This Look Book was created to show our community producers the possible looks you have at your disposal within our television studios. These looks are examples and are meant to be a springboard for fresh new looks you can envision for your program. We have many lights, shapes (using gobos), colors (using gels) and other tools that can be used outside of the ones displayed here.

If there is something you’d like to bring to make your show more personal, please feel free to contact the Production & Facilitation department. We can tell you what we are capable of, assist you with your vision and point you towards resources if you choose to purchase your own gels or gobos.

Large Studios

All of our large studios at 59th street have three cyclorama curtains. Also known as a “cyc”, these are used as backdrops for your production. Each one has a distinct characteristic and use. The black cyc is made to absorb all light, leaving a solid black background. This is used during many talk shows or performances where the talent’s message is paramount (Think Charlie Rose).

The white cyc allows the use of light and color to create the background of your choice. We use gels (transparent colored material) on our light fixtures to spread large splashes of color. We also use gobos that project shapes on cyc curtains. It’s commonly used during performances, variety shows and other programs that want their space to convey an emotion and be an equal participant in the program.

The Chroma-Key cyc is a green (59th street) or blue (Firehouse) curtain that allows you to digitally remove the cyc and add a background of your choosing. This can be done via the video switcher or done in post-production. You MUST have knowledge of post-production chroma keying when selecting that option.

Express Studios

The Express Studios are small-scale studios with capabilities similar to the large studios. With this scale, the lighting design options are limited. There are only two cyc curtains (Chroma Key and Black) in the express studios.

The Express studios are not capable of using gobos. In addition, without a white cyc you can only use gels to a limited degree. What they lack in design options, they make up for in speed and efficiency. Setting lights in the Express studio can take up to a fraction of the time as a large scale studio set-up. Please consult with your facilitator about possible options to make your studio look great.

Furniture Options

MNN has provided modular desk options, seating and accessories you can include in your set. They allow you to seat multiple people in many configurations. We have enough seating available to sit a 50 person audience in Studio 1 at 59th street. Bringing your own set pieces is allowed, but at the end of your shoot they must be removed from the building. MNN cannot be held responsible for your property.
59th Street Studios 1 & 2

The 59th Street location has two large studios on its first floor. They are known as Studios 1 & 2. These are the largest studios at MNN and have the most lighting options. Here are some looks within those spaces and the equipment used to achieve those looks.

**Chroma Key**

We can digitally insert a background of your choice using the green Chroma Key cyclorama curtain and the video switcher’s keying capabilities.

Light Fixtures Used:
- Three (3) 1K Fresnel Lights for talent
- Three (3) 1K Fresnel Lights for Cyclorama curtain

**Three Color Splash**

A straightforward, one on one interview using alternating gels to create a colorful backdrop.

Light Fixtures Used:
- Five (5) 650W Fresnel Lights for talent
- Three (3) 1K Fresnel Lights for Cyclorama curtain
- Three (3) gels for color
1-Color 1-Gobo

With colored gels (transparent colored material) and gobos (metal screens used in front of a light to project a shape), we can create varying looks for your production.

Light Fixtures Used:
- Five (5) 1K Fresnel Lights for talent
- Three (3) 1K Fresnel Lights for Cyclorama curtain
- Three (3) gels for color

3-Color 3-Gobo

Light Fixtures Used:
- Five (5) 1K Fresnel Lights for talent
- Three (3) 1K Fresnel Lights for Cyc
- Three (3) colored gels
- Three (3) leeko light fixture
- Three (3) gobos

Black 1-Gobo

Light Fixtures Used:
- Five (5) 1K Fresnel Lights for talent
- Three (3) 1K Fresnel Lights for Cyc
- Three (3) colored gels
- One (3) leeko light fixture
- One (1) gobo
1-Color 3-Gobo

Using similarly shaped gobos and gels, we can create a seamless background for your production.

Light Fixtures Used:
• Five (5) 1K Fresnel Lights for talent
• Three (3) 1K Fresnel Lights for Cyclorama curtain
• Three (3) gels for color
• Three (3) leeko lights
• Three (3) gobos

3-Color 2-Gobo No Cyc

Using the cyclorama curtain isn’t necessary. Using the bare walls with a combination of gels and gobos, we can create an ‘out of the box’ industrial look for the studio.

Light Fixtures Used:
• Five (5) 1K Fresnel Lights for talent
• Three (3) 1K Fresnel Lights for Cyclorama curtain
• Three (3) gels for color
• Two (2) leeko lights
• Two (2) gobos
Black with Color Column

Covering the white cyc with the black cycs and dropping color in the center creates an intimate interview space with a touch of extra flair.

Light Fixtures Used:
- Five (5) 1K Fresnel Lights for talent
- One (1) 1K Fresnel Light for Cyclorama curtain
- One (1) gel for color

Black Cyc with 2-Gobos and Color

Using soft-focused gobos adds texture to the backdrop, creating more interesting cutaway shots.

Light Fixtures Used:
- Five (5) 1K Fresnel Lights for talent
- Three (3) 1K Fresnel Lights for Cyclorama curtain
- Three (3) gels for color
- Two (2) leeko lights
- Two (2) gobos
Black Cyc with Single Color

Colored lighting on a black cyc can create a subtle lighting effect for your production. Used frequently for talk shows.

