

ABTT AutoCAD Seminar

00:40:42 Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator: Good afternoon everyone and thank you to everyone who is joining us, it is great to have you with us!

Do let us know where you are joining us from today!

If you want to speak between all attendees and our speakers please click the drop down saying "all panellists and attendees"

This webinar is part of the programme for the Theatre Show Online and is presented by the Association of British Theatre Technicians.

We are very pleased to be collaborating with PLASA in offering our industry the place for the some real 'face to face' conversation, Visitors may register their interest

<https://www.plasashow.com/register-your-interest>

and I encourage anyone interested in exhibiting to get in touch with the ABTT Office office@abtt.org.uk

00:43:14 Paul Moore: Hi, It's Paul Moore, from MIF up in Manchester. Looking forward to the seminar

00:43:29 Elysia Moore, For now we are very pleased to be able to present a wide range of seminars across the two days of the what would have be the Theatre Show and extending into third day later in the week on Friday.

00:43:36 Gareth Chell: Hi, Gareth Chell from Derby Arena

00:44:21 Paul Halter: Paul Halter from Charcoalblue here, hello all!

00:43:44 Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator: Great to have so many of you with us!

You can find more information on the other seminars here: <https://www.abtt.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/ABTT-Online-Seminar-Agenda-Final-with-links-2021-1.pdf>

As with other Zoom Webinars, we recommend selecting gallery view so that you can see all panelists at the same time, the button for this can be found in the top right corner of your screen.

We do not have live Closed Caption subtitles this afternoon but the recording of this session will be posted on the ABTT website where there will be Closed Caption subtitles available by clicking the CC button.

You may use the chat function in this Webinar to talk amongst yourselves. The Chat button can be found on the bar at the bottom of your screen.

Please do post in the chat box and it would be great if you would let us know where you are joining us from today. Feel free to chat to one another and give your thoughts throughout the event – we're always pleased to hear from you.

If we use the screen share function this afternoon, the screen will reorganise itself to display the shared visual content but it will return to the previous screen when the sharing stops – you don't need to do anything.

Most importantly, this session gives us an opportunity to address your questions. At any time during the webinar, please do post questions, thoughts or comments you would like our panelists to discuss using the Q&A tab also to be found in the bar at the bottom of your screen. We shall try and discuss as many questions as possible so do post them as soon as you can.

Today's Webinar will be recorded and the recording will be available on the ABTT website, along with all relevant information, after the event: https://www.abtt.org.uk/events-and-courses/abtt_seminars/seminars_june-2021/

Today we will be joining David Ripley, AutoCAD expert, Tutor and Author of AutoCAD – A Handbook for Theatre as looks at both new features in the latest release of AutoCAD – AutoCAD 2022 and some older ones you may have forgotten.

David will also be talking about AutoStage, a production plug-in for AutoCAD and accessing the software via the Charity Digital Exchange, if your organisation qualifies.

David has been an AutoCAD user and trainer for over 20 years, starting with DOS based releases. He provides training through cad4theatre and the ABTT to freelancers, companies, venues and drama schools across the UK and beyond.

He is the Head of Technical & Production at RCSSD and sits on PLASA's Board as Organisational representative.

He is also an Associate member of the PMF Committee, for Education. He is the author of AutoCAD – A Handbook for Theatre Users, the 5th edition of which will be published later this year.

00:46:51 Paul Halter: I'm particularly interested in the AutoStage software for load case analysis, looks very useful.

00:47:32 Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator: That's great thanks Paul! If you have any specific questions, please do pop these into the Q&A tab which you can find at the bottom of your screen

00:48:06 Simon: Simon here. Senior Project Manager from Rigging Team. Very interested in AutoStage too.

00:48:23 Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator: As mentioned, David runs the ABTT Online AutoCAD Course. You can find some more information on this here: <https://www.abtt.org.uk/courses/autocad-online-training-for-theatre-technicians/>

AutoSTAGE is a powerful software for the economical and easy creation of professional CAD drawings, technical planning and visualization for trade show, theater and event technology.

The software is a planning tool to enhance productivity which can be used to quickly create comprehensive design plans for building, operating and documenting event technology.

<https://www.autostagecad.com/>

Another interesting link that may be of use for some of you is <https://www.scan2cad.com/>

Scan2CAD can save days for companies converting designs. It enables you to automatically convert your designs for CAD. Stop manually tracing or outsourcing redrawing.

