skinford | 2017 | Board Operator Sydney
- Nekromancer | 2017 | Board Operator Sydney
- Mission Impossible Fallout | 2017 | Board Operator Queenstown NZ
- The Lego Ninjago Movie | 2017 | Board Operator, Vectorworks draftsman
- Pacific Rim Uprising | 2016-17 | Board Operator, Vectorworks Sydney and Qingdao, China
- Alien Covenant | 2016 | Board Operator Sydney
- Hacksaw Ridge | 2016 | Board Operator Sydney
- Gods of Egypt | 2014 | Board Operator Sydney
- The Great Gatsby | 2011 - 2012 | Board Operator Sydney Bazmark III

Recent television production

- M.A.F.S. | 2019 | Endemol Shine. Filmed on Location around Sydney and NSW
- Great Australian Bake-Off | 2018 | Fremantle Media. Concord, Sydney
- Shark Tank | 2018 | Endemol Shine. Fox Studios, Moore Park, Sydney

Lighting Director and Operator

As a Lighting Director I work with clients in the lead up to the event or production. The design is a collaboration between the senior designer and myself. My primary role is to project plan and liaise with the designer and client, offering lighting options suitable for their concept and purpose. As a director I ensure lighting standards are met in a live production scenario or during a live broadcast and consider the needs unique to each event. Directing requires a calm approach in understanding the importance of achieving the client's vision. Through my role as a Lighting Director I've gained greater understanding of the physics of light and its application in a variety of contexts.

Lighting director and operator

- Australian Navy 100th Birthday | 2013 | Sydney Harbour Lighting Fireworks Display
Technical manager for Lighting systems on board Navy Vessels.
- Sydney Festival Paradiso Bar | 2013 | Sydney Town Hall Operator/Director of Lighting
- Chinese New Year Parade | 2015 | Lighting Director, Designer Mark Hammer
- Lord Mayors Party | 2013 | Channel 9 Broadcast Lighting Operator
- MTV Local Produce Episodes | 2011 - 2012 | Lighting Director,
- City of Sydney NYE | 2011-2012 | Dawes Points VIP Party Operator
- Mercedes Benz Fashion Week | May 2011 | Lighting Director and Programmer
- Mercedes Benz Fashion Festival | August 2011 | Lighting Director and Programmer

Other Employment

Chameleon (CTS) is responsible for supplying some of the largest lighting jobs in Australia, My experience and training in live production was demonstrated during my employment undertaking a variety of technical lighting roles for corporate events, launching products in unusual spaces throughout Sydney where architectural lighting is more of a focus. This has been my inspiration to further my education in the field.

Following my employment with Chameleon I subcontracted with Production Resource Group (PRG), a multinational production company responsible for major touring arena shows. I was employed as a crew chief and took on a leading role in touring lighting systems around Australia and New Zealand for major performers like Prince, Barry Gibb and Leonard Cohen.

- Production Resource Group | 2011 - 2015 | Crew Chief Sydney and Melbourne.
- Chameleon Touring Systems | 2007 - 2013 | Technician/Operator Sydney

Schooling and Education

- Graduate Certificate in Architectural Science (Illumination Design) | 2017 | The University of Sydney
- Certificate III Electrotechnology | 2008 | TAFE NSW
- Global Television Studios Technical Traineeship | 2006 - 2007 | Outside Broadcast
- Higher School Certificate Secondary | 2003 | Shore- Sydney Church of England Grammar School
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License and Tickets

- Full License C, R
- Workcover EWP
- Current Working with Children Check (WWCC)
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Referees

Mark Hammer
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