



ABTT EMERGING EXCELLENCE AWARD: 2021 WINNER

Jesse Caie:

NOMINATION STATEMENT:

“Jesse is an exceptional technician who is currently Number 1 Automation Operator at Chichester Festival Theatre working on South Pacific just 2.5 years after graduating from his apprenticeship – This is his role while waiting to return as Number 2 Auto for Dear Evan Hansen where he was before the pandemic.

Jesse made his way to these roles through determination, self-development and total commitment to his learning journey. I first met him at age 14 when he joined an after school tech club I run at the CFT. He struck me then as an ambitious theatre lover. He then went on to join my vocational training course where he very quickly became the college theatre general technician and committed himself to the training. He achieved the highest grades possible.

He then applied to CFT (against a strong contingent) to be their Technical Apprentice where he excelled and quickly made a name for himself with the team there. He achieved well on that course and the role whilst developing all round technical skills at CFT. He was taken under the wings of the lighting team who saw his potential and he became a valued member of their team very quickly. Often being given responsibility for projects.

He impressed a number of touring production managers and was taken out on tours as a result. He always had an eye for Automation and he committed himself to learning as much as he could whilst training and when working on professional shows. He is a grafter and he works so hard. He is always determined to learn more and do his best and the quality of his work, level of skill and expression of his knowledge is nothing short of exceptional. He is a very special talent.”

Sally Garner-Gibbons, Technical Theatre Apprenticeship Programme Coordinator.

Supporting Statements:

SUPPORTING STATEMENT ONE:

" We absolutely agree that Jesse would be worthy of this recognition.

Since we originally worked with Jesse at Chichester Festival Theatre, Jesse has demonstrated outstanding conduct in all elements of work he has been asked to complete. He has repeatedly proven to undertake any task to an excellent standard, asking appropriate questions and proactively researching into areas he feels less confident in.

His willingness to learn is consistently apparent and he pertains a less common ability to retain knowledge and training he been provided and further applies this to improve upon his work. Since working with Jesse, he has assisted in installing our equipment and gone onto programming and operating our automation systems.

Whilst working for us, he has worked on these projects, either directly on site or at our premises prepping, prior to load in which are all high quality high stakes work..

- CFT - Midnight Gang
- Aladdin the Musical - Load Out
- Prince of Egypt
- Pretty Woman
- CFT - South Pacific "

Roberto Raskovsky, Co-founder and Director at Absolute Motion Control.

SUPPORTING STATEMENT TWO:

“Jesse has proven to be one of the most energetic, positive, collaborative and creative emerging technicians we have had opportunity to work with. He joined us as a technical apprentice and over the 2 years of his role he fully immersed himself in the theatre organisation, embracing every opportunity to collaborate with different departments both connected directly to the onstage work and in our wider participation departments. Always positive, engaged and hard working he excelled as a technician in whatever tasks we gave him. He started as a lighting technician but developed in interest in stage work and we are delighted that having left us to do automation in the West End and on tour he has returned to us this summer as Automation no.1 on South Pacific- an incredible trajectory in just 2 years since leaving us.”

Sam Garner-Gibbons, Technical Director | Chichester Festival Theatre

SUPPORTING STATEMENT THREE:

“Jesse Caie is a bright star in the next generation of Theatre Technicians. Initially meeting Jesse on numerous overnight fit up and get outs at Theatre Royal Drury Lane, his continuous hard work and joyful personality were infectious.

His progression to Automation Technician on the ‘King and I’ in Tokyo demonstrated his broad knowledge and ability. With a wonderfully inclusive approach to all technical departments, his confidence developed.

Jesse then deservedly took the position of Auto 3 on the London Premier of ‘Dear Evan Hansen’. This fed his constant hunger for more knowledge and skills. His return in Sep 2021 gains him a promotion to Auto 2.

Without doubt, Jesse is an invaluable addition to any production fortunate to secure his talent. His future success in Technical Theatre is guaranteed.”

Graham Harrison Stage Manager for Dear Evan Hansen

SUPPORTING STATEMENT FOUR:

“Jesse has made a huge impact at CFT, first as a technical apprentice and returning two years later to join us as Automation no. 1 for South Pacific this summer – we were delighted to welcome him back!

Not only is Jesse a brilliant and creative technician – he is collaborative, adaptable and wholly reliable – he is also a huge asset to the wider theatre. He has an infectious positive energy, is praised and valued by creative teams and colleagues and this year championed CFT finding ways to recycle Covid test to reduce our environmental impact. He should be proud of how his professional career has developed.”

Daniel Evans Artistic Director of Chichester Festival Theatre
