

The Dimensional Soft Shape Light Story

Continuing our relationship with Tom McPhillips of Atomic design, we commissioned six new exclusive shapes for our rental inventory. After many months of working on the construction details, Rose Brand contacted Rutgers University's Mason Gross School of the Arts to explore the possibility of theatrical lighting to provide descriptive photographs of each of the shapes.

Mitchell Dana and six of his students set up a lighting lab on Rutgers Levin Theatre stage to explore the possibilities of different lighting scenarios for each shape. It gave students the "real world" opportunity in a compressed time frame to make quick decisions, see results and refine their designs.

How we illuminated the shapes:

The pieces were hung from the line sets for ease of movement and placement. A white Cyclorama was dropped in upstage, with a black scrim directly in front of it to soften shadows. Using the pre-hung existing light instruments, the students had flexibility in the design process. Placing light internally created glowing forms. We used Par 46's on bases with contrasting colors. These pieces, illuminated sharply from the side using S-4 Lekos, created shadows that described the depth of each piece. Lighting the forms from above with strong washes of color, we brightened the shadows using Cyc Lights. When framed in light from behind, these pieces float with unseen energy bordered by color, through the use of S-4 Lekos grazing across the floor. Adding texture and pattern to bring forth movement and depth, we used gobos in break-up patterns in a front wash and various colored gels and strong side light from S-4 Lekos.

Gels: Roscolux
36 Medium Pink
68 Sky Blue
321 Soft Golden Amber
312 Canary
26 Light Red
89 Moss Green
346 Tropical Magenta

