

14:01:26 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : Hi everyone! Hope you are well

14:01:27 From * Graham Frampton to Everyone : Calgary Alberta Graham Frampton

14:01:30 From Robert Millington to All panelists : Bob Millington - Warrington

14:01:32 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : Great to have so many of you with us

14:01:41 From Robert Morgan to All panelists : Hello from sunny South Yorkshire!

14:01:50 From Sebastian Barnes to Everyone : Hi from cloudy Birmingham, UK

14:01:58 From Steve 'Tizz' Tyrrell to All panelists : hello from West Sussex

14:02:25 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : Sorry for the "good morning", it is most definitely the afternoon with me too!

14:02:42 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : Great to have so many of you with us

14:02:53 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : Thanks for letting us know where you are joining us from!

14:03:03 From Alistair Livingstone to Everyone : Hi everyone - Alistair (Chairman Stephen Joseph Committee at ABTT (SJC/ABTT) from N.Ireland time zone

14:03:17 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : Hi Alistair, great to have you with us!

14:03:52 From Barbara Day to Everyone : Prague, Czech Republic

14:03:52 From Tom Healey to All panelists : Tom Healey from Heacham Norfolk

14:03:44 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : This is the fourth of six Stephen Joseph Committee seminars being presented in 2021 – we hope that many of you were able to join us for the previous seminars ‘An Introduction to Stephen Joseph’, ‘Lighting-in-the-Round’ and ‘Directing-for-the-Round’.

As with other webinars, please change your view to gallery view so that you can see all panelists on the same screen, this button can be found in the top right corner of your screen.

We can use the chat function in this webinar. Please select "all panelists and attendees" before sending your message so we can all see it :)

The seminar will be followed by a Q&A session so we can help address any questions you may have.

If you have any questions during the session, please do pop these into the Q&A section for our panelists.

For people just joining us, we will be using this chat function today to discuss between ourselves and it is great to hear from you all!

Robin is currently introducing our host for the session: Paul Roberts

Paul Roberts is a part-time PhD candidate at the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama.

His doctoral research examines the professionalisation of technical practice in post-war Britain, particularly during the rise of civic and subsidized theatre building, as an emerging standardization of specialist labour incorporated new and influential representative bodies.

He is also a volunteer archivist for the ABTT, providing support and advice on the development of records and administration. www.blurredaroundtheedges.co.uk

Twitter: @blurredaroundt1

Instagram: @blurredaroundtheedges

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/paul-roberts-b0970a208

Our first speaker today is Matthew Freeman. Matthew Freeman has been a young associate representative for the ABTT since December 2016 and is a graduate of Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

He contributes to many different communities within the ABTT including the Safety Committee, Automation Committee, Stephen Joseph Committee, and the Core Values Working Group. Matthew primarily works in the fields of stage automation and production for theatre and live events.

www.MFTT.co.uk LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/mfttfreeman

Our second speaker today is Richard Pilbrow. Richard Pilbrow is the Founder of Theatre Projects, a lighting designer, theatre design consultant, author and producer. He is a founding member of the ABTT, the Association of Lighting Designers, the Institute of Theatre Consultants and is a fellow of the United States Institute for Theatre Technology.

www.richardpilbrow.com

www.theatreprojects.com

Our third speaker today is Anette Ollerearnshaw. Anette Ollerearnshaw is a performing arts professional, with a wide range of expertise rooted in technical, production and operations management, gained through working at the forefront of world-leading arts organisations and higher education providers.

She has worked with established and emerging talent from across the collaborative arts and feels most at home working at the intersection of people, materials, spaces and the sense thereof. Her creative and artistic specialism is the art of wigs, hair and make-up in live entertainment and theatre.

WHAM is an Association of British Theatre Technicians (ABTT) Committee with an aim to promote the interests of Wigs, Hair and Make-up within the theatre industry and live events sector.

<https://www.abtt.org.uk/committees/abtt-wham-committee/>

Our fourth speaker today is Ali Pottinger

Ali is a stage manager, British Sign Language/English interpreter and tutor at Rose Bruford College with nearly 30 years' experience in the theatre industry.

