**CONSENT FORM**

**Participant Name/Code:**

**Title of Project: Staging Professionalism**: The role of the ABTT in the professionalisation of technical practice across post-war, civic, and subsidised British theatre.

**Name of researcher(s):** Paul Roberts

**Participant Information**:

This thesis examines the influence of the Association of British Theatre Technicians (ABTT) on the development of post-war British technical theatre. It argues that the ABTT was central to the professionalisation of post-war British theatre, and that as a result, backstage labour came through increasing forms of regulative governance, with the ABTT substantially influencing the way models of standardisation developed across the sector, particularly in its formative years, 1961 – 1985. Responding to growing contemporary interest in technical theatre and labour professionalisation, the research contextualises and historicises current debates, providing a new analysis of technical theatre. The thesis does this by firstly, exploring the role played by technical theatre, more generally, in the diversification of labour across post-war, civic and subsidised British theatres, and secondly, by looking at how theatre as an organisation, civic structure, and institution, developed in line with emergent technologies and technical professions. This is achieved by focussing on the bifurcation of specialist roles, particularly evident within stage lighting and sound, and the influence of expertise upon architecture, policy, and stage design. The thesis, therefore, focusses on the influence of the ABTT during its formative years, and its contribution to the conditions of politics, governance and power within theatre, by exploring the structures of theatre management within technical professionalisation. Your testimony will only be used in this thesis to inform my thinking and not as primary evidence, in name or direct quote (unless consent is clearly obtained). It is the intention of the ABTT to use this research project, and the final thesis, to produce a book that offers an interpretation of the organisation’s formative years and to add your testimony to their archive.

**Specific research questions:**

You

1. How did you first hear of the ABTT?
2. Where and why did you become engaged with the association?
3. What has been your role(s) in support of the organisation?
4. What have you hoped to achieve?
5. What is your area(s) of expertise?

The organisation

1. How would you describe the ABTT?
2. What is the organisation best known for?
3. How would you depict the ABTT’s area(s) of expertise?
4. What do you feel has been the greatest achievement of the ABTT?
5. What do you believe the ABTT is still to achieve?

The networks

1. Who have you worked most closely with during your time involved with the ABTT?
2. What other committees and organisations have you been involved with during your time associated with the ABTT? (please remember that your testimony may be accessed through the archive or wider public domains in the future)?
3. What areas of ABTT involvement across technical theatre do you consider to be the most important, where, and why?
4. Who, in your opinion, have been the most influential/important people in the emergence and continued development of the ABTT and why?
5. Which people/organisations would you expect to see discussed in a history of the ABTT between 1961-1985 and why?

Please initial box

1. I confirm that I have read and understood the above information provided for the study. I have had the opportunity to consider the information, ask questions and have had these answered satisfactorily.
2. I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw at any time without giving any reason, without my *medical*, *social care*, *education*, or *legal rights* being affected.
3. I consent to audio/video recording, and (anonymized or attributed where agreed) verbatim quotations from interviews (email, phone, online and social media) and for captured interviews to be presented to the ABTT archive at the end of thesis completion.
4. I understand that my data will be securely stored for a minimum of 10 years, in line with the CSSD’s Research Data Management Policy.
5. I understand the need to pass on revealing information to the relevant authorities where appropriate.
6. I agree to take part in the above study.

Name (code) of Participant Date Signature

Name of Researcher Date Signature