

The following is a lighting script treatment for the University California Irvine's Drama production of *Company*, produced at the Irvine Barclay Theatre. This document will present lighting ideas for each scene, musical numbers and transitions. Research images and renderings have been included to help support color, angle, intensity, and emotion. This is a working and ever evolving document so any questions, suggestions and feedback are greatly appreciated.

The Lighting for *Company* will follow the textual and emotional arc for the main character of Robert. As Robert is trying to find a meaningful relationship amongst his friends who have all found a partner, lighting will enhance and support the vitality of his journey through the use of color and gritty, geometric texture.

Act One

Scene One

- Robert is listening to various voicemails from his friends about hanging out with them and getting excited for his birthday. Even though Robert has friends calling him to hang out and wish him Happy Birthday, he is 35 and alone. I will focus attention to Robert's aloneness by isolating him in a pool of light within a field of cool somber light [Image One].

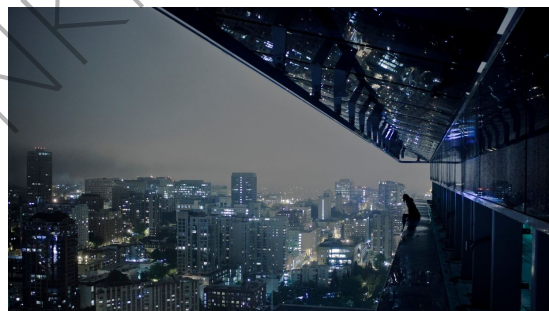


Image One

Opening

- All of Robert's friends have surprised him for his birthday. In the beginning of this scene, Robert's friends all start out cold and emotionless as they all hang out with Robert in separate parties of three. I will highlight the couples in pools of light to keep them separate and cold until they finally become more human. The clear cut pools will continue to play on the concept of the previous scene by separating the couples from Robert. [Image Two]



Image Two

Company

- Robert's Friends love being around him and want to hang out with him more. Likewise, Robert enjoys being around his friends even though he does not have a partner of his own. This light will be bright and playful throughout the song. The lighting will help clarify that Robert is alone but is surrounded by his 'Good and Crazy People' that look out for him. [Image Three]



Image Three

Scene Two

- Robert is with Harry, who is an alcoholic and Sally, who binges on junk food. They practice karate in front of Robert. Tensions are high because Harry wants to drink, Sally wants to eat brownies, and Robert wants to get out of the awkward tension that's risen. The lighting will utilize higher angled light, creating subtle shadows to support the tension [Image Four]. Cooler tones will also suggest a disconnect in the action.

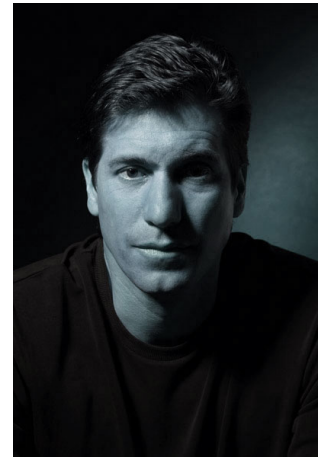


Image Four

The Little Things You Do Together

- This song talks about the little quirks that make a relationship worth it, love, and what makes the relationship perfect. I'll support the song with bright pinks and a lavender light, along with spotlights to help pull focus. The shift in color will emphasize that Harry and Sally are in a perfectly healthy relationship despite their bickering.

Sorry-Grateful

- Robert asks Harry if he is ever sorry about getting married which he is, but always grateful for it. This is a soft, sweet romantic song with intimacy. The song will be lit with soft sweeping side lighting [Image Five]. This Song will be softer in color and tone to highlight that relationships are worth the give and take that come between the partners.

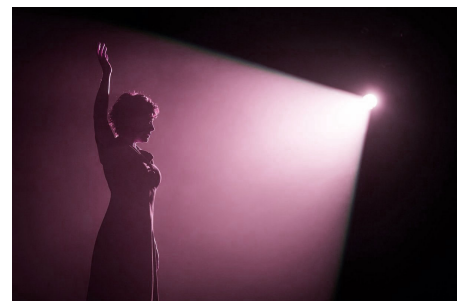


Image Five

Scene Three

- Robert is at Peter and Susan's place where he learns they are getting a divorce. This is awkward because Robert was telling them that if there were ever to get a divorce he wants to be the first to know. The lights will be confined to push the tensions that Robert faces when he learns about their divorce.

Scene Four

- Robert is at Jenny and David's Place smoking weed. This scene starts fun but quickly becomes a 'bummer'. Naturalistic lighting will support the chill easy going feeling and define the space while crisp down light will create a disappointing atmosphere.