She believes passionately that technical theatre is a creative and rewarding career path and seeks to increase awareness of its potential within the d/Deaf community, and BSL users in particular.

14:10:02 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : To that end she set up the Technical Theatre BSL Project to create a glossary of technical theatre terms in BSL.

The ABTT is key in supporting this project from donating space at the ABTT Theatre Show, to giving it a home within the association.

www.techtheatrebsl.wordpress.com

14:12:26 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : In 1961, the ABTT was started by a small enthusiastic group, whose main purpose was to raise technical standards in theatre. They collected and shared information with members, which we continue to this day.

Such information includes theatre planning, stage machinery, lighting and sound equipment, acoustics, scenery construction, stage management and all aspects of live presentation.

The ABTT also provides a forum for discussion through our newsletters and regular meetings, including this seminar and our social event running later today!

: You can find some more information about the history of the ABTT here:

<https://www.abtt.org.uk/who-we-are/our-history/>

One of the founders of the ABTT included Stephen Joseph.

You can find some more information about who Stephen Joseph was in this fascinating video here:

<https://youtu.be/EsHSXutMY6s>

This session marks both the ABTT's 60th Anniversary and Stephen Joseph's centenary.

14:17:00 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone: You can get some further information about the Stephen Joseph Committee, who have been essential in putting together today's event here:

<https://www.abtt.org.uk/committees/sjc/>

14:15:57 From David Bertenshaw to All panelists : Good afternoon to all from sunny-ish Surrey.

14:17:00 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone: Good Afternoon David

14:17:25 From Robin Townley to Everyone : Theatre Planning became Theatre Buildings: a design guide: <https://www.abtt.org.uk/product/theatre-buildings-a-design-guide-2010/>

14:18:21 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : The Association has developed a wide range of committees promoting community over the years. We have two types of committees. The first is special interest groups, these are focusing on subjects such as Safety, Automation, Theatre Planning and Historical Research etc.

These groups have shaped the industry in a vital way with their advice & publications.

The second is our Regional Committees, these are branches in the UK and Internationally that regularly hold meetings where members can exchange opinions and information. ABTT Members with an interest in these subjects, or who live in these areas can apply to become part of the committees

You can find out more about these groups here: <https://www.abtt.org.uk/who-we-are/our-committees/>

We invite anyone who is interested in any of these committees to get in touch as we welcome new members

14:19:07 From Robin Townley to Everyone : The Yellow Book or Technical Standards for Places of Entertainment can be viewed here: <https://www.abtt.org.uk/product/technical-standards-for-places-of-entertainment/>

14:19:25 From cedwards : Hello everyone. Happy to join you for this celebration of such an important milestone in the life of the ABTT My late husband, Philip, was a very early member and supporter. He served on the Council and was a long standing member of the ABTT North committee. In 2009 he was awarded the Philip Windsor 'Spanner Award' recognising his contribution to the ABTT and technical theatre. Long may your extremely valuable world continue in this changing world.

14:23:00 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : This is an award which was developed by our ABTT NorthNet Committee. The ABTT NorthNet committee was formed in 1970 to provide a forum for technicians in the north of England. ABTT NorthNet is very active, arranging visits and meetings covering a wide range of subjects.

You can find out more about NorthNet and the Philip Windsor 'Spanner Award' here: <https://www.abtt.org.uk/committees/abtt-northnet/>

14:19:58 From David Bertenshaw : One thing that has puzzled me is that in Germany, the comparable Deutschen Theater-technischen Gesellschaft was formed in 1907, and by 1910 was issuing regular newsletters etc. This cannot have been invisible, though was admittedly behind a language and culture barrier. Can the panelists suggest what suddenly in 1960 changed that made the anglophone technical theatre aware of its importance?

14:25:24 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : Thanks David, what a great question, we'll make sure to cover your question in the Q&A. If anyone else has any questions they would like to put forward to our panellists, please do pop it in the Q&A tab which can be found at the bottom of your screen.

