

MC The Merce Cunningham Studio DC Questions to a Choreographer

These few questions will help you to plan the production of your work at the Merce Cunningham Studio. We are here to help you answer them to ensure for the success of your engagement!

How long is the performance? With intermissions and pauses?

How will you use the space? What is front? How will you seat the audience?

Do you have a Lighting Designer? Does s/he have help for set-up?

How much time will the designer need to set-up? To set levels and cue the pieces? When do you plan a dress/tech? (We require two technical nights - the first is generally necessary for load-in only.)

Do you have enough help to run the show smoothly? Stage Manager? Sound Operator? House Manager? Ushers?

Where will your dancers enter and exit? Does your choreography use the entrances and exits available? (There's no crossover behind the curtain.)

Do you have any fast costume changes to arrange in the space?

Have any pieces been performed before ? Did you have any problems getting dancers or sets on and off stage? Will any of your props damage the dance floor? Will they fit in the elevator ?

Is your sound live or taped? If live, where are musicians placed? Will any equipment interfere with entrances, exits, and/or the audience ?

Will you use projection equipment? From where ? On what ? How large an image? Have you tried it before?

Are you going to videotape? When? Have the Lighting Designer and the Videographer discussed your show? Will the light be sufficient? Will the videotaping interfere with a dress/tech or performance? Are you planning a photo session?

How will you be handling reservations?

Is your concert shared with another choreographer? How long will each have in the space?

The Studio suggests a 9:00 pm curtain on weeknights and a 8:00 pm curtain on weekends.

For more information contact ALBERTO BOHL, Studio Technical Director at 212.255.8240 x24 or <mailto:bohl@merce.org>.