



**TECHNICAL RIDER**  
**The Complete History of Comedy (abridged)**

PRESENTER shall provide, without cost to the Reduced Shakespeare Company (RSC), the following facilities and personnel for load-in, rehearsal, performance, and load-out. Items specified shall be in working order and available to the RSC throughout the residency and performance, the theater shall be available ten (10) hours prior to the performance and shall be reserved for the exclusive use of the RSC.

**THEATER REQUIREMENTS:**

- The theater shall be well heated (or cooled, as appropriate), lighted, clean and in good order.

**STAGE REQUIREMENTS:**

- The stage shall be clear of all obstructions, including platforms, scenery, and any articles likely to cause impediment.
- The stage shall be constructed of wood and shall be smooth and free of splinters, nails, staples and any other items that may cause personal injury. The stage shall be painted with a flat black paint, to minimize slipping since there is water thrown onstage during the performance.
- The stage shall be clean – swept and mopped – prior to load in and prior to each performance.
- The play cannot be performed on cement slabs or carpeted cement slabs.
- Minimum dimensions shall be: 24 ft. x 14 ft. deep (from edge of stage or apron to RSC backdrop). The maximum depth from RSC backdrop to downstage edge of stage/apron shall not exceed 18 ft. RSC would prefer the stage masking to be set at 30-35 ft. wide and the RSC drop be hung 16 ft. from the downstage edge of the apron.
- Please advise the RSC of any orchestra pit and if it can be raised to stage height.
- One scene in the production uses a mock hospital bed approximately 3 ½ ft. wide and 6 ft. tall. There must be sufficient room on stage to roll this bed onstage from either the wings or around the RSC drop.

**MASKING:**

- A minimum of 7 ft. down stage from the back wall shall be a set of black legs or a black traveler which shall extend from the sides of the stage into 6 inches from each side of the center line. Given extra stage depth, said legs or traveler shall be hung no more than 21 ft. from the downstage edge of the apron.
- The RSC drop is one piece, approximately 8 ft. wide x 13 ft. in height with a pipe pocket at the top and bottom. It is to be hung center stage 3 ft. downstage of black traveler/legs, and no more than 18 ft. from the downstage edge of the stage.
- The main house curtain may be used in the performance. Please advise the RSC whether it is flown or tracks.
- If the stage opening is wider than 30 ft., black legs will be hung on either side of the drop to mask backstage.
- This show requires the theater to provide a projection screen and a projector (with a dowser) that can be connected with control cable to the RSC laptop. The RSC laptop is usually situated near the house

sound console. The projection screen (approximate size 9 foot x 12 foot) shall be hung centered on a line set directly downstage of the RSC drop. It should trim at a height of approximately 12 feet off the ground, and it will be flown in and out of sightlines during the performance.

- If the proscenium is more than 4 ft. downstage of the RSC drop, there will be sufficient masking in the wings to allow passage in the wings without being seen by the audience.
- If the proscenium opening is higher than 18 ft., a teaser/border will be provided to mask the top of the drop. It should be hung downstage of the drop, as close to it as possible, preferably on the pipe immediately downstage.

### **LIGHTING:**

In the event that the PRESENTER'S available lighting equipment is inadequate for the production, it is agreed that minimum lighting equipment will be made available at the PRESENTER'S expense. This equipment must be available, hung, focused, gelled and in working order prior to the RSC's arrival. Provided adequate equipment is available, the RSC will adapt the lighting to the PRESENTER'S equipment.

- **Front Light** – A sufficient number of instruments with appropriate focal length, wattage and design to provide two (2) separate washes. Each wash shall light the entire stage area with adequate front face light to allow consistent coverage suitable for theatrical performance, including sufficient depth coverage from the edge of the apron up to and including the RSC drop. One wash is to be gelled with Roscolux #65 (Daylight Blue) and the other with Roscolux #02 (Amber or Flesh Tone) or like. Both of these washes shall be channeled to provide (at the least) separate stage right, center stage and stage left control.
- **Side Light** – Two (2) full stage washes from box booms and/or high sides to provide two separately controlled washes of side light. One wash is to be gelled with Roscolux #51 and the other with Roscolux #57 or like. Both of these washes should provide sufficient coverage of the stage.
- **Back/Down Light** – Two (2) full stage washes from an onstage or overhead electric to provide two separately controlled washes of top/back light. Both of these washes shall be channeled to provide (at the least) separate stage right, center stage and stage left control. One wash is to be gelled with Roscolux #14 (Medium Straw), and the other to be gelled with Roscolux Rx #83 or like.
- **3 Specials** – Six (6) instruments, with sufficient focal length and wattage to create three (3) separate pools of light (2 instruments each), each six feet the widest horizontal diameter, to be hung from FOH or the first beam, from as straight on as possible (SR, CS, SL), at approx. a 45 degree angle to the stage and focused in such a way that the down stage edge of the pools lie five (5) feet from the edge of the stage. The three (3) pools do not overlap but almost meet (several inches apart) at their widest diameter. These are to have no gel and must be controlled separately. If the pools cannot be five (5) feet from the downstage edge of the stage, they should be as central as possible without spilling upstage on the drop. Irises are preferred on these units.
- **RSC Drop Special** – At least one (1) instrument with to be placed FOH center to light the RSC drop from floor to top. (a Balcony rail is IDEAL for these instruments). The instrument shall be gelled with diffusion.
- **USR & USL specials** - Four (4) instruments with to be used to light someone standing to the right and left of the RSC drop up center. Two (2) will come from the front (1 per side) and have diffusion gel, and two (2) from the top (1 per side) gelled with Lee #201. The units which come from the top should be hung just upstage of the drop, between the drop and the black masking, lighting someone who would be standing next to the drop.

