Jesus Christ Superstar Lighting Design

Concept: Fatalism

I used lighting to emphasize the fate of the characters in this famous story. By using sharp lines and small spots, characters feel trapped in their choices. I also use a dramatic warm cool contrast to emphasize the theme of good vs. fear present in Jesus and Judas' relationship. This is all achieved with a rock aesthetic true to the time of the original production.

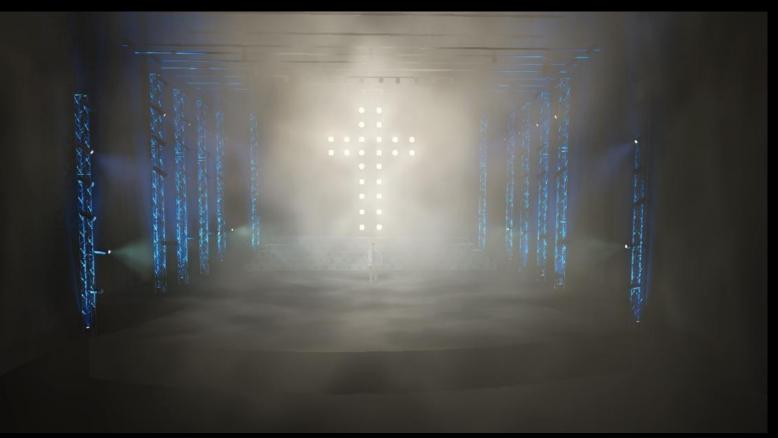


Heaven on Their Minds

Blue light emphasizes Judas' fear of Jesus' rise to fame.

Heaven on Their Minds

The cross appears as Judas wails Jesus' name, foreshadowing the end of the show.



Hosanna

"Hey JC won't you smile for me?"





Hosanna

"Hey JC won't you die for me?"



Pilate's Dream

The red cross foreshadows Pilate's actions and his role in the crucifiction.



A colorful and broken temple to reflect those in it.



Bold and bright lighting emphasizes Jesus' emotional outbursts.



Green footlight slowly encroaches as the sick approach Jesus.



"See me stand I can hardly walk."



"Will you touch, will you mend me Christ?"

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Once again the lighting matches Jesus' anger as he escapes the sick.

I Don't Know How To Love Him

Jesus feels foreign and unattainable to Mary.



Roman 1 enters, blocking Judas from leaving.



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Roman 2 enters, blocking Judas from leaving.

Roman 3 enters, blocking Judas from leaving.



Roman 4 enters, blocking Judas from leaving.



"I really didn't come here on my own accord."



Blood Money

Judas' fate is sealed as he reveals where Jesus will be.



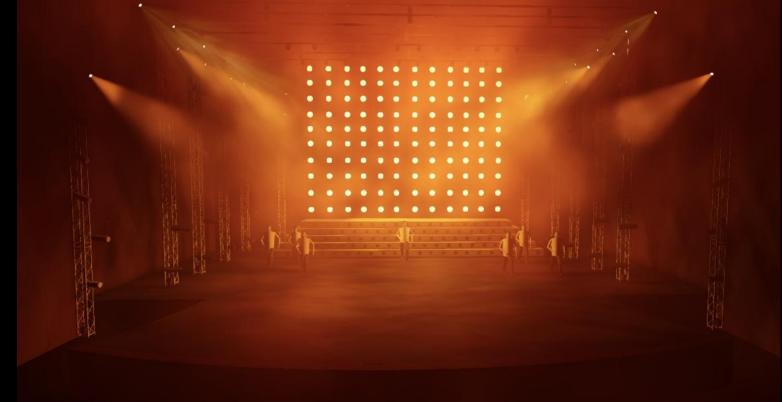
The Last Supper

A warm sunset feel as we approach the final night of Jesus' life.



