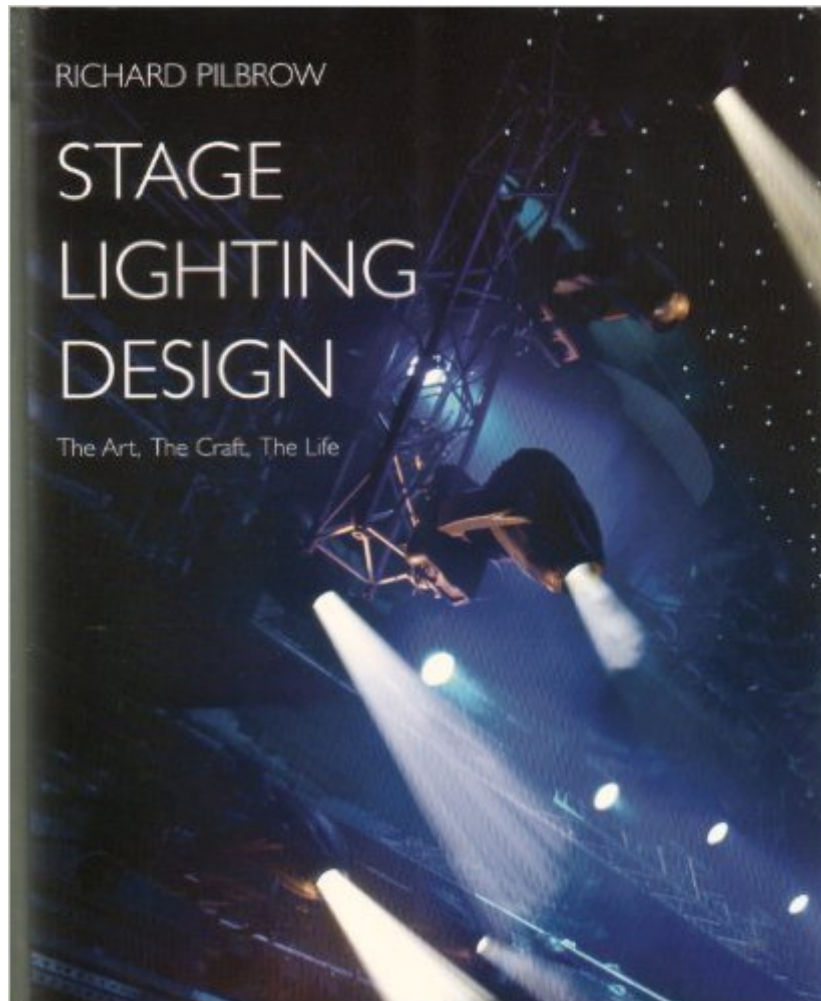# Stage Lighting Design: The Art, The Craft, The Life

## Synopsis

"Stage Lighting Design" covers the complete history, theory and - above all - practice of lighting design. It contains 450 black and white half tones, 60 colour photos and innumerable diagrams, lighting plots etc. "Stage Lighting Design" is arranged in four sections: Design: the basic principles, illustrated with reference to specific productions; History: a brief survey of the historical development of stage lighting; Life: interviews with 14 other lighting designers, plus notes on Pilbrow's own career; and Mechanics: a vast section dealing with all the technical data today's designer will need

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I bought this last year, and it quickly became one of my favourite books of all time. It's well written, and is packed full of information. But that's only the beginning. Pilbrow has chucked in years of experience and anecdote, not only from his own extensive career, but also from many other excellent designers. Whenever I'm lighting a show, I take this book with me. In a way, it is my own lighting assistant. This is a must, not only for lighting people, but also directors and producers. And that is because this book endevours to emphasise the 'art' of lighting, and not just the craft.And it's about time.

This book helped me make the decision to go for lighing design as a career .... the first half has the info most of us in the industry have picked up on stage but orders it very well, the second has many wonderful anecdotes from his and many others careers. Its the only lighing book I have found that

one can enjoy reading again and again.

This is the only book on Stage Lighting that I've come across that covers the whole spectrum of the possiblities of lighting. Mr. Pilbrow covers the range of knowledge you must have to be an effective designer -- everything from how to setup your paperwork and reports to the most esoteric of design concepts. My personal favorite couple of lines talks briefly on how you have to think about where to position the light board during rehearsals to either be in the middle of or to get away from the political center of power. There is no other author out there that can speak clearly about the evolution of lighting from oil lamp to Vari-Lite. Basically, living the life of a true designer is all about collecting visuals and techniques that intrigue and excite us and using and reinterpreting those ideas through our own personalities. With Mr. Pilbrow's book, you will never find a more comprehensive single source of those lighting ideas and techniques. Don't read the book because you have to. Read the book because it will make you a better designer.

I would easily say this is one of the top 5 books on Theatrical and Concert Lighting Design. As a young designer his advise in learning and developing the craft as well as the background he provides is invaluable. I'd recomend this book to anyone seriously considering the field.

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