- **Leaf Breakup** – Sufficient instruments to cover the stage with a medium leaf breakup (Rosco's Summer Leaves or like). Each of these instruments should be controlled independently (separate channels) and should be gelled with Roscolux #365 or 356 or the like. RSC does not carry these gobos.
- **Center stage warm area special** – two or three instruments from FOH that cover about 12 feet of the center stage space, gelled with Roscolux #346.
- **Color wash**– instruments sufficient to cover most of the stage for a color wash gelled with Rx 80 or the like. The color wash will work from either FOH or Box boom positions.
- **Strobe Lighting capability of covering the center 15 feet of the stage. This works either as a floor unit on front edge of stage or from FOH – it should NOT be an overhead unit on the stage.**
- **High side leaf breakup (if available instruments)** - several instruments (onstage pipe ends ideal) from one or both sides of the stage, with any nondescript medium breakup gobo and gelled with Roscolux #364 or the like.
- **RSC Gobos** – Two (2) instruments with sufficient focal length, wattage, and design, and capable of holding glass gobos, shall be used for the RSC logo gobos. These gobos are generally focused on the walls of the theater, to the left and right of the stage. If the theater is not set up in such a way, one (or both) gobo(s) may be focused where it is in sight of the entire audience. **RSC carries these glass gobos, but NOT the gobo holders.**
- **Running Lights** – A minimum of four (4) fresnels (or strip lights) placed up stage of the black traveler, circuited on a non-dim or parked at an on level, gelled with a dark blue color, as work light above the prop tables. They remain on at all times during the performance and cover the entire back stage area. In addition, the theater shall be equipped with a minimum of two (2) blue clip lights, down stage left and right, for the prop tables.
- **Lighting Control** – A computer lighting board with enough memory to record 100 looks and enough submasters/channels to control specials and washes separately as necessary.
- Dimmer packs with adequate kilowatt capacity to control each cue separately
- All the appropriate circuitry cable, top hats, shutters, barn doors, gels and all other standard accessories.

## **SOUND:**

The PRESENTER shall provide a sound system and microphones as follows:

- Sufficient microphones, amplifiers and loud speakers to reinforce the spoken and sung work from the entire on-stage area. **Body microphones are not possible or acceptable.** Chorus mics hung directly above the playing area are an option. PCC's are preferred and should be set up on the downstage edge of the stage or apron, with padding under to minimize foot noise.
- **We will need onstage/backstage monitors for music & SQ playback**
- All houses: An intercom system with enough stations to service the stage manager, light operator, sound operator, fly man, and up-stage center behind the RSC's drop. Once headset station must extend into the house for light and sound level setting at time of load-in.
- All houses: adequate sound board, cables, amps and loud speakers to cover the entire audience. RSC will provide the show sound on a Company laptop computer (1/8" mini to 1/4" into house system).
- Two (2) practical cordless microphones and stands with round bases

## **PROP REQUIREMENTS:**

The PRESENTER shall provide:

- Four (4) 8-foot tables plus two (2) card tables to be used back stage.
- Three (3) chairs to be set backstage for the actors' use
- Stairs from the stage to the house floor both SL and SR with access to all aisles

- One (1) steamer – Mandatory – Industrial tank style
- Thirty (30) hangers on a rolling costume rack
- One (1) can of white shaving cream – **CANNOT** be mentholated (per performance)
- Four (4) large helium-filled latex balloons per performance. For engagements of more than four performances, a helium tank with which to fill the balloons is preferable.
- An available overhead pipe onto which RSC can attached a c-clamp with a clip attached, which will drop approximately 15 pieces of paper from the flies.
- Three (3) gallons of room temperature bottled spring water per performance.
- Two (2) feet of glow tape
- Three (3) bath towels
- Three (3) hand towels
- White spike or gaffers tape and black gaffers tape
- Copy machine access for documents used in show, not to exceed a total of 20 copies (RSC will provide the masters)

### **CREW:**

A theatrically knowledgeable crew, with a designated supervisor present at all times, (including load-in, performances and load-out) is to be available in the numbers, and at the times listed below. Crew shall include a person authorized and able to clear a parking space at the loading dock. If required by local unions, PRESENTER shall be responsible for satisfying minimum requirements.

