

CASE STUDY: Multiverse Wireless DMX



PROJECT SNAPSHOT

Project Name: Location: Opening Night: Scenic Design: Lighting Design: Associate/Assistant LD: Lighting Programmer: Production Electrician: Associate PE: Head Electrician: House Electrician: Follow Spot Operators: Lighting Package: City Theatrical Solutions: Hadestown on Broadway Walter Kerr Theatre, NY, NY April 17, 2019 Rachel Hauck (Tony Award) Bradley King (Tony Award) John Viesta, Alex Mannix Bridget Chervenka James Maloney, Jr. Justin Freeman Patrick Medlock-Turek Vincent Valvo Paul Valvo, Mitchell Ker Christie Lites





<u>Hadestown</u> is an exciting new Broadway musical that takes the audience on a journey to Hell

and back. Winner of eight 2019 Tony Awards, the show presents the myth of Orpheus and Eurydice set to its very own distinctive blues stomp in the setting of a low-down New Orleans juke joint. For more information, read the *Hadestown* Review in Lighting & Sound America.

Multiverse[®] 900MHz/2.4GHz Transmitter (5910), QolorFLEX[®] 2x0.9A 2.4GHz Multiverse Dimmers (5716), QolorFLEX SHoW DMX Neo[®] 2x5A Dimmers, DMXcat[®]

CHALLENGES

One of the biggest challenges for shows in Midtown Manhattan looking to use wireless DMX is the crowded spectrum. With every lighting cue on stage being mission critical, a wireless DMX system – especially one requiring a wide range of use, compatibility with other wireless and dimming control systems, and size restraints – needs to work despite its high traffic surroundings.

The lighting design for *Hadestown* required eight headlamps, small enough to be worn and bright enough to be seen and dimmed wirelessly. The actors would wear them on elevators, turntables, and up to 15 feet deep in the basement. Based on these requirements, the ideal wireless DMX system would be resilient, could work through concrete and steel barriers, and use a less crowded frequency.

SOLUTION

City Theatrical's Multiverse Transmitter operating in the 900MHz band was selected to meet this challenge. The Multiverse Transmitter provided DMX data to battery powered headlamps. A Multiverse Node used as a transmitter and operating on a SHoW DMX Neo SHoW ID also broadcast to QolorFlex Dimmers used in the show.

"Getting set up with Multiverse was unbelievably good. Communication with City Theatrical never stopped. If things changed, Multiverse changed with us. It has been very successful for our show."

- Justin Freeman, Production Electrician, Hadestown





SOLUTION (Continued)

The team of electricians at *Hadestown* used DMXcat Multi Function Test Tool for testing and troubleshooting while setting up their Multiverse and SHoW DMX Neo wireless DMX systems. With its easy to use mobile phone interface, they also use it to make changes quickly and wirelessly without having to physically go up and test existing or mounted devices, as needed for the show.

After opening night and the first month and a half of production, the cast of *Hadestown* took the stage at the 2019 Tony Awards on June 3, 2019 at Radio City Music Hall. The electricians for the show were able to install and broadcast wirelessly using Multiverse wireless DMX technology live on national television despite the heavy radio traffic in the Rockefeller Center area.

"DMXcat is a device we use constantly, for Multiverse and everything we're testing. It's a system tool – it does so much more than DMX testing. It's more agile than anything else on the market."

- Justin Freeman, Production Electrician, Hadestown



Learn more about Multiverse at: www.citytheatrical.com/multiverse



Learn more about DMXcat at: www.citytheatrical.com/products/dmxcat



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Photos by Lighting Designer Bradley King (Tony Award)