14:24:20 From Robin Townley to Everyone : OISTAT: International Organisation of Scenographers Theatre Architects and Technicians: <https://www.oistat.org/>

USITT: The Association for Performing Arts & Entertainment Professionals: <https://www.usitt.org/>

14:26:03 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : As mentioned by our panellists, the ABTT works with a larger range of organisations that all seek to support and promote varying aspects of theatre and live performance. You can find more about our sister organisations and partnership organisations here: <https://www.abtt.org.uk/who-we-are/our-partnerships/>

The event Ali just mentioned was a seminar called "Re-imagined Futures". This session was recorded and if it is of interest to you it can be found here: https://www.abtt.org.uk/events-and-courses/abtt_seminars/seminars_june-2021/re-imagined-futures/

14:29:51 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : The question we are currently discussing is: To what extent has the association been a driver for change in contemporary theatre practice?

The ABTT is currently working with the Theatres Trust and Buro Happold on our new "Theatre Green Book"

The Theatre Green Book is a project spearheaded by the ABTT, the Theatres Trust and Buro Happold and led by Paddy Dillon. It has brought together theatre-makers and sustainability experts to create a common standard for making theatre sustainably.

The Theatre Green Book will have three volumes:

- Sustainable Productions
- Sustainable Buildings
- Sustainable Operations

You can find out more about the Theatre Green Book here: <https://theatregreenbook.com/>

:We also recently did two seminars the first covering Volume 1 of the Theatre Green Book - Sustainable Productions: https://www.abtt.org.uk/events-and-courses/abtt_seminars/seminars_june-2021/theatre-green-book-vol-1/

and Volume 2 Sustainable Buildings: https://www.abtt.org.uk/events-and-courses/abtt_seminars/seminars_june-2021/sustainable-buildings-the-theatre-green-book-volume-2/

14:33:23 From Robin Townley to Everyone : ALD: Association of Lighting Designers: <https://www.ald.org.uk/>

14:34:55 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : The ABTT offers a wide range of practical Technical Courses each year and we also have a Training and Education Committee! You can find out more about our training here: <https://www.abtt.org.uk/training/courses/>

And about the Training and Education Committee which undertakes to promote the needs of the Theatre and Live Performance industry with regards to technical, production and design education and training. It acts as an advisory group to training and education providers. It monitors trends in vocational training and has oversight of ABTT Training which exists to provide vocational skills and knowledge that Industry practitioners find difficult to obtain elsewhere.

<https://www.abtt.org.uk/committees/training-and-education-committee/>

14:35:45 From David Bertenshaw to Everyone : Reasons to love the ABTT! When the H&S movement discovered the Theatre Industry, without the ABTT who knows what would have happened???

14:37:09 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : The Technical Theatre BSL (British Sign Language) Committee was developed by Alison Pottinger. She is an Interpreter and Stage Manager.

Alison felt that these two areas cross over frequently, however the lack of sign translations of technical theatre terms was a real issue.

The Technical Theatre BSL (British Sign Language) Committee aims to promote technical theatre for Deaf people. We do this through exploring and translating technical theatre words and jargon into BSL. You can find more information on this, and the glossary here:

<https://www.abtt.org.uk/committees/technical-theatre-british-sign-language-committee/>

14:37:20 From * Graham Frampton to Everyone : Canada's sister organization to ABTT - CITT - citt.org

14:38:28 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : The question we are currently covering is: Why is bringing people together important?

WHAM is an Association of British Theatre Technicians (ABTT) Committee with an aim to promote the interests of Wigs, Hair and Make-up within the theatre industry and live events sector.

ABTT Wham seek to draw on the knowledge and experience of our members so as to champion and develop topics that help define Wigs, Hair and Make-up as a separate and qualified field, and so encourage a better understanding across our industry.

<https://www.abtt.org.uk/committees/abtt-wham-committee/>

An article which may be of interest to everyone is Paul Roberts own " ABTT at 60 years! Beyond the Round" which can be found here: <https://www.abtt.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Paul-Roberts-the-ABTT-at-60-years.pdf>

Roderick Ham (1925 – 2017) was a founder member of the ABTT and a distinguished Theatre Architect. He designed the Thorndike Theatre Leatherhead and influenced Denis Lasdun's design for the National Theatre.

