



Technical Theatre Apprentice

Case Study

**Name: Alexander
Dillon-McQueen**

Where did you see the apprenticeship advertised?

I saw the apprenticeship at TheatreCraft

What made you apply for the apprenticeship?

I never wanted to go university and when I went to TheatreCraft and saw the apprenticeship I thought this is the one for me.

Describe a 'typical day' as an apprentice at the ROH?

There isn't a typical day at the ROH. Every day is different. That's the fun thing about working here. Coming into work at 8am, you can be running 2 shows that day and another you will be doing the get out of another show and putting in a new show.

How do you find the workplace/college balance?

At first it was tricky because I was the first year when we don't have to go into college, we do it online and we upload the work online and the tutor will mark it and give you feed back. We had reviews roughly every 8 weeks so we had an idea what we need to do and what we need to work on. The managers are every flexible, you let them know when and where you going to do work and they are fine with that.

What do you enjoy most about your apprenticeship?

I enjoy everything about the apprenticeship. From leaning different things you won't lean anywhere else to just leaning the basic health and safety. When you help build a set and you see the set on stage in front of 1000's of people you feel proud and you feel a part of a team. The staff are friendly and you can ask them any question and they will answer.

Is the apprenticeship what you expected?

The apprenticeship is 100 times better than I thought, I thought you will be watched and followed by someone everywhere you go but no! You are left alone to do things and if you mess it up or got in wrong you will have to it again which I like because leaning from your mistakes is the way.

What would you like to do after your apprenticeship is completed?

After my apprenticeship, I would like to work on a cruise ship as a stage manager or production manager or stay at the ROH and join the stage management department.

What advice would you give to someone considering applying for an apprenticeship at the ROH?

APPLY! This is the best decision I have made in my life. If you want to learn and work at the same time then is the place. Just make sure you are hardworking and you have the passion about technical theatre.