



Designer Q&A: Jack Weir on *Death Drop* London

Ever wonder what it's like to open a new theatrical production in the West End following the COVID-19 pandemic? We talked to lighting designer [Jack Weir](#) to learn more about his work on [Death Drop](#), which opened at the Garrick Theatre in London in May 2021. Here's what we learned about his experience.

Q&A:

City Theatrical (CTI): Congratulations on the recent opening of *Death Drop*! How does it feel to be part of the re-opening of the West End?

Jack Weir (JW): It feels so humbling to be opening a brand new show in the West End as part of the come back of British Theatre. We all know how hard things have been, and [Death Drop](#) is the perfect way for theatre to make people laugh and have a great night out again! The laughter we've heard all throughout previews is testament to the importance of theatre in our lives, to offer escapism and what better tonic for that than Drag!

CTI: What has your experience been like with the show?

JW: It has been a very special opportunity, seeing as the show first opened back in November but was sadly cut short, like all other productions, when London was moved into Tier 3, causing a devastating secondary blow to theatres up and down the country. But Trafalgar Entertainment kept the show in situ at the [Garrick Theatre](#), and the set remained there waiting quietly for everyone to return, and now they have!

CTI: Is the show different now than it was in November 2020?

JW: Creatively, we've been able to re-visit the show whilst rehearsing in the new Dragrace Stars on top of the set. This time, it's back, it's bigger, it's brighter, and it's even more colourful! There are no rules with Drag, and this gave us a lot of freedom when creating the various moments in the play, written by Holly Stars.

CTI: Is there anyone in particular who helped make your design come to life on stage?

JW: I'd like to mention the brilliant support from Paul Anderson at Sparks Theatrical Hire for really enabling my ambitious vision for the show. There really are a huge number of people involved in the show, so my heartfelt thanks to everybody at [Trafalgar Entertainment](#), TuckShop, Nimax and the Garrick Theatre.

Last but no means least, to my friend and colleague, Chris Clegg, for having the determination and resilience to enable all of this to happen.

Read more about Jack Weir at: weirdlighting.co.uk
Read more about *Death Drop* at: deathdropplay.com