Between 1994 and 2004 the ABTT Historical Committee, formerly the Archaeological Committee, began filming interviews with distinguished theatre practitioners to ensure that their commitment to our industry was not forgotten. These interviews were filmed on VHS tape in front of an audience in the Theatre Museum until its closure in 2007. The Committee made further videos and these are included in the ABTT Archive Oral History Collection.

One of these includes an interview with Roderick Ham which can be found here:

<https://www.abtt.org.uk/resources-guidance/abtt-archive/technical-theatre-recordings/>

The collection was originally digitised for the ABTT's 50th Anniversary and in celebration of the ABTT's 60th Anniversary we are now releasing our audio only versions for you to enjoy and to help to share some of the amazing things members of our community have achieved over the years.

14:45:19 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : Matthew is currently discussing the ABTT Apprenticeship Network. Founded by ABTT Young Associate Representative Tamykha Patterson, a past apprentice herself, the ABTT Apprenticeship Network is made up of current, future and past apprentices, alongside those who have helped create the apprenticeship schemes as well as the people who run and support them.

This group has been created to enable all past, current and future Apprentices a much needed safe space to ask questions and to seek advice. It is a space for any and all apprentices to ask and answer questions, to ask for and provide advice or help with no judgement.

The next event running as part of the Apprenticeship Network is running next week

This is running on 15th June at 2pm and more information can be found here:

<https://www.abtt.org.uk/events/abtt-apprenticeship-network-create-britain-an-introduction/>

14:47:30 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : Anyone who has an interest in technical theatre, whether in a professional or amateur capacity, can join the Association of British Theatre Technicians. The type of membership depends on the applicant's knowledge and experience.

If it might be of interest for anyone you can find out more information here:

<https://www.abtt.org.uk/join-abtt/memberships-for-individuals/>

14:47:59 From Alistair Livingstone : Apologies but I have to leave the meeting as I'm in the middle of planning a Bloomsday festival for next Wednesday - I will hopefully be able to join you all for the social event at 4.00 but do thank you all for contributing to the 60th Anniversary. Many thanks to Richard for joining from the US, Mathew and Elysia for pulling this and the other seminars together on behalf of the Stephen Joseph Committee, to Paul for taking over the chair at short notice and Robin , Annette and Ali for your informative and interesting input. Alistair

14:48:22 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator : Thanks Alistair!

14:49:35 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : The question we are currently covering is: How can the membership remain relevant within a shifting theatre environment?

The younger membership of the ABTT is the future of technical theatre in the United Kingdom, as such, it is crucially important that the views and opinions of this demographic are acknowledged. The young membership will also eventually govern the ABTT in years to come and so the more young members, the stronger a foundation for the ABTT to continue its vital work in the future.

If you might be interested in being a Young Associate Representative you can find more information here: <https://www.abtt.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-young-representative/>

14:54:37 From Mig Burgess : Here here!!!! We love you both - Elysia and Robin

14:54:45 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator : Thanks Mig :P

14:55:49 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : One of the most recent projects the ABTT has committed to is the Alliance of Associations and Professionals in Theatre & Live Events (AAPTLE)

The Alliance of Associations and Professionals in Theatre & Live Events includes representatives who work in all aspects of the theatrical and events community including more than two hundred thousand creative and production practitioners.

14:57:37 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : We are moving on to the Q&A shortly, if anyone has any questions they would like to ask our panellists, please do start putting them in to the Q&A tab

14:58:34 From * Graham Frampton to Everyone : Will the chat be saved and available online?

14:59:07 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator : Hi Graham, yes! Don't worry I am recording the session and will also put the chat on the ABTT website after the event. This will be found here: https://www.abtt.org.uk/events-and-courses/abtt_seminars/seminars_june-2021/abtt-at-60-years/

14:59:31 From * Graham Frampton to Everyone : Thank you!

