

Michael Thorpe – Freelance Sound Engineer CV

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Useful Details

Full Clean UK driving licence
IPAF Licence 1a, 3a & 3b (Scissor lifts, vertical personnel platforms & Self-propelled booms, Cherry Pickers)
Pro Tools 110 operator (mobile editing suite)

Profile



During my career as a Sound Engineer I have undertaken many roles within the industry working in the corporate, music and theatre environments.

As a **system tech** I have been responsible for hanging and building PA's in venues such as the MEN Arena, Manchester Central (GMEX), EXCEL London, Hilton Hotel Deansgate in the UK. I have also hung PA in many theatres and arenas around Europe whilst on tour working for Wigwag.

As a **stage tech** I have worked on the Bjork European Festival Tour 2012 and also on UK festivals such as Camp Bestival, Manchester Pride and Hungry Pigeon Festival Manchester; as well as running the stages for many band nights on both large and small scale.

As a **FOH & Monitor engineer** in music and theatre I have worked with such acts as Candi Staton, Johnny Vegas, Maxine Peake, Benjamin Francis Leftwich and Nine Black Alps. In the corporate sector I have worked on many events and conferences across the UK and Europe for the likes of The Pope (Westminster Cathedral, London), SAAB, Pfizer, Next, The Co-op, AstraZeneca, Everything Everywhere (Orange & T-Mobile), NHS & Alex Ferguson's charity.

I am also a very capable Pro Tools operator having passed my 101 and 110 exam. I have my own Pro Tool LE set up on which I can edit, mix and record into.

My latest Project has been head of Sound for the Manchester International Festival in the Albert Hall venue.

My work ethic and professional manner on site has given me a reputation of being a hardworking, friendly individual who is always looking to learn and also willing to help others out; whether it be a fellow noise boy, lampy or AV person. For me the job isn't finished until the truck doors are firmly shut!

Freelance Employment

Iceland Airways 2013

During the Iceland Airways Music Festival my role was to run monitors and stage for the Gamla Bio venue. Running monitors at a festival can be very stressful dealing with many artists demands, my preparation before hand though was paramount to make my job easier. I prepared by reading all the information that had been send through for each artist and making patch plots for each department (stage, FOH & Monitors). With the advanced information and knowing roughly what to expect for each band, this saw the team of 4 techs dig in and work together for 4 very long days. The days were very long and tiring but very rewarding, when each day went smoothly due to the combined efforts of all the team.

Manchester International Festival – '09 '11 & '13

For the most recent MIF I was hired directly by the Festival. Previously I had worked for them through my old company Tube UK. On this festival I was head of Sound in the Albert Hall venue. During the festival we had Goldfrapp & Mogwai play as well as doing a theatre show for Maxine Peake and a talk with Evan Davis from Dragons Den. Both the Maxine Peake and Evan Davis shows were feature on the BBC's culture show.

Lord of the Dance - Oct 2011 – Present

From October 2011 I have been on tour with Lord of the Dance. During my time with LOTD I have had done over 200 shows and taken on 2 roles, the Monitor & Playback engineer and System Tech. Whilst on tour I have been to many countries around Europe and had to deal with lots of situations and venues out of my comfort zone.

Bjork – European Festival Tour 2012

During the summer of 2012 I was lucky enough to be part of the crew for Bjorks summer tour. My role on this tour was stage and monitor tech.

Other Corporate Events

In between touring I also have some clients in the corporate sector. These shows have seem me work for the likes of GSK, Toyota/Lexus, Astra Zeneca & many others.

Fulltime Employment

Tube UK – June 2008 – July 2011 <http://www.tubeuk.com/>
Sound Engineer

My role at Tube started in the warehouse where I was responsible for prepping equipment for events and sub-hire, but I quickly progressed onto becoming a 2nd man out on client jobs. During my time I developed into a d&b system tech, progressing onto FOH for my own projects. Other responsibilities at Tube were the maintenance of kit, ordering of consumables, transport and making cables/repairing.

I then took on more responsibility as my role and knowledge broadened; taking on my own projects I was responsible for the client relationship, quoting, managing sub-hire, designing PA's and managing pre-production for events. The largest such role was the Manchester International Festival, where I had the responsibly of quoting, attending production meetings and following through the install and running of the Pavilion Theatre for the duration of the festival working with artists such as Paul Heaton, Johnny Vegas, Candi Staton and Sinead O'Connor. My work at tube was very diverse taking me all around Europe delivering large and small corporate work, conferences, exhibitions, music festivals, music tours, small band gigs, installs and just about anything else to do with sound.

Sample of Events Worked On

I worked on many events over my 3 years at Tube and as a Sound Engineer, listed are some of my most high profile and enjoyable.

Manchester International Festival

My role was as head of sound for the Pavilion theatre. Some of the acts I worked with were Sinead O'Connor, Paul Heaton, Dave Haslam, Johnny Vegas, Candi Staton & Bjork's Icelandic Choir as well as 3 unsigned nights with Manchester Bands.

Peter Kay

System Tech for an audience with Peter Kay at Blackpool Opera House.

Albert Hall Venue MCR

In house Monitor Engineer Oct 2013 - Present

Iceland Airways 13

Monitor Engineer for the Gamla Bio venue

Benjamin Francis Leftwich

FOH for August 2011

Nine Black Alps

FOH 2 week tour 2010

Camp Bestival

Stage tech on the Big Top stage

The Pope

FOH for the Pope outside Westminster Cathedral during his visit in September 2010.

Next

FOH/Radio Tech/ 2nd Man on a number of even for next including the New Season Fashion show, Conference & Christmas parties where were worked with the likes of The Saturdays & John Culshaw.

World Cup 2010 Castlefield

FOH for the duration of the World Cup. On England match days I would be responsible of making sure 17,000 football fans could hear the Pre Show entertainment and also the football. During this period we also staged the farewell to Frank Sidebottom gig and had the opportunity of mixing for Badly Drawn Boy and Frank's band.

Equipment Used

Over my career I have used lots of different equipment, listed is some of the equipment I have used both on a regular basis and also at events where it was pre-supplied.

Mixing Consoles –	Yamaha Digital desks (CL5, PM5D, LS9's M7CL, DM1000) Digidesign (Profile, Venue, SC48) Digico (SD7 SD8) Soundcraft (All analogue, Vi 4) Midas (Pro2, Pro Series, All analogue) Many other analogue consoles
PA -	d&b T-series, V-series, J-series, Q-series, C-series Martin W8LM, W8LMD, W8LC funktion 1
Multicore -	VDC VEAM Multicore systems Yamaha Digital Multicore Digidesign Digital Multicore
Networking -	Configuration for the wireless use of Yamaha Desks Configuration for the Wireless use of d&b amps
Radio Mics -	Sennheiser – All types Shure – All types

Education

SSR Manchester – I attended the 2 year Audio Engineering Course at SSR. This included the Live Sound section of the course that was developed by Wigwam for industry standard training. During the course we took and passed our Health & Safety exam.