

Darwin and the Barnacle Technical Requirements

Lighting

An over head rig is needed with approx 15 lanterns and some side lights. A plan can be provided. Projection is also involved. Projector is budgeted in and we could also provide a screen.

Spec for Stage Design and Layout

The set is focused around some key pieces of furniture which are placed before a hanging projection screen.

These objects remain on stage all the time. There are no physical scene changes. The remainder of the space should ideally be in black box format. Floor area approx 5 x 5 meters, black floor cloth preferred.

There are three key areas in the stage layout for the opera.

- A large rectangular dining room table no smaller than 8 x 4 ft running downstage right at a slight angle towards the centre. Behind it is a single Victorian period dining room chair. This is where Darwin will periodically sit
- Located downstage left is a partner dining room chair for the cellist (Darwin's wife.) Beside it to stage left is a simple black chair where the page turner will sit. There are two music stands
- Upstage hanging off centre to stage left is a large projection screen that hangs independently on black washing line rope from a scaffolding bar. Distance from ground approximately 2.5 meters

The table is covered in a dark grey cloth upon which are placed a number of museum and natural history artefacts that echo Darwin's study at his home in Down House. This can be all pre-set and wheeled on stage if the table has castors...alternatively it can be carried-on by two stage crew. The 3 chairs and music stands can be placed quickly into their pre-set positions. If a rig with pulley facilities exists, the projection screen can be dropped from a pre-set scaffolding bar. Alternatively a free standing large projection screen can be lifted into place.

A video projector from above the audience will deliver a keynote presentation of still images and animations from a laptop computer in the lighting box.

Sound

Two CD players and speakers in the theatre.

Exhibition

If a foyer exhibition was desired then technical requirements for this could be discussed with artist Keith McIntyre.