15:04:28 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : The question we are currently asking is: One thing that has puzzled me is that in Germany, the comparable Deutschen Theatertechnischen Gesellschaft was formed in 1907, and by 1910 was issuing regular newsletters etc. This cannot have been invisible, though was admittedly behind a language and culture barrier. Can the panelists suggest what suddenly in 1960 changed that made the anglophone technical theatre aware of its importance?

If anyone else has any questions they would like us to discuss please do pop into the Q&A tab: You can now see the questions which have been asked by looking at the Q&A tab

15:13:44 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : The question we are currently asking is 'Some panellists have mentioned the a-political status of the ABTT or the political with a small 'p' . How successful or self-defeating has the ABTT's self-prohibition of becoming involved in the negotiation of terms and conditions of employment been?.'

15:14:23 From Sebastian Barnes to Everyone : I agree with Matt. I've always been a member of the ABTT and BECTU, although there can be collaboration, both have separate roles in the sector.

15:14:49 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : Thanks Sebastian, great to hear from you!

15:15:24 From David Bertenshaw to Everyone : It is in fact relatively rare for a professional association to get involved in pay and rations, eg all the Engineering institutions

15:16:12 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : Thanks David, great to hear your thoughts! Hope to see you at our social from 4pm this afternoon!

15:17:27 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : For anyone who may not have signed up but wants to come and say hi to us "in person" (video chat) you can get a link to our social by signing up here: <https://www.abtt.org.uk/events/abtt-60th-anniversary-social/>

15:17:50 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : We will have multiple break out rooms where you can speak with different people/ committees

One of these rooms will be the Stephen Joseph Room where you can speak with members of the committee and find out more about Stephen.

15:18:49 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : The question we are currently answering is: Assuming live performances return with live audiences, how important is face to face working for our sector's organisations?

15:22:40 From Jane Thornton Higgs : Our archive has a wonderful story to tell.

15:27:25 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : It most definitely does!

15:27:44 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : On January 11th 2021 the Association of British Theatre Technicians (ABTT) celebrated its 60th anniversary. To mark this milestone the ABTT will be celebrating by looking into the rich depths of the ABTT Archive and sharing interviews, communications and history of the Association with our members.

You can find more information about our archive and our wonderful Honorary Archivist Jane Thornton here: <https://www.abtt.org.uk/resources-guidance/abtt-archive/>

15:28:55 From * Graham Frampton to All panelists : Thank you for a really interesting and inspiring session!

15:29:12 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : Thanks Graham, great to have you with us!

15:29:39 From cedwards to Everyone : Live theatre is the most wonderful experience in the world. the support staff who enable performances are the industry's unsung heroes. The world must return to face to face productions.

15:29:47 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : Thank you to everyone who has been with us today and to our lovely panellists

This seminar has been recorded and will be available in a few days with captioning on the ABTT website here: https://www.abtt.org.uk/events-and-courses/abtt_seminars/seminars_june-2021/abtt-at-60-years/

Other ABTT seminars that have been recorded can be found here: https://www.abtt.org.uk/events-and-courses/abtt_seminars/

15:30:21 From Anette Ollerearnshaw, ABTT WHAM to Everyone : Thank you everyone for attending. Please do pop over the ABTT WHAM on Instagram or LinkedIn

15:30:26 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : If you are interested in finding out more about the SJC you can do so here: <https://www.abtt.org.uk/committees/sjc/> If you would like to find out more about the Stephen Joseph Award you can do so here: <https://www.abtt.org.uk/sja-award-2021/>

You can contact me on office@abtt.org.uk

If you are able, please join us for the ABTT 60th Anniversary Social from 4pm, you can register here: <https://www.abtt.org.uk/events/abtt-60th-anniversary-social/>

15:31:04 From tommy wong to Everyone : Thanks to ABTT and the panelists . Dear Richard , like to see you on air , warm regards from hot Singapore , Tommy

15:31:13 From Elysia Moore, ABTT Coordinator to Everyone : Do remember that the ABTT is a charity as well as a membership organisation. If you would like to support us in hosting further seminars and events like this, please do donate here: <https://www.abtt.org.uk/get-involved/donate/>