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21-Dec-2022

Red Rover Entertainment delivers all-round, adaptable Elation rig for Faouzia tour

Upon completing a string of European performances in July, global pop star Faouzia began preparations for a fall North American tour that saw the Moroccan-Canadian singer playing dates across the U.S. and Canada. Jon Stanners of entertainment production company Red Rover Entertainment of Winnipeg designed lighting for the outing and specified an Elation rig of [Fuze SFX™](#) moving heads, [SixBar 500™](#) linear bars, and [SixPar 200™](#) 6-color PAR lights.



Familiarity

Both Faouzia and Stanners have roots in Winnipeg's French community and the designer says he has been familiar with the singer since she was a young artist. "The French community of Winnipeg always had high hopes for her and now she's really realizing her potential," he stated. "We're from the same city and have been doing the same caliber of shows over many years so I've known her a long time." Stanners even lit one of her music videos years ago and has done several one-off shows with her. Faouzia's fall "Citizens" tour, which ran from October 15 to November 17, was Stanners and Red Rover's first chance to work with her on a tour.

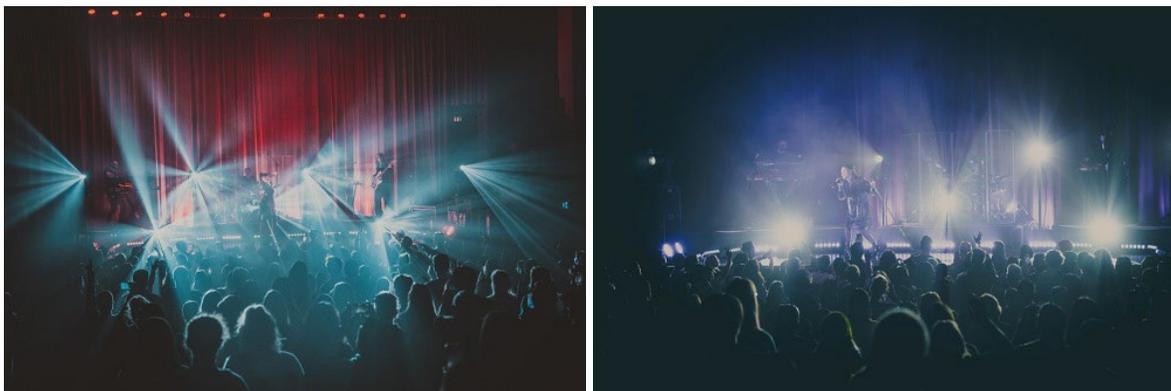
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Faouzia and Stanners have worked together enough that he knows how best to coordinate the lighting looks with her music, creating the right moods for old and new material alike. “For her older songs, which are more intimate piano numbers, I often put the focus solely on her,” Stanners describes. “But for her newer material, which is more Moroccan-influenced with offbeat rhythms, I’ll use more layered looks.” The show also features a number of pop numbers. Stanners says he also likes to work with Faouzia musical director David Steinmetz “to better understand what his intention is and how I can complement that.” Lighting operator on the tour was James Moore from Red Rover Entertainment.

Adaptable design

Red Rover supplied the lighting for the “Citizens” tour with Stanners handling lighting design and programming. The tour played anywhere from 400-capacity venues in smaller markets to 2000-capacity venues in larger markets and the design, Stanners says, had to fit into both.

“I wanted a rig that could hold its own in venues where there was very little house lighting,” the designer comments. “Most of my tours go out without some kind of side light so if the venue’s front house lighting was inadequate, it was still taken care of. For eye candy on this tour, I used Elation’s Fuze SFX to create the moods using anything from gobo looks to tight beams. It’s a versatile fixture that saves you from having to have both a beam and a profile fixture.”



Fuze SFX

Red Rover Entertainment took delivery of new Fuze SFX fixtures in the early fall, just in time to send them out on the tour. A unique combination of spot and effects fixture, the Fuze SFX is a multi-purpose luminaire with 300W LED source, CMY color-mixing, 18 carefully designed gobos and a 4.5° to 38° zoom. Stanners placed four units atop pipes with custom-built tops for a thin, aesthetically clean look. A further three units worked from a floor position.

“There are very few situations where I wouldn’t use the SFX,” Stanners said. “It has a tight beam which gives you the equivalent of a Pointe or Sharpy, and then you can zoom it out for some great gobo looks. The gobo selection is super useable.” In one special look, the designer



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points the SFX fixtures straight out to the audience with a gobo turning back and forth on beat. “It’s a song where I use a couple of preset gobo indexing positions on beat and it always gets a nod from the house LD,” he said. In addition, knowing Faouzia’s on-stage movements well and aware that when hitting raw notes she often moves right to the middle of the stage, he placed a center SFX ‘godlight’ behind the artist for impactful silhouettes.

SixBar semicircle, SixPar halo

Another creative design element involved 15 floor-positioned SixBar 500 color-changing battens in a semi-circle behind the singer for color and eye candy looks. Stanners explains the idea behind the look: “I wanted to create a play area for her to move in where there are no other musicians or cables, an area that was clean visually. No matter what size the venue, that was her space.” Additional to the rig were 7 SixPar 200 color-changing PAR lights, two per side as sidelight and one for a ‘halo’ behind each musician.

Stanners has operated Red Rover Entertainment since 2013 and has stocked Elation gear since 2018, much of which he employed on multiple tours this past fall. “On Faouzia, it was a really effective rig that worked well in both the smaller and larger venues,” he concludes. “We had the power and pixels to create something really unique, and also from the power consumption, size and weight perspective, it was the right rig to use.”

Gear Supplier: Red Rover Entertainment
Designer and Programmer: Jon Stanners, Red Rover Entertainment
Operator: James Moore, Red Rover Entertainment
Musical Director: David Steinmetz

Photo 1: David Milejszo
Photo 2 + 3: Mike Thomas

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

For more information, contact:

Elation Professional US
6122 S. Eastern Avenue



www.ElationLighting.com

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Los Angeles, CA 90040
USA
Tel: (866) 245-6726 (toll free)
Tel: (323) 582-3322
sales@elationlighting.com
www.elationlighting.com

Elation Professional EU

Junostraat 2.
6468 EW Kerkrade
The Netherlands
Tel: +31 (0)45 546 85 66
info@elationlighting.eu
www.elationlighting.eu

Elation Professional Mexico

Av Santa Ana 30,
Parque Industrial Lerma,
Lerma, Mexico 52000
Tel: +011 52 728 282 7070
ventas@elationlighting.com
www.elationlighting.com