### **LOAD-IN:**

Load-in is to occur ten (10) hours prior to the performance. PRESENTER will provide six (6) persons to unload, set up scenery, focus and troubleshoot projector/laptop issues, steam costumes, set light, sound and mic levels and to focus specials. Lighting instruments must be pre-hung, circuited, gelled and (in the case of the washes) pre-focused prior to RSC arrival 10 hours prior to the performance. The crew used for load-in should also be the crew for the performance. This crew should be comprised of:

- One (1) stage carpenter/flyman
- Three (3) stage electricians
- One (1) sound engineer
- One (1) prop/wardrobe assistant (very important this is the same person throughout load-in, performance and load-out)

### **TECHNICAL REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE:**

All houses: The following crew is to be available from 1 ½ hours prior to the performance until 1 hour after curtain down:

- One (1) Light Board Operator
- One (1) Sound Operator
- One (1) props/wardrobe assistant
- One (1) stage carpenter/flyman

One of the four crew members will have keys for access to all performing and dressing areas.

## **ARTIST RIDER**

### **PARKING REQUIREMENTS:**

PRESENTER shall provide parking at all times for one (1) standard mini-van and one (1) standard sedan. PRESENTER shall arrange, in advance, any necessary permits for access throughout the residency and performances.

### **HOSPITALITY:**

PRESENTER shall provide hospitality for five (5) people. All hospitality MUST be provided in the theater. This is non-negotiable.

Load-in: PRESENTER to provide a fruit tray, coffee and tea, real milk, unsweetened iced tea, assorted soft drinks (both diet and regular) and soda water.

Hot meal: PRESENTER shall provide a hot meal exactly two and a half (2 ½) hours prior to curtain. If there are two performances on a single day, PRESENTER shall provide a hot meal exactly two and a half (2 ½) hours before the first curtain and then immediately following the close of the first performance. Meal contents are up to the discretion of the PRESENTER with the following provisions:

- On Monday, Wednesday or Friday the meal should be either Chinese or Italian
- On Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday or Sunday the main course should be either beef or chicken
- No fast foods
- All meals shall be nutritionally balanced and contain no MSG.
- Any deviation from these provisions must be cleared by the RSC Company manager, seven (7) days prior to the performance.
- A buy-out is not an option for the hot meal.

### **DRESSING ROOMS:**

The dressing room shall have space for three persons, properly lit and equipped, in accordance with the Safe and Sanitary Regulations following which Regulations shall form part of this agreement.

- Safe and sanitary regulations:
  - a) Dressing rooms shall be a permanent type. Each actor shall be provided sufficient and suitable dressing table space. All dressing rooms shall have adequate lights, mirrors, shelves and hooks for actors' belongings and dressing equipment.
  - b) All dressing rooms shall be swept and cleaned before the company's arrival and all mirrors and Dressing tables shall be thoroughly cleaned.
  - c) There shall be a fire extinguisher accessible to each dressing room.
  - d) Dressing rooms shall be equipped with a lockable storage area for the RSC's valuables. The PRESENTER shall provide adequate security for the dressing rooms so as to insure against theft.
  - e) All dressing rooms shall be equipped with air-conditioning systems, air-cooling systems or some similar type of mechanical device to ensure proper ventilation and the circulation of fresh, cool air.
  - f) The PRESENTER agrees to provide heat if the outside temperature falls below 60 degrees and air conditioning if the temperature exceeds 78 degrees.
  - g) Alleys and doors leading to the stage doors of the theaters shall be accessible and properly lit. Runways between dressing rooms and the theater shall be covered and paved or boarded.
  - h) Dressing room entrances and windows shall be properly masked from the view of the audience to ensure the actors' privacy.
  - i) The PRESENTER will provide soap, toilet tissue, paper towels and 3 bath towels. Toilets and showers shall be clean and sanitary and will be separate facilities from those provided for the audience.
  - j) Sinks and showers with hot and cold running water shall be available in or reasonably convenient to the dressing rooms. "Reasonably convenient to" shall mean within the same building and in the dressing room area.
  - k) Any walkway between the dressing room and the toilet facilities shall be masked from the view of the audience.
  - l) All areas of the theater must be equipped for air circulation, heating, safety, safe access and proper lighting, including exit lights.

### **MAINTENANCE:**

PRESENTER shall make available, upon request, shop space and laundry facilities, if such exist under his/her control, for the maintenance of sets, props and costumes.

### **CONCESSIONS:**

The RSC sells scripts, DVDs, CDs and hardback books before, during intermission, and after the performance. Presenting Organization will provide one (1) table in lobby, two (2) volunteers to sell and start up change. Please indicate the merchandise commission split for providing this service for RSC \_\_\_\_\_.

**MATURE LANGUAGE NOTIFICATION**

As one would expect in an examination of the History of Comedy, the show contains occasional strong language and sexual innuendo.

**PUBLICITY:**

**BILLING:**

The Reduced Shakespeare Company®  
In  
The Complete History of Comedy (abridged)  
Written and Directed by Reed Martin & Austin Tichenor

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Presenting Organization

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Jane Martin  
Reduced Shakespeare Company