You Could Drive a Person Crazy

- April, Kathy and Martha sing about how Robert has been leaving them hanging and wanting more from him. This is a quirky song that has a great deal of high energy. I will use seductive side lighting with a bright pink back light and spots on the three girls [Image Six]. This song opens the audience up to Robert's relationships. The bright pinks and warm tones will separate the girls and Robert who will still be in shades of blue. This separation will highlight that Robert seems more like a 'hobby' then a serious relationship.



Image Six

Have I got a Girl for You?

- The husbands of Robert's friends group are trying to live through him by setting him up with other girls. This song brings a certain jealousy to the husbands and will use more of a blue/green and bright lavender palette. The subtle shift in a color will keep the idea that Robert is still alone, but meeting up with these girls that the other husbands are setting him up with brings more life and excitement to him.



Someone is Waiting

- Robert is thinking that there is someone who is perfect for him out in New York. It is a thoughtful, sweet and soft song that will be lit with a blanket of blue light and a soft spotlight to pull Robert out [Image Seven]. Pulling down to just Robert for this song will continue the idea Robert is alone and actively longing for someone to care for and love.

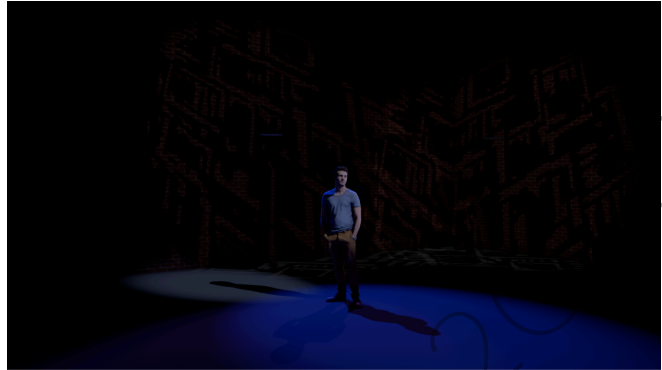


Image Seven

Another Hundred People

- Marta, who brings a new kind of life and vitality to the stage, sings about how the city is full of people and yet you never connect with them. I will use bright fun colors and gritty texture for Marta to explore in. The bright colors and grit that's introduced with her will continue to show Robert that there is more out there in the city to experience.

Scene Five

- Robert is on dates with each April Kathy and Marta and we can see that there is no true connection between Robert and these girls. I will light these scenes in deep blues and cool face light to offset the vibrancy of Marta's song which breaks up these scenes. The stark contrast between Marta's vibrancy and the cool isolated locations of these scenes will indicate that the girls that Robert is with are only temporary [Image Eight].

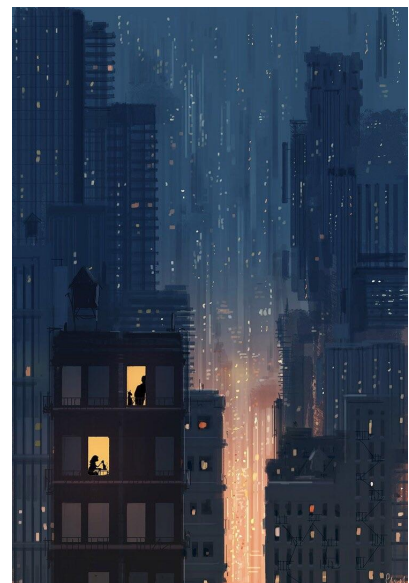


Image Eight

Getting Married Today

- Robert is with Amy and Paul who are getting married. However, Amy doesn't want to marry Paul and is in a very anxious and frantic state. Steep bright front light with a God like light coming from behind for the call and response will support the song. Bright cool white lights will help set that this is a wedding day but the steep angle will throw off the common happy mood and help support the idea that Amy is not getting married today.

Scene Six

- Amy tells Paul and Robert her concerns about getting married. I will continue to light this scene with high front light with cool tones. The bright white colors will disappear as we are set in Amy and Paul's apartment. The tone of a wedding is still implied but the high angles will help the tension to rise between Paul and Amy.

What Did I just Do?

- Bobby asks Amy to marry him since she called it off with Paul but Amy rejects him. With this shift from a tense to a softer tone, lighting will also shift to a softer feel. There will also be a shift in cool to muted lavender color tones to support the storm rising. Lighting will pull in to support the action as Amy tells Robert an imperative piece of advice that he has to marry *somebody* not *somebody*.

Marry Me a Little

- Robert has made the discovery that he's ready to get married and find someone to love. This is the start of Robert's emotional turning point as he is vulnerable, open and ready for new life. Color and gritty geometric texture will be introduced to show the new meaning he has found in his life. As Robert is left with the advice from Amy, he is realizing that he is ready to marry someone. As the music grows, bright colors will be introduced subtly to mimic the life and vitality that all of Robert's friends have in their life [Image Nine].



