



bulb, giving a very cheap, powerful light which weighs little but produces a very bright, white light. The beam can't be focussed and is a soft ellipse with little definition. The Parcan is suited to a wide range of duties, most notably band lighting.

Use of light



From above: gives a very dramatic effect with very dark shadows showing little of the face.



From the front: gives good illumination of the face but produces a very unnatural 2D effect.



From the back: gives a silhouette effect, showing little detail of the person's face but giving a good indication of their posture and movement.



From the back, front and both sides: gives a good overall effect with detail, natural shadows and an appearance of 3D. The lights should be at the correct levels (possible also using gel) to get the best results.

Control and connections

A light requires power and although it could be controlled with a simple light-switch, we usually want to be able to alter the intensity of the light. To do this, we need to use a dimmer which varies the amount of power sent to the light. The dimmers in theatres are built into rooms where they can operate safely, reliably and quietly. The dimmers are controlled remotely by a lighting desk. Working backwards in the chain: