The 2020 New World Rigging Symposium: Don’t miss the conversation

THE THIRD NEW WORLD RIGGING SYMPOSIUM, produced by ESTA and USITT, will take place March 31 through April 1, 2020 in conjunction with the USITT Conference and Stage Expo in Houston, TX. The event provides an opportunity for riggers and those interested in the entertainment rigging industry to network, discuss current issues and new technologies, and help shape the future of the industry.

The Keynote Speaker will be Jeanette Farmer whose career spans three decades of professional theatre technical support, show production, concert and theatre lighting design, theatre consulting, themed entertainment project management, and supplier and manufacturer business development. Her background includes supporting the evolution of the Las Vegas mega-spectacles era including work on Siegfried and Roy at the Mirage, Cher, and Disney on Ice. She supported Cirque du Soleil’s Las Vegas productions for 18 years as a theatre consultant, lighting director, and production master electrician.

Jeanette’s career in recent years has focused on the emerging technologies of theatrical rigging and scenic automation and LED technology, working with automation pioneer Scott Fisher on projects including Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark on Broadway, Disney’s “Cars Land – Radiator Springs Racers” attraction, and winning top honors at the Shanghai World Expo for the Kinetic Spheres sculpture. She has continued to design and consult for shows both around the globe and locally.

The Symposium includes numerous opportunities for attendees to network over morning coffee breaks, lunch, and evening cocktails. Attendees will receive free show floor passes to the USITT Stage Expo opening on April 2nd as well as a discount on the full Conference registration. The Symposium will carry 10 ETCP renewal credits for re-certification. Register today at www.esta.org/nwrs.

Thank you to our sponsors for making the 2020 New World Rigging Symposium possible: Stage Rigging (Platinum); ETC and J.R. Clancy (Gold); Certex, Geiger Engineers, Kish Rigging, and TAIT (Silver); CM-ET, H & H Specialties, The Light Source, Motion Labs, Reed Rigging, Reliable Design, Texas Scenic Company, and To the Moon Rigging (Bronze).

TUESDAY, MARCH 31ST

Video Wall Rigging – What You Need to Know.
Presented by Tony Galuppi, Stefan Pries, and Chris Schmidt
An in-depth discussion of rigging video walls and the challenges associated with rigging them safely.

Performer Flying/Rescue – Safe Travels.
Presented by Frédéric Caron, Stu Cox, and Jim Shumway
Getting them up is one thing—getting them down safely is even more important. Emergency response and rescue plans. Working safely within the unique demands of performer flying.

Cinema Rigging: How Did They Get a Camera There?
A look at how riggers in motion pictures address the challenges of placement of cameras, actors, and stunt people in “exotic” locations.

**OSHA, ANSI, and ICOPER. Really. Helpful. Documents.**
Presented by Eddie Raymond, Bill Sapsis, and James Shelton
OSHA in the entertainment industry—how it applies. ANSI standards—why you need to know about them. ICOPER helps provide a universal language for arena rigging.

**The Indispensable Role of Ground Riggers.**
Try Doing a Show Without One.
Presented by Jeff Fiaschetti, Sasha Guevara, and Pamela Hybridge.
Moderated by Bill Sapsis.
Ground riggers are responsible for just about everything—they are the unsung heroes who make sure the equipment is inspected, organized, assembled, and sent up properly, and that the points are in the right place.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1ST**

**Automation vs. Motorization.**
Do You Know the Difference?
Presented by Nils Becker, Joe Champelli, and Pete Svitavsky
Understanding the difference between automation and motorization and which one to choose for your particular application.

"Cause I Said So" Just Isn’t Helpful.
Presented by Jared Fortnoy and Kate Raymond. Moderated by Orestes Mihaly.
How to get the best out of your crew without beating them.

**Got Questions? Get Answers. Ask the Engineers.**
Presented by Tim Franklin, Bill Gorlin, Miriam Paschetto, and Jeff Reder
Bring your most challenging questions to be answered (or not) by a panel of the industry’s most knowledgeable engineers.

**Tension Grids in Arenas. Help or Hinderance? A Case Study**
Presented by Jennifer Estremera, Michael Nishball, and Bob Powers
The Chase Center in San Francisco—we heard about the plans—how did it actually turn out?

**Rigging Cornucopia**
Moderated by Eddie Raymond and Bill Sapsis
An open forum discussion about all things rigging—large and small, relevant and not.