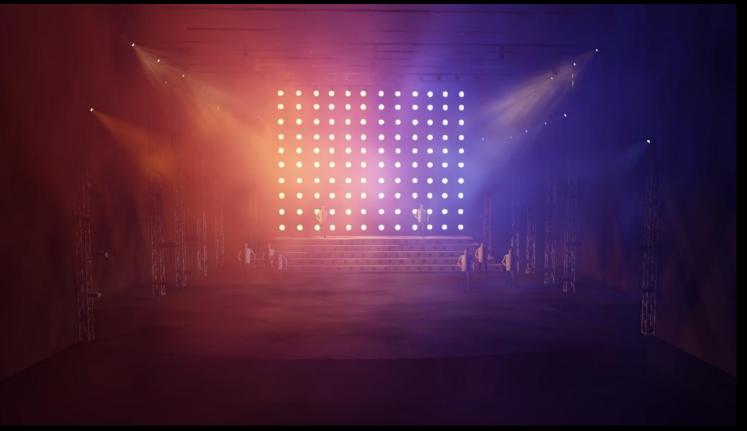
The Last Supper

Once again emphasizing Jesus' outbursts with intense lighting.



The Last Supper

We see a visual of the good vs. fear as the two scream at one another.



Gethsemane

The only time front light is used in when Jesus talks to God in the garden.



Herod's Song

Herod's palace feels campy and bright, almost like a gag.



Herod's Song

"Walk across my swimming pool."



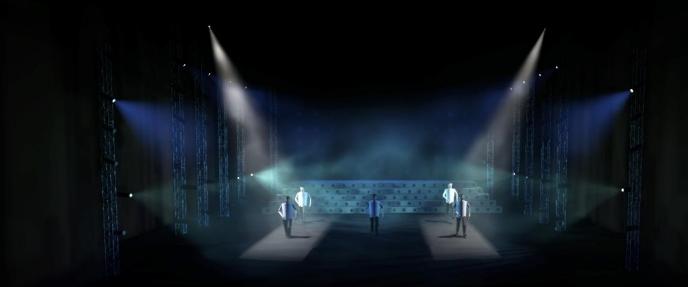
Herods Song

"Hey aren't you scared of me Christ?"



Judas' Death

Judas once again is trapped as he pleads to the romans to spare Jesus and himself.



Judas' Death

A cross appears when Judas died, emphasizing his fate from Blood Money.



A bare stage is lit so we have room to grow during the 39 lashes.







"10!"



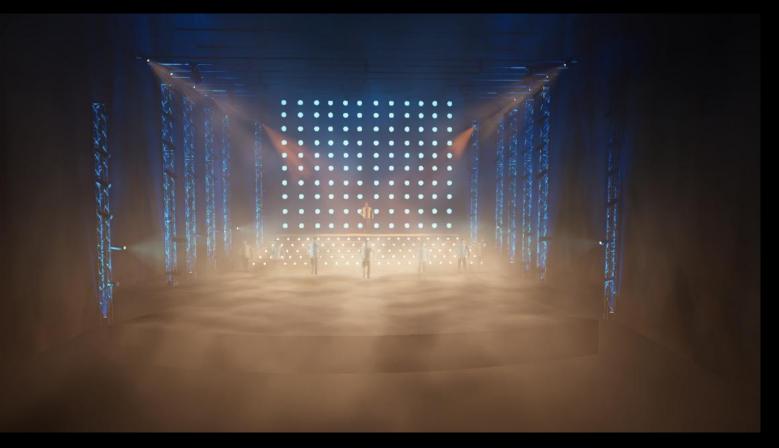


We see Pilate build his own cross as he is the one who decides to crucify Jesus.



Superstar

Judas' colors return in an over the top way as he laments during Superstar.



Crucifixion

A paired down look allows for the emotions of the crucifixion to be the focal point.

John Nineteen: Forty-One

We see the same white cross that was foreshadowed at the top of show as we leave. It is pure, like Jesus, and a reminder of what will come after the show ends.

