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Elation LED Lighting Reliability for Pierce the Veil “Made To Destroy” Tour

Lighting Designer Jeff Maker (All Time Low, The Dresden Dolls) turned to an Elation LED lighting package for American rock band Pierce the Veil’s recent “Made to Destroy” tour, his second year with the band, and was delighted with the results. “Elation continues to impress me and many of my LD colleagues, which is no surprise,” he said. “We were on tour for 7 weeks (32 shows total) and I didn’t have one issue with any of the units.”

The “Made to Destroy” tour played dates September 3rd to October 16th across the U.S. with lighting vendor JR Lighting Design, Inc. supplying an Elation rig made up of ACL 360 Bar™ LED battens, SixBar 1000™ LED battens, SixPar 100™ LED Par lights, and Protron 3K™ LED strobes along with Antari Z-350 Fazers™. “Recently we have added more Elation Professional equipment into our production rental inventory as we find that it offers high reliability, great performance, and value as well,” stated Jason Reberski, President of JR Lighting Design, Inc. who served as lighting vendor for both Pierce the Veil’s 2016 summer and fall tours.



Maker, who was nominated for a 2012 Parnelli Award for Lighting Designer of the Year and TPI Award for Lighting Designer of the Year in both 2015 and 2016, knows what it takes to wow a crowd. He describes the beginning of Pierce the Veil’s “Made to Destroy” set, a captivating look in which a white kabuki drop is used as a projection surface for an animation of the band ‘crash landing’ at every market. “Each was custom to each city,” he says. “The kabuki released to reveal crashed rocket pieces in the form of two set pieces. The band came out of each section in space suits from inside the ‘malfunctioning’ rocket sections and smoke billowed out of each rocket piece. The set then began with a silhouette of each band member as they started to play their respective instruments. Then it was pedal to the metal for an hour and 15 minutes.” Used to make the rocket set pieces and fluorescent painted backdrop pop were Elation SixPar 100 LED Par lights with single-lens RGBWA+UV LEDs. Maker placed nine fixtures downstage, three under three separate ego risers, six focused on the drop/set and three up straight to uplight each band member while they stood on their ego risers.



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Used to uplight upstage backdrops were SixBar 1000™ LED battens. “We had another kabuki system upstage to reveal a fluorescent painted backdrop and used the SixBar fixture’s UV feature to help make it pop,” Maker explains. JR Lighting’s Jason Reberski adds, “The SixPar and SixBar range has been very successful for us. In fact, it is rare that we provide a tour or show that doesn't have a few SixBars or SixPars on it! They produce a wide range of color and high quality white light mixes in a host of form factors and the addition of true ultraviolet LEDs increases their usefulness in our inventory.”

Maker, who also handled programming on the tour, turned to the ACL 360 Bar, a versatile moving batten with (7) 15W RGBW LEDs and continuous rotation, for dynamic movement effects. “This is the 4th tour where I've spec'd the ACL 360 in my design and I couldn't be happier with the fixture!” he said. “For Made to Destroy they were once again the main event fixture of my lighting design. Their versatility as the ultimate eye candy is a front and center focal point in every look I put together for this design.” Maker praised the ACL’s 360-degree pan and tilt, the individual LED control which he used to create multiple color and chase layers, and the smooth speed of both the pan and tilt. “They are also an extremely durable fixture,” he added. Eight of the fixtures were placed on two separate trusses rigged upstage left and right, three mounted mid stage left and three mid stage right cross sections, with five mounted in front of the drum riser creating a massive "V" that would ultimately translate to the veil in Pierce the Veil.

Tour Manager on Pierce the Veil’s “Made to Destroy” tour was Matt Jara-Ratajczak, who offers his unique perspective on why lighting fixtures need to be tough for on-the-road productions. “As a Tour Manager that sometimes doubles as a PM I often get stuck with the responsibility of seeking out replacement fixtures when we have fixtures that fail on tour,” he said. “Dealing with broken gear is a headache and time killer. We didn’t have a single Elation fixture compromised over the length of this entire tour. The reliability is a testament to how well they are built and the thought that has gone into the design and function. Aside from the wow factor and unmatched depth they add to our show, the reliability is a huge benefit. The fixtures are dramatic and distinctive and are definitely an asset!

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About Elation Professional

Elation Professional is one of the world’s leading lighting and visual solutions providers and is the global brand of Elation Lighting. Founded in 1992 and headquartered in Los Angeles, with European sales, distribution and support based in The Netherlands, Elation designs and manufactures a comprehensive range of innovative yet affordable lighting and video products that are distributed through a global network of dealers and distributors. Made up of a spirited team of dedicated personnel, Elation is setting new efficiency and performance standards in Platinum lamp and LED technology and is acknowledged for a comprehensive commitment to Total Support. As a company in expansion with a presence in a growing variety of market segments, chances are you’ve experienced Elation lighting at a concert, special event, TV, theater, late night venue, House of Worship, theme park, cruise ship, exhibition, architectural space or elsewhere. For more information, please visit www.elationlighting.com



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