

## **Placement Outline: Scenic Art Placement**

Responsible to: Head of Scenic Art, Head of Construction,

Liaises with: Head of Scenic Art, Scenic Art Supervisors, Grade 1 Scenic Artists and the Workshops Coordinator.

Guidance from: Head of Scenic Art, Head of Construction, Studio Staff, Workforce Development Advisor, Safety Risk Management Team

### **The National Theatre**

The National Theatre is central to the creative life of the country. In its three theatres on the South Bank in London it presents up to 25 new shows a year and productions also play in the West End and on tour. It broadcasts to cinemas worldwide through National Theatre Live, streams play's free to UK schools and produces a wealth of digital content about theatre.

Through an extensive programme of amplifying activities – platform performances, backstage tours, publications, exhibitions and outdoor events – it recognises that theatre doesn't begin and end with the rise and fall of the curtain.

### **The Department**

The Scenic Studio consists of the Head of Scenic Art, 3 Scenic Art Supervisors, 4 Grade 1 Scenic Artists (full time and and part-time.) and a studio technician. Plus freelance Scenic Artists during busy periods. The Scenic Studio is one of the Scenic Workshops, and is part of the Technical Department of the National Theatre. The Scenic studio is where scenery for NT shows and events are drawn, painted and textured.

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### **The Placement**

Scenic Studio placements last two weeks to allow candidates to experience how Scenic Artists approach their work and how the Studio functions as a professional environment. We can demonstrate and oversee the development of specific scenic techniques; this again would be aimed at an individual's needs and interests. It is an aspiration of the placement scheme for individuals to experience this and gain an insight into the practical working life of a Scenic Artist.

Steel toe capped shoes are required to be worn at all times; all other PPE will be provided by the NT. A change of clothes is also recommended, lockers are provided in Scenic Studio changing rooms. There will be a full building and H&S induction given on the first day.

Studio hours are Monday to Friday 8:00am-5:30pm, the placement hours will be arranged with these times, most likely ending by 4:30pm each day.

### **Likely Requirments**

1. Assist the Painters with the creation of scenic elements.

2. Work on different painting styles and techniques.
3. Assisting with texturing scenic elements.
4. Gain insight into the practical working life of a Scenic Artist.
5. Experience how a busy Scenic Studio functions as a professional working environment.
6. Development of specific scenic techniques, related to the needs and interests of the individual placement.
7. Potential to work on an image chosen by placement as a scale and paint exercise.

### **Person Specification**

1. Aspiration for a career in theatre, preferably in Scenic Art.
2. Demonstrate a good awareness of the workshop environment with particular emphasis on safe working practice.
3. The ability to demonstrate a high level of initiative, attention to detail and thoroughness.
4. Resilient and with the ability to demonstrate and communicate enthusiasm.
5. Exceptional track record in reliability and punctuality.

### **Ideal Preparatory Qualifications & Experience**

1. Should have a keen interest and grounding in painting, drawing and visual expression.
2. Should be in second or third year of a relevant course in Technical Theatre

**In your covering letter, you should include photos of your work, if you have any.**

**Applications should be made using the online portal.**

**You will need to answer a few questions about you and upload a CV and covering letter (which does not have to be in letter form, it can be a supporting document, with links or photographs if preferred.) You can upload a separate portfolio if needed. Guidance on content is available on our website.**

**Placements will be paid receipted travel and food expenses (in line with policy). All placements to take place between May 2025 – March 2026. Please include your availability (as much as possible) until March 2026.**

