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13-Aug-2021

Elation rig for Beartooth *The Journey Below* Livestream

LD Cameron Birchill also using Elation fixtures on 6-week US tour. Supply by Squeek Lights

Cameron Birchill has been designing lighting for metalcore rockers Beartooth since 2018 and recently turned to an Elation rig of [DARTZ 360™](#), [Artiste Picasso™](#) and [Protron 3K Color™](#) luminaires for the band's *The Journey Below* Livestream, where fans got their first chance to see and hear the band performing songs from their latest album *Below*. The livestream took place July 14th at the Clyde Theatre in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, a beautiful and historic building that recently underwent a \$9 million renovation, transforming the historic venue into a state-of-the-art performance hall and event center.



Squeek Lights

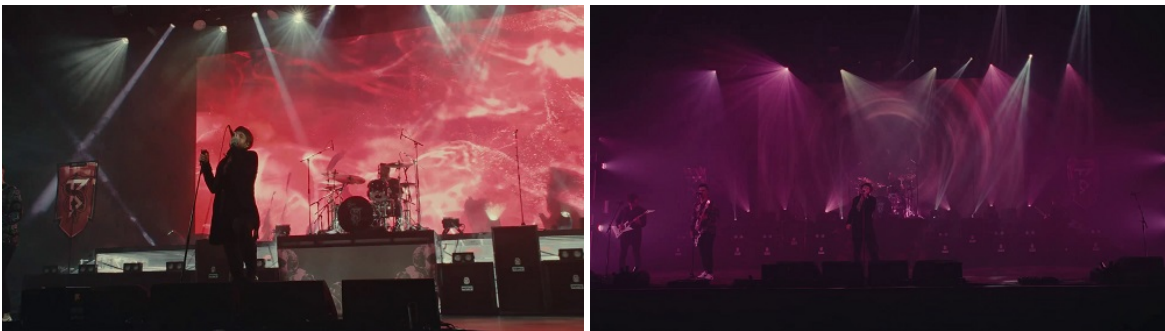
Their first livestream event, the band gave Birchill a blank canvas to design the type of show he thought would look best for an on-camera audience. The LD subsequently contacted New York-based rental company Squeek Lights and owner Victor Zeiser, who has worked with the band for years, including as lighting designer for a headlining 2018 tour. Not only does Zeiser know the band well, Squeek Lights have been supplying lighting for numerous livestream events over the past year and know how to effectively light an event for camera.

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Birchill has lit numerous live events for the band but with less experience lighting for broadcast, he tapped into Zeiser's knowledge and experience for the Beartooth event. "I wanted to center the design around one brand and Victor helped with fixture choice," stated Birchill, who credits Zeiser for helping him transition from on-the-road lighting work into design. "Because this was for video, it differed from a typical live show rig so I bounced design ideas off of him and his team at Squeek. They helped me make the adjustment from live show to livestream with things like LED refresh rates, color temperature, etc. so that it all looked good for the camera."

DARTZ, Picasso and Protron

Birchill, who also serves as lighting director and touring manager for the band, says he first envisions what each song will look like to get an idea of what type of fixture would work best. After going through Squeek's inventory to see what effects fit best, he landed on the DARTZ beam light, Picasso profile moving head and Protron strobe fixtures, incorporating 20, 24 and 12 respectively across an upstage, midstage and FOH truss as well as on sidelight towers.



Zeiser had used the narrow beam DARTZ on Beartooth's 2018 tour and they have been a staple of Beartooth designs ever since. The first time Birchill used them he says he didn't want to use any other beam fixture because of its versatility. "The prism effect, the endless pan and tilt...there are so many cool effects you can get out of them. They are just a lot of fun to design with," he says.

It was the designer's first experience with the Artiste Picasso, Elation's full-featured 23,000-lumen LED profile, and he says he was "100% happy" with them. "The animation wheel is my favorite part of the fixture. I made some nice water effects across the band on the livestream and it looked great. The power was also excellent. We'll be touring in venues the size of House of Blues and I'm confident with them in those size venues." The designer also placed Protron 3K Color strobes under 4-ft risers to color the band from beneath with more DARTZ and Picassos working from behind the risers.

The color purple

Beartooth is a band with a passionate message that they deliver with an aggressive style of music but there are also more subtle and melodic moments in each show, points that allowed the designer to delve deeper into a fixture's feature and color set such as slow-rotation gobo looks or creating the right shade of purple. Birchill comments: "The color purple plays an important role as the theme on the band's new album graphics. I incorporated it in some way on every song of the livestream as an accent or something

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more so that we were staying on brand. The combination of fixtures worked really well and the color match was perfect.”

Theatrical and energetic

The setup and design suggested an on-the-road show but was one that worked well for broadcast with the designer effectively filling the space for the camera with beams and texture. Birchill’s impactful design covered the broad extreme of mood and tempo and captured the emotion in each song. “I wanted to make it theatrical but at the same time energetic and beamy to accent all the songs in layered looks,” he said. In one of his favorite looks, a moment in the song *The Last Riff*, a heavy instrumental piece at the end of the livestream, he projected two DARTZ onto lead singer Caleb Shomo before fanning them out. “For me, it was my moment to have both subtle effects and at the same time a big look. Also, on the song *Disease*, an emotional song for the band, I tried to fit the mood with some nice gobos effects and shades of white.”



Following rehearsals at the Clyde Theatre, the band kicked off a 6-week US tour on August 14th at the House of Blues in Las Vegas. The outing plays mid-sized venues and features a similar design to *The Journey Below* livestream, including lighting effects from DARTZ 360, Artiste Picasso and Protron 3K Color fixtures.

About Elation Professional

Based in California with facilities in Florida and Mexico City, as well as European offices in The Netherlands, Elation designs and manufactures a comprehensive range of innovative lighting products known for its superior performance, excellent efficiency, and outstanding price: value ratio, all backed by a hard-earned reputation for Total Support. Elation also offers an advanced line of lighting control products through Obsidian Control Systems, as well as a full range of dependable specialty effects called Magmatic. Our mission has always been simple: to provide best-in-class products and service while offering the best value: performance ratio in the industry. Elation products continue to be a part of the industry’s most exciting projects across the globe. We invite you to take a closer look at www.elationlighting.com

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