



ABTT presents a visit to “The Leys School’s Great Hall”



Friday 21st February 2014

Venue 1: Great Hall, The Leys School,
Fen Causeway, Cambridge CB2 7AD

Time: 13:30

Website: www.theleys.net

The Leys School is one of the UK’s premier independent schools and recently opened its Great Hall, housing a 330-seat theatre, which incorporates comprehensive backstage facilities and technical infrastructure, specifically designed to maximise pupil involvement with all aspects of production. The building also includes a Studio Theatre, Dance Studio, classrooms and rehearsal studio, plus an art gallery and coffee shop – making it a central hub in the School community.

Consultants Charcoalblue have provided the principle theatre and technical design. The acoustic environment is particularly important as it combines the requirement for musicians and the actor. The school also required that the auditorium can convert into a 600-seat assembly hall each week, without compromising the aesthetic of the theatre.

The safe access to overhead facilities has been designed with pupils in mind, with over-stage bridges, tension wire grid and motorised flying. White Light provided the technical installation, with stage engineering from Independent Studio Services. Theatre Manager Paul Durose and representatives from Architects, Bland, Brown and Cole will also be on hand to talk to members.

Directions:

The Leys is located on the corner of Trumpington Road and Fen Causeway in the centre of Cambridge. Car parking is available at all entrances. Pedestrian access to Great Hall is shown overleaf.



For map and directions: <http://www.theleys.net/resource.aspx?id=371>

Travel Notes:

By Car: The School is 2 miles from the M11, J12. Post code = CB2 7AD.

By Rail: The School is a 15-minute walk from Cambridge main line station. 45-minutes from London Kings Cross.

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**Venue 2: Set-Up (Scenery) Ltd, Malton Workshops, Malton Lane,
Meldreth, Herts, SG8 6PE**

Time: 15:15pm

Website: www.setupscenery.com

Following the visit to “The Leys School’s Great Hall” ABTT has been invited to look around this new scenic facility. This facility is 15 minutes’ drive south of Cambridge. A mini bus and cars will leave The Leys at approximately 3pm. To transport members who wish to attend. The minibus will return members to the rail station after the visit.

Set-Up (Scenery) was founded in a pig shed in 1999 by Mark Wilsher. Since then they have moved to larger and larger premises as the company has grown, taken on more work and more staff. In 2007 purchased some fairly tired farm buildings and moved into the most useable, an 8000ft² machinery shed. Over the last two years Set-Up have demolished the remaining buildings and put up a new 9000ft² assembly shop, providing the opportunity to create a light, bright, airy workspace and with a height of 8m. The building also includes super thick insulation, solar panels, and a biomass boiler, making Set-Up carbon neutral in terms of power and heat. Indeed about 25% of heat comes from their own scrap wood that would otherwise go to landfill.

This facility offers Production Managers and Designers:

CARPENTRY or 'engineering with wood' as it often seems when drawing things up! Frames are generally mortice and tenoned or we tend to screw on-edge flats.

STEEL FABRICATION More and more clients are asking for steelwork, so 40% of our framing is now in steel. Useful also for small brackets hinges or catches on timber scenery or re-enforcing areas of high load.

SCENIC ART is a very important decision which ultimately is the designers choice (though the Production Manager may have something to say...) the new building has a wooden floor throughout (43m x 20m) and a painting wall 8m x 20m.

POLYSTYRENE/CARVING mostly done by freelance Sculptors who coat poly with gesso, scrim, muslin or fibreglass depending on durability required.

FIBREGLASS one of the country’s leading Scenic Fibreglassers works at Set-Up.

ANIMATION AND AUTOMATION - make things move automatically or by remote control. Whether its dodgem cars to be driven around the stage for 'Dreamboats and Petticoats', a large crocodile for 'Peter Pan'...

Travel Notes:

Please let the office know if you intend to visit this facility and if you would like to use the transport.

Registration of Interest:

Please inform the office (by Wednesday 19th February)

There is a registration slip below to complete or alternatively simply call or email the office:

(with the subject heading “The Leys School Great Hall”)

Email: office@abtt.org.uk

Tel: 020 7242 9200

Post: ABTT, Fourth floor, 55 Farringdon Road, London, EC1M 3JB

Name:	
ABTT Membership Number:	
Phone Number & Email:	
Venues you wish to visit:	
Number of attendees:	