



SARAH McDONAGH

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO ENROL IN A THEATRE PRODUCTION COURSE?

I've always been a very creative person since I was a kid. From being interested in art, music and dance I've had many opportunities to participate in these areas. I studied drama and musical theatre during high school and was always interested in what had to happen in order to make a performance happen. I realised that being on stage wasn't for me and wanted to pursue aspects of the production that didn't include me being onstage. During my senior studies I continued on my creative interests by choosing visual arts, textiles and VET Entertainment. These all allowed me to explore different areas of production and find what I loved. As I really loved creating items I wanted to continue in a path that would allow myself to keep at my passions while earning a living, Whether that included technical, Creative or Constructive aspects. While studying I completed various work placements for VET Entertainment and worked alongside the stage manager at a local community theatre as an assistant stage manager and absolutely loved it. From that experience I looked into theatre production courses and decided that this was something that I pictured myself doing in the future as a career.

WHAT DID YOU EXPECT TO GET OUT OF COMPLETING THIS KIND OF COURSE?

From completing this course I wanted to expand my knowledge from what I learned about the industry from high school to working with professionals that have worked on shows I've seen and loved. Building up my skill set and becoming a more creative person as I'm not told exactly what to make and do, allowing myself to have a more creative input. I'm hoping that once this course is completed I can work on musicals in the future while still using my imagination to create. Working with props and scenery would be an ideal role I would love to have as I can use my skills to create and fix props as needed. Although I don't want to just box myself into one aspect.

WHAT PRODUCTIONS HAVE YOU WORKED ON AND IN WHAT ROLE DURING THE COURSE?

I've worked on a variety of shows in many capacities and forms for the duration of

my course. I was the Stage Manager for two graduation shows at Belvoir which alternated during the same week. I was an Assistant Stage Manager for a Heightened Language Show and have been a part of various bump in/outs during my time at AFTT. During lockdown I was also the Stage Manager of Actor and the Text which was a collation of partnered scene work. I helped adapt this show into a Zoom performance.

WHAT GENRE AND ASPECTS OF THEATRE PRODUCTION ARE YOU PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN?

Personally I love musical theatre and its a genre of theatre that I am strongly passionate about. Working on a musical would be an absolute dream. I am particularly interested in props and scenery. By allowing my creativity to flow, I believe this would be an ideal path in the industry I would love as a career. Although I do love working backstage as an Assistant Stage Manager this is another area where I would like to explore in the future as a possible career path.

WHAT ARE YOUR CAREER GOALS, BOTH SHORT AND LONG TERM?

The ultimate long term career goal I would love to happen is to work on a big scale musical. I would love to work on my favourite shows if they happen to come to Australia or I get the opportunity to go overseas. Shows such as Waitress, Muriels Wedding, The Rocky Horror Picture Show and Beetlejuice are amongst the many shows I dream of working on. Short term goals I will work on is improving my creative skills by working with different materials. I want to be able to use any materials to create props and make them look good on stage.

FINAL REMARK

Working in the industry is something that I would love to do if I had the opportunity. I will continue to work on my skills no matter what I am doing. Travelling would be another amazing opportunity I'm more than happy to do for my career.