Image Nine

Act Two

Scene One

- We re-live Robert's surprise party but this time he only blows out half the candles and becomes a scene of unfulfilling encouragement. The lighting will mimic the opening scene as we relive Robert's birthday party and his attempt at blowing at the candles, we realize he is only halfway towards reaching his goal of marriage.

Side by Side by Side

- Robert talks about how great his friends are and vice versa. This song is sweet and sentimental and will be lit with warm and rosy side lighting [Image Ten]. This bright song will highlight that the first step to a great relationship is a strong friendship that Robert has with his friends and now needs to find it with someone.



Image Ten

What Would We Do Without You?

- This song speaks of how valuable Bobby is as a friend to the group of couples and brings a high energy to the stage. Vibrant color, side lighting and geometric texture for this fanfare. This song builds on the idea of how great Robert is as a person and that he brings life to his friends days. The Bright color is contrasting to the blues we have seen him in.



Image Eleven

Scene Two

- Bobby Brings April over to seduce her as he is trying to connect with someone more to marry but his intentions are not the best as he just wants to sleep with April. The space will stay isolated and cool while the color and geometric texture will be stripped away and deep blues will return pushing the thought that he is alone [Image Eleven].

Poor Baby

- The wives of the group are concerned with Robert and his choices in this concerning sweet and sentimental song. Saturate sweeping sidelight will support the dreamlike state. The wife's concern for Robert's personal state brings life and color onto the stage while he is still surrounded by blue as they don't approve of Robert's current girlfriend choices [Image Twelve].



Image Twelve

Barcelona

- Bobby wakes up to April departing for Barcelona. He tells her to stay out of courtesy and she ends up staying. As this is set in the early morning, soft lavenders with morning blues and pinks will light the scene [Image Thirteen]. The cool colors amongst the morning peaking through the sky will keep him isolated and suggest that he still is working towards finding the perfect girl.



Image Thirteen

Scene Three

- Robert is back at Peter and Susan's place with Marta. They got the divorce but still live together. This unusual living arrangement makes things awkward but exciting for Marta. High angled lighting and cool tones will be used to heighten the awkward tension. Bringing in gritty geometric texture to this scene will bring life to it which is brought in by Marta and her naturally perky personality.



Scene Four

- Larry Joanne and Robert are at a night club partying while Larry is making a fool of himself dancing in a dingy, gritty 70's club. There will be textured light with dirt and grime while the windows in the cityscape will light up like a disco dance floor. This night club is full of life and vitality that Robert is longing for in his personal life.

[Image Fourteen]



Image Fourteen

The Ladies Who Lunch

- Joanne sings about how rich obnoxious girls waste their time on meaningless activities. It is a powerful song and highlights Joanne taking charge. The stage will diminish around her while she is highlighted by a solitary backlight [Image Fifteen]. Joanne has had a long life with three marriages and with that she brings color and geometric texture onto the stage as she sings this strong ballad about her thoughts on life.

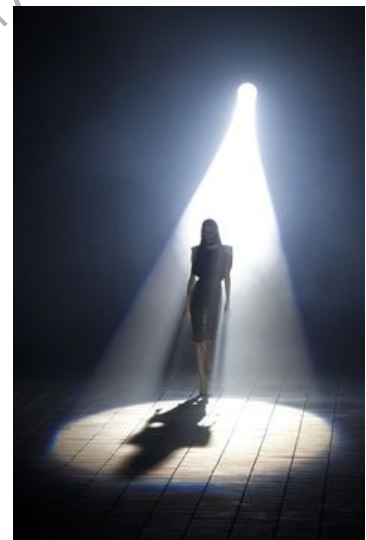


Image Fifteen

You Have a good Third Husband, Joanne

- Joanne proposes that her and Robert hook up. He declines because he realizes he wants to take care of someone for himself as opposed to being taken care of. This is the beginning of Bobby's full emotional breakthrough which will be highlighted with a strong blue back light. This moment Robert finally connects that he wants and needs to take care of someone. This isolation and deep colors is a setup to bring the next scene to its full potential.



Being Alive

- Robert discovers that he wants to find a relationship with all the ups and downs that come with being alive. It is a strong powerful ballad to end the show. It will be full of color and vitality for Robert to fully express his new look on life. As Robert is working through his discovery and receiving encouraging words from his friends, color, geometric texture and life will creep onto the stage and encompass Robert. The very ending is an explosion of this color and texture to set Robert up for his new lease one life. [Image Sixteen]



Image Sixteen