

Wigs, Hair & Makeup Manager - *The Oresteia*

JOB DESCRIPTION

Start Date:	Wednesday 17 June 2026
Salary:	£900 per week
Terms:	Fixed Term Contract until Wednesday 23 September 2026 (14 weeks)
Hours:	46 hours average working week over 6 days Monday-Saturday
Holiday:	6.2 weeks per year (including bank holidays) pro rata
Reports to:	Head of Costume
Location:	Bridge Theatre, 3 Potters Fields Park, SE1 2SG
Probationary Period:	1 month
Notice Period:	4 weeks' notice during probation; 5 weeks thereafter

ABOUT LONDON THEATRE COMPANY

London Theatre Company is a commercial theatre producing company led by Nicholas Hytner and Nick Starr, with an emphasis on new work. Our intention is to create a culture, ethos and economic model that supports writers, directors, designers and actors to work at scale in a space that is complementary to those of the subsidised theatre and West End. A new venue in King's Cross, Lightroom, opened in 2023.

ABOUT THE BRIDGE THEATRE

The Bridge is London Theatre Company's first new theatre. It has a stunning riverside location on the south bank of the Thames, right by Tower Bridge and five minutes' walk from the transport hub of London Bridge station. It is designed by Haworth Tompkins, winners of the 2014 RIBA Stirling Prize for Liverpool's Everyman Theatre. It has 900+ seats and can be configured in end-stage, thrust and promenade formats.

The Bridge opened for the first time in October 2017, and has since produced a variety of plays, musicals and events including *A German Life*, a one-woman show starring Maggie Smith. *My Name is Lucy Barton*, performed by Laura Linney, and *Straight Line Crazy*, with a cast led by Ralph Fiennes, both transferred onwards to New York. The Bridge's first musical, an award-winning immersive reimaging of *Guys & Dolls*, played for 2 years, closing in January 2025. This was followed by *Richard II* starring Jonathan Bailey; a revival of our hit 2019 production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Simon Stone's *The Lady From The Sea* featuring Alicia Vikander and Andrew Lincoln. A new production of Stephen Sondheim's musical *Into The Woods* opened in December 2025, and will play until Spring 2026.

ABOUT THIS ROLE

We are currently looking for an enthusiastic and talented Wigs, Hair and Makeup (WHAM) Manager to work independently on our upcoming production of *The Oresteia* directed and adapted by Simon Stone.

Your main responsibility will be establishing and managing a first-class Wigs, Hair and Makeup department for the Production.

This role sits within the Show Running team overseen by the Head of Costume (Bridge Theatre) and the Wigs, Hair & Make Up Designer. You will be expected to work collaboratively

with the Costume & Wardrobe team, as well as cast & company, to help achieve an efficient and smooth running backstage environment.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- You should expect to work a plot on the show including Principal cast members.
- You will be responsible for the overall smooth running of the department for each performance.
- You will be required to familiarise yourself thoroughly with the existing technical & practical aspects of the Show, the design, and the working environment including health and safety aspects.
- You should expect to become quickly familiar with the stock, hired or made wigs/ pieces/facials and repair any damage or wear & tear, as well as effectively managing the regular & daily cleaning, setting and maintenance.
- You will be responsible for managing hair & wigs calls, according to the requirements of the show.
- In liaison with CSM, Creative teams, the Costume and Sound teams, you should expect to prepare, and problem solve for cut & covered shows following the established communications.
- You will manage and approve cast haircuts, barbering and personal care requirements as designed & established at the start of the production period. At the end of the run, post the final performance, you will help facilitate & book any 'return to original hair' or hair care appointments.
- You will strive to maintain a good working atmosphere and encourage a positive professional attitude, setting a good example in your relationships within the backstage team, the cast and other company members.
- You will be responsible for designing and managing a weekly rota for yourself and any necessary cover to adequately staff both daily maintenance & shows, as well as any additional requirements for cast change tech & dress.
- Any planned absences should be agreed in advance as much as possible with the Head of Costume, and cover of appropriate experience and skill must be put in place..
- You are responsible for organising & maintaining the WHAM Room's equipment & kits in dressing rooms and backstage areas - with support from the in-house Costume & Facilities teams as needed.
- You will be responsible for allocating & managing supplies and stock of appropriate chemicals, makeup & other relevant products, as well as sourcing replacements, on time and within an agreed budget.
- With regard to the above, you will be expected to manage a WHAM running budget including handling cash and receipts. You will be supported in this process by meetings/check ins and be trained to use inhouse systems to process your petty cash receipts.
- You will be responsible for declaring any damage, issues and potential costs incurred to the Head of Costume/ Wigs Supervisor so that solutions and resolutions can be agreed upon, helping the Bridge Theatre maintain good relationships with our Studios and suppliers.
- You will be expected to be responsible for the safe and appropriate use & storage of Chemicals & flammable products in line with COSHH regulations.
- You may be asked to participate in assisting with work related to offsite events such as photoshoots or marketing events.

Preparation & Technical Rehearsals- (including cast changes)

- You should expect to be present for Wigs fittings and help to dress the Wigs in the rehearsal/cast change periods. You may be required to do haircuts, barbering, and to set make-up looks for new cast members. This will be in conjunction with the Wigs Supervisor/Costume Supervisor for the production.
- You should expect to adapt to new information to include new cast members, swings & covers, regarding changes, entrances & exits for the plot, and working out how to execute the actual changes efficiently & to time.
- This can often include off stage timed quick change practice with actors – you will be supported in this by members of the Wardrobe team as decided mutually.

Paperwork

- You will be asked to type up comprehensive show notes and a plot within the first week of performances. This is to be kept up to date and include cover plots.
- Throughout the course of the run, and by the end of the penultimate week, you will be required to create a SHOW BIBLE with photos and setting/dressing notes for WHAM and any other special effects.
- Where there are understudies/ swings/ covers in the cast, you will be responsible for developing and establishing workable plots, should an understudy be sent on stage. This will be in conjunction with the WHAM Designer/Supervisor. This should include freely accessible typed plots for reference for other members of the Costume Department.

Line Management

- You will be expected to manage relationships with both fixed term contract and casual staff within your team, and with cast members. You will be supported in both of these through the Head of Costume. This will mean being aware and responding to workloads and routines, pre-emptive conflict management, participating in teaching established show plots & techniques to incoming staff.

Person Specification:

All candidates must have professional theatre experience, with specialist training & experience in Wigs Hair & Makeup

Essential:

- A keen eye for detail
- A minimum of 5 years working in senior roles in theatre/ live performance
- Experience with period wigs styling, care & maintenance
- Experience working with Afro and textured hair.
- Experience of hair cutting
- Confident in taking initiative and working independently.
- Ability to work in a focused & organised manner.
- Ability to communicate clearly in show related written documents for future use
- Proven experience of working effectively with a wide variety of company members
- Excellent communication skills
- A positive attitude towards working with a large team.
- Demonstrable experience of managing a team effectively
- A positive and solution-oriented attitude
- Ability to work well within a large company, in a fast-paced environment.
- Calm under pressure and resilient in meeting new challenges
- Punctual and reliable

HOW TO APPLY

To apply: please email recruitment@londontheatrecompany.co.uk with your CV and covering letter about why you would like to be considered for the position. We also ask that you complete an Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form either via [this link](#) or via our website.

Deadline for applications: 6:00pm, Friday 8th May 2026

Interviews will take place between: 12 - 14th May 2026

For more information or if you have any queries please visit [our website](#) or email recruitment@londontheatrecompany.co.uk

We are an equal opportunities employer and value diversity. We encourage applicants from different backgrounds and different experiences.