Light Fixtures Used:
- Five (5) 1K Fresnel Lights for talent
- Three (3) 1K Fresnel Lights for Cyclorama curtain
- Three (3) gels for color
- Two (2) leeko lights
- Two (2) gobos

3-Color No Cyc

Using the cyclorama curtain isn’t necessary. Using the bare walls with a combination of gels and gobos we can create an outside of the box, industrial look for the studios. Great for performances with more edge.

Light Fixtures Used:
- Five (5) 1K Fresnel Lights for talent
- Three (3) 1K Fresnel Lights for wall lighting
- Three (3) gels for color
Using naked lighting on the white cyc, we create a simple, minimal look for your program. Many talk shows enjoy this look.

**Light Fixtures Used:**
- Five (5) 1K Fresnel Lights for talent
- Three (3) 1K Fresnel Lights for Cyclorama curtain

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Here we’ve created an even more minimal look. A single spotlight and backlight creates an intimate look perfect for single talking head productions or documentaries.

**Light Fixtures Used:**
- One (1) Leeko light for Spotlight
- One (1) 1K for backlight
2-Color Hard Angle Color Splash

Using gelled lights at a very sharp angle and a folding curtain you can produce a highly textured look that hold your audience’s attention better than the usual flat cyc look. This look is great for busier, more exciting performances.

Light Fixtures Used:
• Five (5) 1K Fresnel Lights for talent
• Two (2) 2K Fresnel Lights for Cyclorama curtain
• Two (2) gels for color

2-Color Hard Angle Spotlights

We’ve created a similar look as above, but with smaller fixtures. This creates hard lines of color as opposed to a wide splash, creating extra texture with negative space and shadows. The texture plus the lack of strong colors looks great with more classical genres of perfor-

Light Fixtures Used:
• Five (5) 1K Fresnel Lights for talent
• Two (2) 650W Fresnel Lights for Cyclorama curtain
• Two (2) gels for color
2-Color Hard Angle Color Splash with Gobos

We’ve combined the hard angle splash color, folded curtain and gobos to produce a more customizable, dynamic look to the set.

Light Fixtures Used:
- Five (5) 1K Fresnel Lights for talent
- Two (2) 2K Fresnel Lights for Cyclorama curtain
- Two (2) gels for color
- Two (2) leeko lights
- Two (2) gobos

White Cyc 4-Color Hard Angle Color Splash

We can also combine multiple colored fixtures at hard angles. This allows for greater color choices and configurations.

Light Fixtures Used:
- Five (5) 1K Fresnel Lights for talent
- Two (2) 2K Fresnel Lights for Cyclorama curtain
- Two (2) 650W Fresnel Lights for Cyclorama curtain
- Four (4) gels for color
Black Cyc 4-Color Hard Angle Color Splash

We can take the previous look and use the black cyc instead. The look is a bit more subtle but still very dynamic.

Light Fixtures Used:
- Five (5) 1K Fresnel Lights for talent
- Two (2) 2K Fresnel Lights for Cyclorama curtain
- Two (2) 650W Fresnel Lights for Cyclorama curtain
- Four (4) gels for color
Express Studio Looks

Express studios are smaller studios built for simplicity and quick set-up. The lighting is set up to assist in this and therefore only gives us a few types of looks. These are some of the more common looks used in the space.

Black Curtain with Hard Angle Spots

Creating texture can liven up your show's look. This can be achieved with colored lights hitting the black curtain. We can adjust the color with either gels or the light board itself.

Light Fixtures Used:
- Three (3) LED Lights for talent
- Two (2) LED Lights for Cyclorama curtain

Chroma Key

The Express Studio is also capable of Chroma Keying using the green cyclorama and the video switcher's keying capabilities.

Light Fixtures Used:
- Three (3) LED Fresnel Lights for talent
- Three (3) LED Lights for Cyclorama curtain
We can digitally insert a background of your choice using the Chroma Key cyclorama curtain and the video switcher’s keying capabilities.

Light Fixtures Used:
- Eight (8) LED Lights for talent
- Five (5) Flourescent Lights for Cyclorama curtain

The black curtain is great for no nonsense, to the point interview shows where the priority is on the talent and what they are saying. A video monitor with a still graphic is used to add an extra element to your production’s back drop.

Light Fixtures Used:
- Eight (8) LED Lights for talent
Using gelled lights on the white cyc, we can produce a more lively look for variety or performance shows. Also, we continue using the monitor to add extra energy to your look.

Light Fixtures Used:
- Eight (8) LED Lights for talent
- Five (5) LED Lights for Cyclorama curtain
Gobos are metal screens used in front of a light to project a shape. We have a large collection of gobos that are ready to use. This collection changes as we frequently update our selection. These are examples of some of the gobos we have projected on our white cyc curtain. If you find gobos that you like and want on a consistent basis or would like a customized gobo, we can point you toward resources to purchase them. Pre-made metal gobos range between $10-$15 and custom gobos range from $60-$120.