

Sean Tomas Ford

I am a confident and experienced Project Manager. After graduating from Oxford, I have been working in the theatre and events industry as a Production Manager worldwide since. Over the last seven years I have had a mix of contracts ranging from high profile and large-scale international productions to smaller bespoke and charitable events. During the pandemic I studied for an MSc in Politics in Amsterdam and am looking for new challenges with the potential for positive change. I have developed a broad range of skills in a particular environment that I am ready to apply in new contexts with the opportunity for lasting impact.

Skills

Project management

Comfortable managing diverse projects simultaneously and coordinating colleagues and clients to achieve the best possible results. Strong organisation and communications skills enable me to work confidently across time zones, language barriers and specialisations. On my busiest days I have had set builds in Sydney and Auckland and show openings in Manila and Oxford.

Delivering Positive Change

Critical in implementing and embedding long term organisational change across multiple companies. Led change requiring multi-year, staged steps to; clarify organisational purpose, improve staff working conditions, and institute a commitment to better working practices and environmental standards.

People management

Exceptional people manager with a proactive and personable style, leading by presence, encouragement and example. Overseen teams all over the world with a strong belief in peer welfare, as a trained Mental Health First aider.

International experience

Confident adapting to working practices, working with local teams in more than 20 countries and 8 languages (often with the help of translators). Managing complex technical requirements, multi day schedules and budgets.

Crisis management

Highly capable and calm under pressure. Able to respond quickly and effectively when disaster threatens, initiating, organising and motivating an effective response. Designated operationally responsible for large festival sites, managing evacuations of up to 6000 people when required.

Creative solutions

Problem solver with a firm grasp on the end goal of any project – nothing is too big, too difficult or too daft; from winning [aerialists](#) in and out of hot tubs or installing a full-sized [wrestling](#) ring in 30 minutes.

Career Highlights

Head of Production / Deputy Technical Manager - Pleasance Theatre Trust 2017-22

[The Pleasance](#) is the largest company at the world's biggest performing arts festival. Today I am responsible for delivering their large programme of shows, technical support and operation and have risen to this role since starting work there in 2011, aged 17 as a volunteer for the charity.

- Annual recruitment of 120 technicians and theatre professionals to support 27 venues
- Management of annual multi-million project budget
- Involved in major capital expenditure decisions
- Providing production management support for 250+ different companies performing with the Pleasance

Production Manager - Gecko 2017-2020 *Institute* (BBC) 2020

Responsible technically for this worldwide physical theatre company, featuring several large and complex scenic elements. Successfully managed the large production budget and crew of specialists, culminating in a feature [film](#) broadcast by the BBC in 2020.

Design and Installation Commissioning Manager - Dubai Parks and Resort Oct 16 – Jan 17

Led an international team (working with representatives from DreamWorks and the UAE government) to install 70,000+ luminaires across two [theme parks](#), whilst liaising and occasionally deputising for the design team.

Education

2020 – 2021	University of Amsterdam: MSc Political Science
2012 – 2015	Oxford University: BA in Politics, Philosophy and Economics (2:1)
2014	Dartmouth College: Scholarship for a term's exchange (Citation awarded)