01:06:20 Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator: All Seminars are recorded and you can find these here: https://www.abtt.org.uk/events-and-courses/abtt_seminars/seminars_june-2021/

01:06:21 Paul Moore: Really helpful, thank you.

01:08:40 Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator: <https://www.charitydigitalexchange.org/>

Charity Digital can now provide Microsoft's best cloud offerings for charities - including Office 365, Project Online, Skype for Business and more - alongside donated licences.

Charity Digital Exchange gives eligible UK charities access to major technology companies' donation programmes, including Microsoft, Cisco, Symantec and Adobe.

You can begin the registration process here: https://www.charitydigitalexchange.org/getting_started

01:11:25 Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator: You can try AutoCAD and/or any of the industry-specific toolsets that are included with a FREE Trial here: <https://www.autodesk.eu/products/autocad/free-trial>

For the German version of AutoStage this is here: <https://www.autostage.de/service/download/>

01:16:14 Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator: We now joined by Tom White, Vectorworks Industry Specialist, who will be exploring how to create 2D plans and construction drawings from detailed 3D models in Vectorworks Spotlight, including schematic views of vertical lighting positions and other useful theatre production workflows.

After graduating University in 2004, Tom started at The Bush Theatre in London as a technician, followed by The Roundhouse in Camden.

Tom then became head of Lighting at LFO from 2007 to 2010 and then Head of Lighting for Regents Park Open Air Theatre in 2010.

This was followed by 4 years of international touring with Propeller Theatre Company where he was responsible for lighting on tour. After Propeller Tom re-lit numerous UK tours for Frantic Assembly and Re-lights and adaptations for ETO.

More recently Tom was the Deputy Chief Electrician and EOS programmer at Bath Theatre Royal.

Tom's Vectorworks Drafting has included St Petersburg Ballet Theatre, Welsh National Opera and The National Theatre of Great Britain among others. Tom has also worked as a lighting designer since 2004 and in 2021 won the What's Onstage 'Offie' award for best Lighting Design of a Play. Tom is the UK Entertainment Industry Specialist with Vectorworks.

You can find more information on Vectorworks here: <https://www.vectorworks.net/>

In case you were not aware you can get Vectorworks for Education (free) here:

<https://www.vectorworks.net/en-GB/education>

Vectorworks software helps people transform the world. Whether you're a student developing designs for a class, an educator teaching design, or an administrator making decisions about licences and infrastructure, Vectorworks provides a comprehensive and intuitive design experience to help designers realise their visions.

Students and professors in select global markets can download a free individual copy of Vectorworks Designer software, which includes all the capabilities of Architect, Landmark, and Spotlight. Visit the Academic Portal to start bringing your designs to life.

You can also request a full lab donation for your school, college or university. You can get free Vectorworks Designer software — which includes all the capabilities of Architect, Landmark, and Spotlight — and the entire entertainment design solution with Vision, Braceworks, and ConnectCAD.

Recent Graduates can also purchase your design software at a discount and start your career with the Vectorworks advantage.

Vectorworks also offers subscription plans. These are flexible, cost effective. and are the best way to get the software tools you need for the length of time you desire.

<https://customers.vectorworks.net/subscriptions>

01:26:27 Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator: If anyone has any questions about Vectorworks, please pop these in to the Q&A Tab for us so we can answer these for you shortly

01:40:22 Gareth Chell: Has anyone got an AutoCAD base plan they would be happy to share?

01:42:32 Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator: What is Vectorworks Spotlight?

Vectorworks Spotlight is the entertainment industry-leading software that's an all-in-one design, documentation and production solution. With an extensive suite of entertainment-focused drawing, modelling and rendering tools, Spotlight can produce detailed paperwork and presentations. Create an immersive experience with cutting-edge technology like virtual and augmented reality and rendered panoramas.

How is the course structured?

The course is specifically tailored to the needs of users in a theatrical and live events environment, it consists of seven parts and is structured so you can create simple drawings after Part 1. The course will provide you with a foundation of skills, allowing you use the program straight away and build your knowledge. The course should take approximately 24 hours to complete, this will vary from person to person as it structured to allow you to you work at your own pace.

01:44:35 Mig Burgess, ABTT Trustee: Do pop any questions you have for Tom and David into the Q and A tab.

01:44:54 **Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator:** The ABTT will be uploading the new course ready to be applied for shortly on the ABTT Website.

01:47:58 **Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator:** If anyone has any more questions for David or Tom please do let us know!

01:48:06 **Paul Halter:** I would also add that using CAD in anger is the best learning tool!

01:53:40 **Paul Halter:** Thank you all!