



CASE | 14 MAY 2008

MAC TW1™ Lights “Billy Elliot the Musical”

Billy Elliot is a funny, heart-warming and feel-good celebration of a young boy's dream - a gripping tale of triumph over adversity. The film captured the hearts and minds of the world in 2000.

The original creative team; director Stephen Daldry and writer Lee Hall, were joined by Elton John to create “Billy Elliot the Musical” for the stage. The Australian premiere took place in late 2007 at Sydney's Capitol Theatre and has since received rave reviews.

Australian version

Renowned lighting designer Rick Fisher, with twenty years of theatre experience behind him including a current tenure as Chairman of the Association of Lighting Designers, spent several weeks in Sydney preparing the lighting for the Australian version of the stage show along with Associate Lighting Designer Richard Pacholski.

For this production the decision was taken to use sixteen Martin MAC TW1™ tungsten wash fixtures as well as eight MAC 700 Washes™ and fourteen MAC 600™ washlights. Chameleon Touring Systems supplied the Martin gear, acquiring it from Show Technology.

LD Rick Fisher

“The TW1s on Billy Elliot at Sydney's Capitol Theatre were a new addition to the rig, replacing a variety of other conventional and moving fixtures,” explained Rick Fisher. “I was very pleased with their flexibility and, most importantly, the quality of the light and subtle color mixing that blended in

with the other units in the rig. I was also impressed by their silent operation which is essential in a book musical like Billy Elliot. I look forward to expanding their presence in the upcoming Broadway production at the Imperial Theater in autumn 2008."

Rick notes that he is a big fan of a tungsten light source for basic light on people, and thinks it fabulous to have a wash unit that offers flexibility when rigging space over the stage is becoming increasingly precious.

"With near silent running, the MAC TW1 is a wonderful new addition to the lighting designer's box of tricks," he adds.

Associate LD Richard Pacholski

Richard Pacholski backs up Rick's comment, adding, "The TW1 narrows on Billy Elliot were great, proving themselves to be a rock solid unit with absolutely no problems during a long and grinding load in. They worked straight out of the box. We used them in 'silent' mode giving us complete control over fan noise. For a show that requires minimum moving light noise they were a perfect choice. Performance-wise they are a formidable unit. They have great punch and smooth color mixing plus the choice of mechanical and electronic dimming made for flexible programming. The Martin TW1 has been worth the wait."

PRODUCTS INVOLVED



MAC 600



MAC TW1



MAC 700 Wash