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Here Come the Mummies Eerily Good with Elation Lighting

One look at Here Come the Mummies and it's easy to see why they are considered one of the most unique bands around. Combining identities that are always 'under wraps' with a reputation for unrelenting live performances, the 8-piece funk band from Nashville is touring the U.S. beneath a lighting rig of Elation Professional effect lights.

Lighting Designer/Director and programmer Thom Roberts has been working with the band for the past three years and is out on their current "LoveFest" tour, which runs until the end of October. The band has been playing dates across the U.S. since February, mostly weekends and mostly in large clubs and theaters with a few festivals and casinos on the schedule. Augmenting house or local lighting systems at each gig is an Elation lighting floor package of Rayzor Q7™ LED moving heads, Sniper 2R™ multi-effect lights, Cuepix Blinder WW2™ white light LED blinders, and Protron 3K™ strobes.



"The role of the Elation gear is to bring the 'WOW' factor," says Roberts, "but there are specific features on every fixture we have that are important. On The Rayzor Q7's it is the combined LEDs that were the deciding factor, but the small size and low weight were also key. The Cuepix WW2 gives me a blinder with a color temperature that I love. They are not too hard on the eyes and give me an extra strobing fixture that I can point directly into the audience without killing them! And the Protron 3K strobes are monstrously bright and robust at a fraction of the cost of their competitors."

As a distinctive band with a unique look and sound, Here Come the Mummies are always looking for something new and different, Roberts says. "They specifically wanted lasers for this show but I convinced them that it was not practical in our situation. When I had asked my friend and local Elation product specialist/rep Chuck Dillingham to demo the Cuepix WW2 for me, he brought along a Sniper as well. I thought it was really cool and while it is not a true laser effect, from the audience point of view it has a similar impact. I went back and showed the band the Sniper YouTube videos and they were sold on



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them. The Snipers have the punch to cut through anything else on stage and give me the aforementioned laser effects." Elation's Sniper 2R is an award-winning beam, scanner and laser simulator in one that can produce beam looks and spread scanner and laser-like effects at dizzying speeds without having to deal with laser regulations.

Roberts adds that 'bang for the buck' was the consistent selling point on all the fixtures. "We are limited by trailer space, budget and frequently stage space considerations! But the Elation gear fills all of our needs without crashing any of those factors."

The Elation gear, which the band owns themselves, is all part of a floor package with the Snipers, most of the Rayzors, and the Cuepix all mounted on four tripods across the back of the stage. The Protron 3K strobes work from the floor, pointing back at the backdrop. "When I hit them the backdrop just seems to explode!!" he says. "My show is heavy on the backlight, and I love playing with the shadows and darkness, as well as the light," which seems appropriate for a band made up of 5000 year-old Egyptian mummies.

Roberts acknowledges the work of Delta Stage Lighting and Rikk Kittleman, Jim Gregory and Wayne Metz." They are my vendors of choice, and we have purchased most if not all of our Elation gear through them," Roberts concludes. "They have always taken really good care of me."

Photos: Dave Dawson

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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