Lighting Design Resources

Compiled by professional lighting designer Josh Tomalin

Books

Stage Lighting Design: The Art, The Craft, The Life - Richard Pilbrow / Very much considered to be the bible of theatre lighting design but is a bit dated and wordy, and doesn't have many visual examples. That said, the first few chapters dealing with building a basic lighting design are brilliant and overall it's an excellent reference guide.

Light for Visual Artists - Richard Yot / Although not specific to theatre design, this fantastic book is a complete and easily accessible resource for understanding how light works. Recommended.

Videos

How Colour Works

Lighting Skin Tones

Mood Lighting

Three excellent videos from lighting designer Declan Randall discussing the use of colour in lighting design.

Websites

Association of Lighting Designers - Trade body representing live entertainment lighting designers.

Theatrecrafts - A compendium of articles, some fairly technical.

Tools

Lee Colour List / Explore the entire range of gels available from Lee for theatre lanterns. Build your own mood boards and see suggestions for building colour palettes. Fantastic.

Adobe Colour / An interactive colour wheel to help you choose the right colour. You can also upload a photo to it and allow it to analyse the colours within.

EOS Software / Industry standard lighting control software. Can be downloaded for free and includes a new visualiser - Augment3D.

Capture SE / Very powerful and useful visualiser software.