



# **The Back Stage Guide to Stage Management: Traditional and New Methods for Running a Show from First Rehearsal to Last Performance**

*Thomas A. Kelly*

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This guide to stage management, aimed at aspiring stage managers, features all they need to know when staging a production, including methods which employ computer technology.

## **The Back Stage Guide to Stage Management: Traditional and New Methods for Running a Show from First Rehearsal to Last Performance Details**

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Author : Thomas A. Kelly

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# **From Reader Review The Back Stage Guide to Stage Management: Traditional and New Methods for Running a Show from First Rehearsal to Last Performance for online ebook**

## **Shelby says**

Honestly didn't read the entire thing, just thumbed through it. But it still proves to be a valuable resource.

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## **Bronwyn says**

AMazingly helpful. I owe the success to the musical I SMed on this book!

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## **Lyric says**

Great book for first time stage managers to use as reference.

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## **Meredith says**

It was really hard for me to get into this book, because so much of the information is repeating things I've known for years. What interested me the most were the appendixes of paperwork examples. Sounds boring, right?

The best part about the book was the anecdotes this veteran stage manager shared about the times things went horribly awry, or the times he came up with an innovative solution to a problem. It humanised the book. It also demonstrated that even the best mess up, but the best learn from their mistakes.

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## **John says**

After 12 years, it's probably time for a third edition of this handbook. This is not to say that all of the information in Thomas Kelly's book is obsolete. Hardly. But, theater is a dynamic art which continues to change over time at every level. For example, Kelly illustrates the use of computers in a theater setting which, in 1999, was still evolving rapidly. Thus, he sometimes employs terminology which was proprietary to the particular system he was using at the time and may confound the contemporary reader.

On the other hand, there is a huge wealth of information included here which is both practical and timeless. Kelly draws from many of his personal experiences to illustrate the sorts of problems (and solutions) which a professional stage manager is likely to encounter. This is not merely a technical handbook. The author addresses psychological and interpersonal issues which are still as valid today as in Shakespeare's time. He emphasizes the fact that a good stage manager must be both a technical expert and a good team leader. Kelly sugar-coats nothing, but still manages to generate enthusiasm for his subject.

The only other improvement I'd make to this book would be to incorporate the appendices directly into the text. These appendices fill about a third of the book, and having to constantly flip back and forth between the main text and the appendices becomes a real annoyance. Despite this fairly major flaw, most readers will likely find a wealth of useful information here.

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**Gina Guesby Mays says**

I loved it. I know most of it by heart. It is what I do.

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**Nessie says**

A very valuable guide, but in need of a new edition. The comments about the use of computers are grossly outdated.

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